Principal’s Report

After three terms here I can say I am so proud of being Principal of Riverside. I came expecting great things after listening to Judy King speak on many occasions at school functions and being impressed by her stories and her commitment to the girls. It sometimes is difficult to believe I have followed such an inspiring leader.

The school has been full of wonderful surprises. It is a busy school where learning is paramount and teachers are committed to providing exciting and meaningful learning experiences.

I would like to thank all staff, including the very important support staff and the community for welcoming me so warmly and then continuing to work with me so productively. Recently, staff and parents shared their ideas for the future of the school with students at some planning days. The comments from students were very insightful and parents also provided very valuable feedback that we have inserted into the plan. The final School Plan 2012-2014 is due next March. The final draft will be tabled at the first P & C meeting of 2012.

One of the highlights this month has been the Schools Spectacular where our girls danced and played in the Millennium Marching Band and sang in the Combined Schools Choir. I received this wonderful feedback the next day:

Hi Belinda,

My name is Robyn and I'm Deputy Principal of XXX PS and was one of those very tired teachers that just spent the weekend with all of those lovely children at Schools Spectacular on the weekend. I just wanted to send an email to you so you can acknowledge and thank on my behalf the lovely girls from your school that assisted me at Spec. I had 32 children from the ages of 6 to 12 that had to do a quick change in their segment. It was very rushed and extremely stressful! As you can imagine, three of your girls saw what was going on and came over to me and asked if they could help in any way?

I was extremely grateful for their assistance but unfortunately didn’t get all of their names. I can tell you one was named Ashleigh (?) but you could probably find out their names as they entered for their performance in tunnel 2.

I found it reassuring to know that there are teenagers out there that are willing to help others and work cooperatively to achieve a pleasing result!

Please acknowledge these girls and thank them sincerely on my behalf. I hope we have the opportunity to meet these girls again next year at the Spectacular, as they were lovely to my kids.

Thanks again

Robyn

I also received similar positive comments on the good manners and dedication of our students at the Ride Spectacular at the Opera House.

The staff in 2012 will largely be the same with the addition of a new Head Teacher Teaching and Learning. However, we will say goodbye to Ms. Abbott who is taking a years leave to be with family; Mr Estay who has accepted a transfer to a country school and Mr.Profilio who is retiring. I wish these excellent teachers all the best.

We are looking forward to HSC results which are out on December 14 and all looks good so far – the students have achieved 2 nominations for Onstage (Drama excellence) and two students have been accepted for Art Express with one work being exhibited at Hazelhurst Regional Gallery & Arts Centre, Wollongong City Gallery and another at The Armory Sydney Olympic Park from February 2012.

Thanks to Ms Lidman’s initiative, 5 HSC drama students are this week completing a workshop with the Hollywood actor, Kevin Spacey who is out here for the production of Richard III. This is an amazing achievement as the invitation followed a lengthy audition process.
We have been acknowledging the success of the girls at the end of year assemblies and I would like to congratulate once again Laura Barrett of Year 10 for equal second in the Digi Art state awards. She has won for the school an extensive array of software that the TAS faculty will use in Year 9 and 10 technology classes.

So, this has been a very exciting and progressive year. Everyone has deserved a happy holiday. I hope it is a safe one and I look forward to next year.

Belinda Kelly
Principal

Congratulations to our School Captain, Hanna Bisset who is seen here being awarded the University of Western Sydney Scholarship for most outstanding Year 11 student. This is a $500 scholarship for 2012 HSC year and then $20,000 if she goes to the UNWS.

P & C Report

The Riverside P&C annual general meeting was held on the 9 November, and the following committee members were elected:

President: Greg Tunnock
Vice President and Secretary: Zoë Thompson
Vice President: Karen Walker
Treasurer: Sharon Weismantel

The P&C committee look forward to working with the Riverside community - students, teachers, support staff, parents and carers for the remainder of this year and throughout 2012. We especially welcome and encourage the involvement of all parents and carers. Community is the fabric of a healthy society, and a school and its P&C is a shining example of community.

We must take this opportunity to thank the outgoing P&C committee: Avril Semyonov, Brad Powe and Fareed Khan. All who have contributed significantly to Riverside, their involvement is very much appreciated, thank you.

