HSC: Society and Culture: Personal Interest Projects

HSC Society and Culture Students Top Tips

Video of HSC Society and Culture students top tip

Caption on bottom
High achieving Society and Culture students share their top tips for completing an outstanding major project.

Why Society and Culture?
Your highlight?
Choosing a topic for your PIP
PIP topics
Biggest challenge?

2018: Killing me softly [1]

A study into Western filmic discourse increasingly punishes femininity and represents the feminine as passive and tokenistic.
2018: ‘Grab em' by the balls’  [2]

An investigation into how boys and young men can be effectively socialised into feminist values as allies.

2018: The class ceiling  [3]

An investigation into the perception of Australia as an egalitarian society, whilst exclusion and disadvantage continue to pervade the lowest sectors of Australia's socio-economic classes.

2018: Bleach it, don't preach it  [4]

A cultural investigation of the commodification of skin complexion by the media through the use of skin bleaching and tanning products.

2018: Racism is just a Pigment of your imagination  [5]

An investigation into how racial profiling stems from white privilege and its impact on social norms.


An investigation into the nature and effects of Western Parliamentary values that prohibit equitable access to parliamentary processes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.


An investigation into the construction of the female heroine in science-fiction films as an agent of feminist empowerment, progression or oppression.
2018: AKRASIA [8]

An investigation into how apathy and fear in combination with changes in news media and capitalistic ideals have contributed to the erosion of civil liberties within Australia and the United States.

2018: Damsels in democratic distress [9]

How agents of cultural transmission influence attitude formation towards gender-based representation in Australian Politics.

2018: Oh my COD! Racism remastered [10]

An investigation into ethnic and cultural representation, discrimination and stereotypes in video games, and the perpetuation of these within the gaming community and industry.


An investigation into the changing importance of social stratification in Australia and South Asia and the impact of these different patterns on macro-level cultural perceptions of what it means to be “successful”.

2017: All aboard the mateship [12]

Despite mateship being considered to be an Australian convention that embodies egalitarianism, mateship as a cultural position is divisive and exclusionary.


An investigation into the psychology and accommodation of displaced refugees in Australia.
2017: Contesting heteronormativity in Japanese culture [14]

An examination into the changing notions of sexuality and constructs of homosexuality with Japanese culture.


An investigation into the recrudescence of populism in the 21st century

2017: To take the red pill [16]

A study examining the state of gender relations discourse in mainstream culture, and the analysis of the current cultural conflicts arising out of feminism.

2017: Homeless even at home [17]

A cross cultural examination of the influence of socialisation agents, between Australia and Sweden, on the perceptions of Kurdish communities and implications of this for Kurdish individuals.

2017: The childfree choice of women [18]

An investigation into childfree women and their perceived deviance from gender norms, which results in exclusion from all levels in society.

2017: Can all the male students stand now to take the oath [19]

An investigation into the exclusion of female voices from my school's and society's effort to contribute to change with regards to violence against women.
2017: Raising a fist... the same height high [20]
A cross cultural study into the implications of feminism in the 21st century.

2017: Mask on or mask off [21]
An inquiry into the desire to belong and the ways in which Pakistani migrants change their cultural identity.

2016: In Gov we trust [22]
How has Australia's trust in Government been impacted through changing forms of communication technologies an the explosion of the information age?

2016: Survival in the Digital Ecosystem [23]
An inquiry into identity, and authenticity of the Self in the digital age.

2016: It's not just Black and White [24]
Changing Indigenous Australian representation in the media

2016: STAND. SPEAK. TYPE. ACT [25]
An investigation into the social and cultural value of social activism over time as an institutional marker of social change.

2016: Say it loud and say it clear [26]
An investigation into the changing nature of protesting through the rise of virtual activism.

2016: One flew over the Cuckoos nest  [27]

A study on television's negative portrayal of mental illness and its impact upon social attitudes.

2016: Feminism in Australia and Korea  [28]

An investigation into feminism in Australia and Korea with a cross-cultural comparison of the cultural values that either support or challenge the movement.

2016: You have the right to remain polarised  [29]

An investigation into the polarisation of masculinity and femininity in crime shows, and how this enculturates a narrow view of gender identity.

2016: The political A-Gender  [30]

An investigation into new forms of masculinity in Australian politics and how patriarchal structures in the government continue to subordinate women.

2016: An investigation into the impact of Western education on an Indigenous Australian’s development of self efficacy and its direct relation to perceptions and attainment of cultural group success  [31]

2016: The F-Word  [32]

An investigation into the homicide of the modern feminist.
2016: The rage for Raunch [33]

An investigation into the enculturated values of hypersexualised music video and the relationship between sexual discrimination and the objectification in western youth culture.

2015: A fifth column [34]

A study into the difference in the treatment of Islam in the Northern Beaches and Western Suburbs.

2015: Bamboozled [35]

A cross generational investigation into the implications of both the perpetuation and the maintenance of the bamboo ceiling on the experiences of Chinese-Australians seeking positions in corporate leadership.

2015: Digital Jesus [36]

An investigation into the influence of communication technologies on religious belief systems.

2015: I observed, I learned and I-Ran [37]

A study into how socio-political factors have defined the intergenerational transmission of Iranian cultural values of Iranian-Australian youth.

2015: News changes views changes news [38]

Is news reporting a reflection of Australian society or is Australian society a reflection of the news?
2015: Portrayal of patriarchal attitudes in Western print advertising media [39]

An investigation into how the portrayal of patriarchal attitudes in Western print advertising media is used to inform the construction of feminine identity.

2015: The culture of a new war [40]

"From the beginning of the 20th century, transnational and international tensions and threats have escalated to such degrees that it has forced nations and societies to redefine what a 'crisis' is"

2014: Blitzkrieg Pop [41]

A study into the evolution of society's perceptions of the punk culture.

2014: Blurred Lines [42]

Entertainment or exploitation? Investigates the hypersexualisation of women within the music industry and its impact on the socialisation and treatment of women within society.

2014: Can social justice be more than just another brick in the wall? [43]

An investigation into the effectiveness of a school in communicating social justice issues.

2014: Muslim and western: living a life of contradiction [44]

An investigation of the westernisation of Australian Muslim women.
2014: Seeing Red [45]

An exploration into the retention of communist values amongst migrants of the post-communist generation.

2014: Violence anaesthesia [46]

Exploring the effects of normalisation and desensitisation to media violence and its impact on the horror genre.

2014: What is lost when language dies [47]

An investigation of how migration brings upon positive and negative consequences of losing one’s native language.


Links