Corinda State High School
English Humanities Excellence Program
RATIONAL
Corinda State High School prides itself on providing learning pathways which allow students to pursue courses of study which support their academic goals. Our commitment to this philosophy has led to the implementation of the English Humanities Excellence program to support the development of special interests and provide a rigorous and challenging platform for real world issues.

Students will still study the prescribed Australian Curriculum for English and History subjects and electives, but these students will experience learning above and beyond these curriculum frameworks. This is described in further detail below.

AIMS
The English Humanities Excellence program aims to:

- provide high level, rigorous and tailored learning to motivated students who are talented critical and creative thinkers
- motivate and encourage students to reflect on world issues at a sophisticated level
- engage students in competition and enrichment programs beyond the school curriculum.

A highlight of the program is the opportunity to participate in the National History Excellence. It is a research-based competition for students and gives them an opportunity to be an historian, investigating their community and exploring their own past. It emphasizes and rewards quality research, the use of community resources and effective presentation. This is a highly prestigious competition with the winner receiving State and National recognition.

PROGRAM INFORMATION
ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
To be eligible for participation in the English Humanities Excellence program, applicants must indicate their preference for this program at enrolment. An ideal applicant for this program will:

- have a high achievement in English and History/SOSE in Year 7
- have high level of proficiency in literacy and numeracy (NAPLAN results reviewed by Junior Secondary HOD)
- willing to commit personal time to competitions and other elective programs.
- have the capacity to meet course costs
- be prepared to embrace the three Cs of Corinda SHS – courtesy, cooperation and commitment.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Focus Depth Study</th>
<th>Differentiation</th>
<th>Enrichment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall of the Roman Empire</td>
<td>- Tiered Formative Assessment that encourages higher order thinking - Digital collage assessment</td>
<td>Brainways - <em>The Renaissance Explorers</em> (1 Day)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medieval Europe</td>
<td>- Focus on richness and independence in choice of historical sources. eg texts and images - In depth analysis of the reliability, credibility and perceptions of historical sources.</td>
<td>Specialist text and eBook - <em>RetroActive 8</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Polynesian Expansion across the Pacific</td>
<td>- Independent and varied grouping which promotes higher order thinking. - Reflective learning - Innovative thinking</td>
<td>Specialised Excursions – State Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>Case Study - Maori</td>
<td>- Cooperative learning - Digital documentary/movie – Creative and critical research.</td>
<td>BRAINways - <em>Conquerors and Explorers</em> (1 Day)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spanish Conquest of the Americas</td>
<td>- Sophisticated inquiry research process - Negotiated class project</td>
<td>Specialist text and eBook - <em>RetroActive 8</em></td>
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### Year 9 History

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<tr>
<th>Focus Depth Study</th>
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<th>Enrichment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>French revolution</td>
<td>Tiered Activity Choice – progressive with increasing difficulty.</td>
<td>BRAINways - <em>Hard Times: An investigation of the Industrial Revolution</em> (1 day)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Industrial Revolution</td>
<td>- Digital source analysis - Promote richness and independence with student choice of historical sources.</td>
<td>Specialist text and eBook – <em>RetroActive 9</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Making a Nation – colonisation</td>
<td>- Reflective learning - Innovative thinking.</td>
<td>Specialised Excursions - State Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>Making A Nation – Federation and Legislation</td>
<td>- Cooperative learning - Digital collage - Creative/critical research</td>
<td>Brainways - <em>Two Way Australian History</em> (1 day)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World War 1</td>
<td>Negotiated class project eg podcast, models, dioramas</td>
<td>Specialist text and eBook – <em>RetroActive 9</em></td>
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<td>Specialised Excursions – MacArthur Museum</td>
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### Year 8 English

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Focus Depth Study</th>
<th>Differentiation</th>
<th>Enrichment</th>
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</thead>
</table>
|            | Personal identity | - tiered formative assessment  
- digital narrative assessment | Brainways: Thinking Sideways – figurate imagery in creative writing |
|            | Indigenous experience in poetry | - focus on richness and independence in choice of poems and depth of study  
- challenge the invited reading of the poem through performance techniques | 1 day  
- Brainways: The Art of Persuasion (two days)  
- Brisbane Writers’ Festival 2 days |
| Semester 2 | Asian literature | - companion novel *The Running Man*  
- independence and varied groupings in panel discussion | |
|            | Digital vs written storytelling | negotiated text | |

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Focus Depth Study</th>
<th>Differentiation</th>
<th>Enrichment</th>
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</thead>
</table>
|            | Australian | pre-NAPLAN consolidation: reading strategies; writing stamina; persuasion  
(critical theory – logos, egos, pathos) | Brainways: Words matter – writing and delivering powerful speeches |
|            | Speculative fiction | Sophisticated text selection:  
*The Chrysalids*  
*Farenheit 451* | 1 day  
Brainways: Sell me that – making magnificent marketing |

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<tr>
<th>Semester 2</th>
<th>Focus Depth Study</th>
<th>Differentiation</th>
<th>Enrichment</th>
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</table>
|            | Drama | Literary text selection:  
Shakespeare – *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* or *The Taming of the Shrew*  
Concept of the Canon | Brisbane Writers’ festival 2 days |
|            | Magazine | negotiated class project | |
ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING

The English Humanities Excellence program will adhere to the requirements of the Australian Curriculum: History. Students will be assessed according to the requirements of this syllabus on a semester basis.

Participation in the class will not disadvantage students’ results by assessing them against a standard beyond that of their peers.

PATHWAYS

Students graduating these classes at the end of Year 9 may also be eligible to continue on this extension pathway if they study the Year 10 elective – Humanities Extension. This subject is an invitation only subject offered to our highest performing Year 9 students. This Year 10 elective is designed to accelerate learning into Year 11.

Further extension and enhancement pathways include:

- Acceleration of curriculum from Year 10 (Semester 2) into Year 11
- Queensland Academies Partnership School
- Optional concurrent university course in Year 12, in partnership with UQ

COSTS

Course fees for Year 8 and 9 will apply to English Humanities Excellence class students. In addition, students will be asked to pay for participation in the BRAINways intensive courses.

Throughout the year, students will be required to participate in competitions and excursions that may attract an additional cost. For example:

- Queensland Museum
- State Library
- National History Competition
- Remembrance Day
- Debating
- ICAS English Competition
- Writer’s Festival
- Various State and National Competitions

PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

Students will be expected to participate in at least three of:

- Australian History Competition
- Open Day
- Remembrance Day
- ETAQ Digital Story Competition
- Interschool debating
- ICAS English Competition
- Writer’s Festival
- Interschool Reader’s Cup
EXPERT STAFF

Teachers of the Humanities Excellence Program will be experienced English and Humanities specialists, with a commitment to talented and motivated students demonstrated through their:

- Training as a Gifted Education Mentor (GEM)
- Coordination of extra-curricular academic programs

CONTACT DETAILS

For further information concerning Corinda State High School’s English Humanities Excellence program please contact:

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