Parents have recently been involved in the school target planning for 2012-2014. These planning sessions included: teachers, support staff, year 10 students and parents. All parents involved gave very positive feedback about the sessions and were very impressed by the valuable input from the students. Thank you to Ms Kelly for providing the opportunity for parents to attend and big thank you to the parents: Ruth McConnell, Sally Morgan, Josephine Zajic and Greg Tunnock.

Parents will be supporting the Year 6 into 7 Orientation Day on the 5th of December. They will be assisting in the uniform store and with music auditions, serving at the ever popular Gelato Cart and generally available to talk with new parents.

The P&C is excited about the commencement of stage 2 of the Riverside Sustainable Garden project. We are proud to have been able to support this project both financially and with direct involvement. A big thanks to Allen James (teacher), Ruth McConnell (parent) and the Riverside Environment Club students for their great work.

The P&C is changing the way it communicates with parents. The new Riverside website Parent Portal also provides facilities for P&C communication. This will provide a unified method of communication from Riverside. P&C communication via the Parent Portal will start at the beginning of the 2012 school year. The school will be providing additional information to parents to get you up and going with the Parent Portal.

The next P&C meeting will be held on Wednesday, 8 February 2012 at 7:30 pm in the meeting room in the administration office block, we welcome all parents and carers.

Riverside P&C Committee

Thanks
Greg Tunnock
President P&C

Italian Heritage Walking Tour

Recently, the Year 9 and new HSC classes went on an excursion – an ‘Italian Heritage Walking Tour of Leichhardt’. Together with Ms Mastrioanni and Ms Soares, they were provided with an overview of the colonial history of Leichhardt and how this working class suburb in the inner west became...
Sydney's 'Little Italy'. The guide spoke to the students in both English and Italian. They visited shops, cafes and other important sites which played an important role in the Italian presence in Leichhardt in the 50's, 60's and 70's. The students were also provided with learning materials and exercises to complete during this tour which concluded with a typical Italian lunch in the Italian forum and Gelato at the famous 'Bar Italia'.

Also, the two year 8 Italian classes have made board games this term in groups. Their task was to use all the Italian language and cultural knowledge they acquired this year to make their own board game. They were marked on these by their peers after everyone played the games for a period. Ms Kelly even played the Italian equivalent **Go Fish**!

**Project Based Learning hits Riverside**

During Term 3 and 4, Project Based Learning was introduced to Riverside with the Year 7 and 8 extension classes. This PBL initiative has involved a cross curricula approach to learning combined with a methodology to engage students in authentic assessment and quality teaching. Strategies to learn skills applicable for the real world such as negotiation, scheduling, teamwork, time management, collaboration, and research are very much the essence of PBL.

Students of 8T have engaged in a project across 5 faculties: History, English, Science, Maths and Design and Technology to produce an answer to the driving question; ‘**What is the most effective medieval siege weapon**?’. Throughout the project students have engaged in student centred learning in the following areas: in Maths, students have designed simple catapults and used them to demonstrate how trajectories work and are calculated; predict the height of their projectile at a particular point in time, predict maximum distance for their projectile and accuracy and precision of their apparatus; in English, students have examined the impact of the weapons on people, communities, emotions, fears through writing and empathy; during the Science classes, students have discovered energy transformations in simple machines, the Law of Conservation of Energy, how medieval weapons work and combined with DT, students have designed, drawn & built a small-scale working prototype of a projectile firing weapon and during History lessons, students have researched the advent a totally new form of warfare with the introduction of siege weapons in medieval Europe, investigated the construction of castles and fortresses and the response of weaponry to these developments and discovered how and where these weapons were used and which was the most effective.

Students of 7B undertook an investigation in English and Science to answer the driving question; **how can natural phenomenon on Earth be explained as a creative myth?** Students selected a natural Earth related phenomenon, the Science component, to create a narrative to explain this, construct a story board and convert this into a digital story with narration and sound effects, the English and ICT component.

The school will be evaluating these programs to see if it has wider school applications. We are really excited about embarking on this teaching and learning initiative and we hope our girls gained from the opportunity to learn new skills and deep knowledge and from the challenge to produce high quality work.

**AMNESTY CONFERENCE**

On Friday the 25 of November, ten lucky Riverside girls were given the opportunity to attend the Amnesty International Youth Conference at Redfern Community Centre. Amnesty International is a non-government organisation of over 3 million people that is determined to promote and defend human rights all around the world.

