

This newsletter and the Secondary Student Achievement Professional Learning and Development initiative is funded by the Ministry of Education. The providers are The University of Auckland and Te Tapuae o Rehua consortium.

National Newsletter: Social Sciences

Information and resources for middle leaders in secondary schools | Term 1 2013

Kia ora koutou

I hope that you've all enjoyed some of the wonderful weather we've been getting over the summer holidays and feeling revitalised for a new year!

This Social Sciences newsletter contains information of interest to teachers within the Social Sciences learning area. This includes teachers of Business Studies, Accounting, Economics, Education for Sustainability, Classical Studies, Geography, History, Legal Studies, Media Studies, Philosophy, Psychology, Religious Studies and Senior Social Studies.

Our key role is to support those of you working with our priority learners – Maori, Pasifika and those with special education needs (including learners working below their expected curriculum level).

Last year, 2012, as well as working in depth with selected schools, there was an emphasis on delivering NCEA L2/3 alignment support – mostly in the form of workshops and clusters. These had high participation rates which supported the teaching and learning at curriculum levels 6-8. Further support will continue this year throughout New Zealand to ensure key understandings and any new developments in Social Sciences. There will be two strands of workshops taking place. The first set of workshops will be a focus on Leadership in the Social Sciences; the second set of workshops will be NCEA subject-specific alignment support. Details of these are outlined on page 2 of this newsletter.

A national Social Sciences wikispace has been developed to support the teaching and learning. For those of you using the Team Solutions wikispace, this has now been incorporated into the national Social Science wikispace. This space includes separate pages for each of the Social Sciences subjects. These will continually be updated in all the Social Sciences areas.
<http://secondarysocialscience.wikispaces.com/>

There are plenty of resources, key web links, presentations, and any other information to share from workshops, clusters and in-depth work. Please ensure that you add this wikispace to your favourites and visit it regularly – especially when you are preparing for your department/faculty meetings.

If you would like any additional information or wish to give any feedback in regards to this communication please do not hesitate to contact me.

Nga mihi

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Professional learning and development

National workshops: Leading in the Social Sciences

This will be a free, full day workshop in term one for any middle leader within the Social Sciences. The workshop will focus on leading in your learning area. The programme will consist of:

- Pedagogical leadership – what works and why.
- Teaching as Inquiry approach to leadership.
- What does your data say, and what can you do about it?
- Leading change.

Dates and locations:

Palmerston North	Thursday	14 March
Hawkes Bay	Monday	18 March
Wellington	Thursday	21 March
Auckland	Monday	25 March
Hamilton	Tuesday	26 March
Christchurch	Tuesday	9 April
Dunedin	Wednesday	10 April
New Plymouth	Friday	12 April

The facilitator of these workshops will be National Coordinator Social Sciences, Margaret Leamy. Please feel free to contact Margaret for any further details or clarification at margaret.leafy@otago.ac.nz

Please look out for the advertising and details of how to enroll for these through your regional facilitators.

These national workshops are free as they are supported by the Ministry of Education funding through the Secondary Student Achievement contract.

Subject-specific workshops for 2013

These free workshops will be supporting NCEA alignment and the teaching and learning at curriculum levels 6-8. They will take place throughout term 1 and 2 so please look out for the advertising of these through your regional facilitators.

NZQA's Moderation Best practice workshops 2013

These workshops will:

- Clarify your understanding of grade boundaries for internally assessed standards.
- Work with supplied assessment materials including samples of student work at all levels.
- Engage in professional discussion with colleagues and the National Moderator.

There is a cost for these workshops. For further details please visit the NZQA site: <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/about-us/events/best-practice-workshops/>

NZ Social Sciences conference 2013

This conference will provide opportunities for delegates to discuss and work together as a Social Sciences educational community, and, to also meet in sessions tailored to the needs of specific subject areas. Key strands of the conference will be fostering innovative practice, being inclusive and cooperative, focusing on sustainability and being future-focused.

NZ CETA Conference 2013

NZCETA will be holding a National Conference in Christchurch, 17-19 July 2013. For more details please visit: <http://www.nzceta.co.nz/>

What's new?

NZ Social Sciences Conference 2013



The conference theme:

Inclusive and Sustainable: Social Sciences Shaping the Future

Date: 15-17 July 2013

Venue: Hamilton Girls' High Centre of Creativity and Performance

SocCon 2013

[Facebook page](#)

Further details can also be found at: <http://www.soccon.net.nz/>

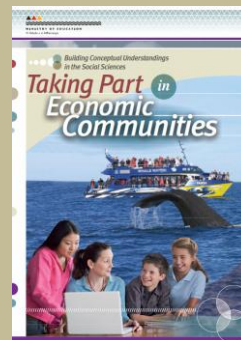
Social Sciences wikispace

Resources and links to support teaching and learning in the Social Sciences area.

If you have something to share on this wikispace please let us know.

<http://secondarysocialscience.wikispaces.com/>

Building Conceptual Understandings in the Social Sciences



This is the fifth title in the *Building Conceptual Understandings in the Social Sciences* (BCUSS) series. It is designed to support teachers to develop students' financial literacy/capability within a social sciences inquiry framework.

It can be downloaded from www.ssol.tki.org.nz or orders can be made at: orders@thechair.minedu.govt.nz

NCEA alignment process complete

NCEA Levels 1 to 3 are now aligned to NZC Levels 6 to 8. Completing this alignment positions the curriculum at the heart of teaching and learning programmes for all senior secondary students.

The curriculum creates opportunities for teachers to design quality teaching and learning programmes which are responsive to each learner and their unique learning contexts, and which prepare them for appropriate pathways that will bring them success.