These ten lucky girls, accompanied by Mr Jones and spent the day learning about the rights of Refugees and Indigenous Australians alongside numerous other school students with the same passion – to protect human rights. Throughout the day, the girls got the chance to share their opinions about the current human rights issues, as well as listen to others. However, the most rewarding part of the day was learning about the real facts rather than the many misconceptions in the media regarding 'boat people.' They ascertained that; ‘**It is NOT ILLEGAL to seek asylum in Australia**' and that ‘**asylum seekers who arrive by boat make up less than 2% of Australia’s annual immigration.**'

At the end of the day, the girls didn’t leave empty handed. They all received Amnesty International bags packed with the necessary gear they need to kick off the Amnesty International student group. We also devised campaigns to raise awareness and hopefully encourage further actions at Riverside as well as in the community to help stop the miscarriage of justice.

For more information please visit [www.amnesty.org.au](http://www.amnesty.org.au) or come and visit Mr. Jones to join the Amnesty student group!!

By Anne Batshoun.
You are invited to the St Michael’s Meadowbank, 3rd Annual Christmas Twilight Market on Friday, 2 December from 5pm till 9pm.

The market promises many exciting stalls with opportunities to buy lovely gifts for your family and friends.

Activities for the children, street style entertainment, gorgeous Christmas hampers, stunning home wares, special Christmas delicacies, handcrafted jewellery, Kids Zone, Christmas decorations and delicious food will all be on offer. Also, what Christmas event would be complete without Santa, who will be available for photos in Santa’s Grotto. This will surely be a great way to start warming up for Christmas!

Christmas Twilight Market at St Michael’s Primary School 5-9pm, 53 Maxim Street, Meadowbank

November Careers Newsletter

Supplied by MHSCAREERS.COM

Riverside GHS subscribes to MHSCAREERS.COM. Parents and students are welcome to visit and use this comprehensive website, details below

To view the news pages on the website:
Login with either: “student”, “parent”, “ca” or “other”
Password: health
Go to http://www.mhscareers.com/NewsNSWACT.html to see the news.
Go to http://www.mhscareers.com/Calendar.html to see upcoming events.
Go to www.privatecollegesaustralia.com to see the lists of private colleges.
Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/pages/My-High-School-Careers/143448159011540

Jobs

Or try other searches from http://www.mhscareers.com/JobSearch.html

Commerce or Business: Which Degree Will Take You Where You Want To Go?
What: the differences between business and commerce can be confusing – see the news on mhscareers for an explanation of both.

Medical Reception Course
What: nationally recognised, assists you in gaining that first job as a medical receptionist
When & Where: Penrith Panthers Club - 12 and 19 November
Maclin Lodge Campbelltown - 26 November and 3 December
Philip Lodge Motel (Conference Centre) Ashfield - 3 and 10 December
Duration: 2 days from 9.00am to 4.00pm
Contact: 1300 887 082
www.medtrain.com.au

Gap Medics Australian High School Special 2012
What: short-term healthcare work experience
When & Where: Tanzania – 8-21 January 2012 and Thailand – 8-21 April 2012
Who: Year 11 and Year 12 students thinking of applying for a healthcare related degree.
Contact: 0044 191 269 6818 or info@gapmedics.com

“Dream Big” Engineering Scholarship Programs for Year 12 Girls
What: Brown Consulting contribute to university studies, offer paid work experience and upon graduation provide a full time position and a graduation bonus.
Who: young women who are in Year 12 and are eligible to study engineering in 2012.
When: applications are open and will close Feb 2012
Where: must be able to work in Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney or the Sunshine Coast office.
Contact: (07) 3895 3444 or careers@brownconsulting.com.au

Victory College of Design
What: games design, graphic design, web design, multimedia and 2D & 3D animation.
Scholarships: 5 full fee for 1 year of full-time study in Games and 3D Animation.
Next Intakes: 9 January 2012
Where: Surrey Hills
Contact: 02 9299 8889 or admission@vcam.nsw.edu.au or studentenquiries@vcam.nsw.edu.au
www.vcam.nsw.edu.au
CQUniversity in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne
What: limited spaces available for full-fee paying Australian citizens

Sydney Uni Sport & Fitness School Holiday Sports Camps
What: learn a range of sports, keep fit, and have fun
Who: kids aged 5-15
Contact: 1300 068 922 or sportscamps@sport.usyd.edu.au

Pine Street Creative Arts Centre Term 1 2012
When: 30 January - 31 March 2012
Contact: 02 9245 1503

University of Sydney Info Day
What: mini-lectures, tours, speak to staff and students about your options
When: 4 January from 9.30am to 4pm.

UNSW Info Day
When: 4 January
http://studentlife.unsw.edu.au/events/unsw-info-day/

Pre-Apprenticeship Courses
What: 1300apprentice free 3 week TAFE course
Where: metals & refrigeration in Granville, metals in Campbelltown, electrical in Chullora.
When: 14 November – 2 December
Contact: 9715 7344 or c.smith@1300apprentice.com.au or d.lawler@1300apprentice.com.au
http://1300apprentice.com.au

Macquarie University UniTEST
What: alternative entry test for disadvantaged students for Semester 1 2012 entry
When: 5 December at 9:30am
Where: on campus at Macquarie University
Register: compulsory
http://www.mq.edu.au/future_students/undergraduate/alternative_access/unitest/

CSU STUDY LINK
What: improve your study skills and prepare for uni study.
How: By completing one or more subjects online.
http://www.csu.edu.au/student/studylink/

CSU and North Coast TAFE Pathway Programs
What: degree courses at North Coast TAFE's Port Macquarie campus.
Scholarships: CSU ‘TAFE to University’ scholarship program, $2,500 cash.
http://www.csu.edu.au/study/midnorthcoast/

Australian Catholic University Info Sessions
Brisbane Campus: 19 Dec 6pm-7.30pm
Where: 1100 Nudgee Road, Banyo IB:15/Flexible Learning Centre
North Sydney Campus: 4 Jan 10am-4pm
Where: 40 Edward St, North Sydney
Strathfield Campus: 4 Jan 10am-4pm
Where: 25a Barker Rd, Strathfield
Canberra Campus: 19 Dec 5.30pm-7pm
Where: 223 Antill St, Watson B10
Contact:
http://www.acu.edu.au/more_information/contact/#Future

Pearsons School of Floristry Info Sessions - Sydney
When: 13 & 20 Dec, 31 Jan, 7 Feb at 6pm.

University of Sydney Architecture Exhibition
When: 1 to 8 December
Blog: www.amaze2011.com

Macquarie University Info Day 2012
When: 4 January 9am - 4pm
Contact: 02 9850 1883 or events@mq.edu.au
http://www.infoday.mq.edu.au

Coco Republic Design School Info Night
When: 22 November 6:30pm – 8:00pm
Where: Coco Republic Design Centre, 24 O’Riordan Street, Alexandria NSW 2015
Register: lyndsayhowlin@cocorepublic.com.au
Design session with Emma Elizabeth: 9 November 6-9pm, 11 November 10am-1pm
Cost: $95 (incl GST)
www.cocorepublic.com.au

ACTT Free Acting Workshop & Info Sessions
When: 5 & 26 November, 10.30 - 12.30.
Where: Pitt St Campus, Sydney
http://actt.edu.au/course/dropact

WorkVentures Traineeships for 2012
What: business, finance, law or information technology.
Eligibility criteria: Must not have attained a qualification over a Cert II
When: apply now, open days and interviews throughout Nov and Dec.
Apply: cover letter and resume to gtc@workventures.com.au
City Beach Australia School Based
Traineeships

City Beach Australia is looking to take on school based trainees across their stores in NSW.

Students who are interested in a career in retail will get a head start with a School Based Traineeship.

School Based Traineeships allow students to work part time, study a nationally recognised certificate level qualification, whilst still completing Years 10, 11 & 12 at school.

City Beach Australia has a great program available for year 10 & 11 students to gain real world experience in customer service, stock management, and visual merchandising.

Store locations include: Tweed City, Lismore, Grafton, Brookvale, Parramatta, Blacktown, Burwood, Hornsby, Hurstville, Tuggerah, Miranda, Mt Druitt, Macquarie, Rouse Hill, Charlestown, Birkenhead Point, Penrith.