The **Level 3** aligned achievement standards are now registered and published with supporting assessment resources, and teaching and learning guides for all subjects. These can be found at: <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/qualifications-standards/qualifications/ncea/subjects/>

Please ensure that you are using the latest registered standards.

Level 3 non-aligned internally-assessed standards are valid for internal assessment only until December 2013.

All New Zealand schools need to transition to using the Level 3 aligned achievement standards fully by the start of 2014.

New Zealand Scholarship

New Zealand Scholarship standards have been aligned with The New Zealand Curriculum (NZC). These aligned standards will take effect from 2013. To view the subjects being available for New Zealand Scholarship, please visit:

<http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/qualifications-standards/awards/scholarship/scholarship-subjects/>

University Entrance literacy requirement

From 2014, new requirements apply for University Entrance. Students must meet a new literacy requirement to enter into university-level programmes from 2015. (See [Secqual 2012/026](#) for further details). Students must now achieve 10 credits in literacy instead of 8, and these credits can be gained through identified achievement standards from across the curriculum.

The literacy requirement for the new University Entrance from 2014 is:

10 credits at NCEA **Level 2 or above** made up of:

- 5 credits in reading
- 5 credits in writing

This link to the [identified standards](#) lists the NCEA Level 2 and 3 achievement standards that can contribute to the new University Entrance literacy requirement. Note that the change occurs *from* 2014. Students in Year 13 this year, or those intending to enter university in 2014, are not affected by the changes – they need to meet the current requirements.

Universities will accept University Entrance once awarded, regardless of the year that students begin tertiary study. This applies to students who gain University Entrance in 2013 (meeting all requirements) and do not immediately proceed to tertiary study in 2014.

Students who are in Year 12 this year (who intend to enter university in 2015) will work towards meeting the new requirement of 10 literacy credits.

Have you seen.....

NZ curriculum guides

These guides have been designed to help teachers create quality teaching and learning programmes. Their focus is on describing 'valued learning' in the subject concerned and on how teacher decisions and actions can promote such learning. They should be seen as useful resources when reviewing your programmes.

<http://seniorsecondary.tki.org.nz/Social-sciences>

Secondary education portal

A wide range of information, resources and guidance, to support secondary teaching and learning.

<http://secondary.tki.org.nz/>

Secondary middle leaders

This site provides information, tools, and resources to specifically support middle leaders as they lead change in relation to NZC and MoE priorities.

<http://nzcurriculum.tki.org.nz/Ministry-curriculum-guides/Secondary-middle-leaders>

NZQA subject resource pages

These pages provide subject specific resources including moderation newsletters, resources for internally and externally assessed standards, and scholarship resources.

<http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/qualifications-standards/qualifications/ncea/subjects/>

Evaluation at a Glance: Priority learners in NZ schools

ERO has identified three key issues that need to be addressed to lift the achievement of students, particularly for priority learners.

The three issues look at shifting the focus to student-centered learning, knowledgeably implementing a responsive and rich curriculum, and using assessment information to know about, and plan for, students' learning.

For the full report, you can visit:

www.ero.govt.nz/National-Reports/Evaluation-at-a-Glance-Priority-Learners-in-New-Zealand-Schools-August-2012

Statistics NZ – 2013 census education resource

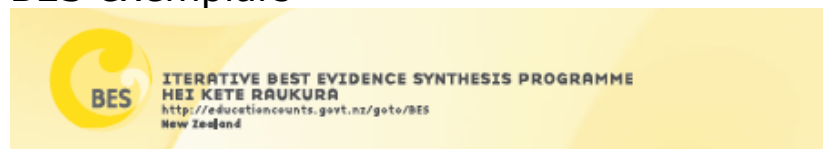


Statistics NZ has developed a 2013 census education resource for primary, intermediate and secondary schools to use during 2013.

The resource contains a curriculum-based unit on the 2013 Census. The activities, intended for levels 3-5, are related to social sciences and mathematics learning areas and the key competencies of *The New Zealand Curriculum*.

http://www.stats.govt.nz/tools_and_services/services/schools_corner/Census/2013-census-education-resource.aspx

BES exemplars



The BES exemplars focus on how to make a much bigger difference in education. They highlight the potential for disciplined innovation to accelerate systemic improvement in areas of need in schooling.

Five new BES exemplars have been prepared in partnership with teachers, researchers and professionals who have led outstanding teaching in New Zealand. Each exemplar has been selected because it illuminates highly effective teaching approaches that accelerate progress for diverse (all) learners in areas where improvement is needed. They exemplify the eleven dimensions of quality teaching using examples that come from across the curriculum.

Hard copies of *BES exemplars / Ngā Kete Raukura* and the *BES Findings Overview* are available free for schools and teacher educators in New Zealand. Orders of these can be made by contacting orders@thechair.minedu.govt.nz

National newsletters

These national newsletters are developed for every learning area by national co-ordinators from The University of Auckland and/or Te Tapuae o Rehua consortium (University of Canterbury, University of Otago and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu). For more information about Ministry-funded professional development for secondary middle leaders, visit this page on TKI:

<http://nzcurriculum.tki.org.nz/Secondary-middle-leaders/Professional-learning-and-development>

Further links and resources

asia:nzonline

Asia: NZ online

The New Zealand Curriculum highlights the importance of meeting the educational needs of an increasingly diverse population in New Zealand and enabling students to become successful global citizens.

Asian contexts for learning can be incorporated into all teaching and learning programmes, particularly literacy and social sciences. Asia:NZ online has resources available for NCEA L1 and L2 in the following areas:

- Business studies
- Geography
- History
- Media studies
- English
- Senior Social Studies

To view these resources, please visit:

<http://www.asianz.org.nz/our-work/educating-asia/asia-curriculum>