Applications and resumes are to be handed to your school Career's Advisor/ VET Coordinator and then forwarded on to Krystal Seymour via email:

traineeship.administrator@citybeach.com.au

Students will be able to access their ATAR from 9am on Thursday 15 December 2011 on UAC’s website at www.uac.edu.au. They will need their UAC application number or HSC student number and UAC PIN. They’ll receive written advice of their ATAR from UAC from Friday 16 December 2011. The ATAR Enquiry Centre will be open from 15 to 31 December for students who have questions about their ATAR or UAC application. Students who don’t have their UAC PIN should call UAC immediately on (02) 9752 0200 to have it re-issued.

Hunters Hill

Carols in the Park 2011
Sunday 4 December 2011
Boronia Park Oval starts 6.00pm
Corner of Ryde and Park Rds

Hunters Hill Carols is a wonderful Christmas celebration with a great community atmosphere that brings together family and friends to join in Carols, picnicking, Santa and Fireworks.

This and every year we invite local schools and groups to perform on stage. We are also this year calling for solo and duo local talent to take the stage.

So if you are part of a local group or are a local talent and would like to get involved in this year’s community Carols, then contact Council to apply.

Joining us this year is local Schools and groups. On the night Hunters Hill Scouts and Rotary will be running BBQ’s and selling drinks, food and candles to add to the festive atmosphere.

Please note that due to limited capacity the existing Boronia Car-park will be used as a drop off zone and VIP Car-park only.

For more details on how to get involved in Hunters Hill Carols contact Adrian Black on 9879 9400 or email events@huntershill.nsw.gov.au

Apprenticeships and Traineeships for 2011/12

At 1300apprentice we are really ramping up now to assist students in gaining apprenticeships and traineeships for 2011/12. They should contact Chad Smith on (02) 9715 7344. If I cannot help them with their trade of choice, I can give them some direction and let them know what they need to do.

Remember, all students going for apprenticeships and traineeships should have an excellent understanding of what fully qualified people do in their chosen fields. This tells us that they are serious about their career and that they will be a long term prospect in the role.

HOT JOB - WAREHOUSING TRAINEESHIP

Currently we’re seeking candidates for a Certificate III Business traineeship in Alexandria that includes some warehousing units. A Business Certificate will provide the skills required to take on a role as a clerk, administrator or business assistant. You will be taught keyboard skills that will enable you to produce simple word processed documents, create and maintain spreadsheets as well as data base management using current business technology. Other skills include processing of customer complaints, on-line purchase of goods and services and work effectively within a team. This particular role has warehousing units factored in as well that will involve working in a small warehouse processing orders, picking and shipping of stock.
A business traineeship is completed over 12 months and you would be required to complete a Certificate III Business nationally recognised qualification.

Below are our current vacancies for school leavers.

Apprenticeship - 1st Year Electrical
(Instrumentation & Control)
North Ryde
Apprenticeship - 1st Year Horticulture (Turf)
Ryde
Apprenticeship - 1st Year Landscaping
Northern Beaches
Apprenticeship - 1st Year Landscaping - Horticulture
Sutherland
Apprenticeship - 1st Year Light Vehicle Mechanic
St Leonards
Apprenticeship - 1st Year Refrigeration/Air-Conditioning (Mechanic)
Southern and Northern Sydney
Apprenticeship - 1st Year Refrigeration/Air-Conditioning (Mechanic)
North Ryde
Lidcombe
Apprenticeship - 1st Year Landscaping - Horticulture
Dural
Apprenticeship - 1st Year Landscaping
Homebush
Apprentice - 1st Year Cabinet Maker
Queanbeyan
Apprenticeship - Glass Cutting & Glazing
Queanbeyan
Apprenticeship - 1st Year Cabinet Maker
Mitchell
Traineeship - Certificate III Business
Alexandria
Traineeship - Certificate III Business
Parramatta
Traineeship - Certificate III Business
Sydney CBD
Traineeship - Certificate III Business
Alexandria
Traineeship - Certificate III Business
Wetherill Park
Traineeship - Certificate III Business
Administration
Bathurst/Oberon
Traineeship - Certificate III Financial Services
Orange
Traineeship - Certificate III Health Services - Dental Assisting
Sydney CBD
Traineeship - Certificate III Horticulture
Sutherland
Traineeship - Certificate III Information Technology
Sydney CBD
Traineeship - Certificate III Printing and Graphic Arts (Digital Printing)
Parramatta

Level 2, 28 Burwood Road, Burwood
Phone: (02) 9715 7344
Email us "mailto:info@1300apprentice.com.au"
"http://1300apprentice.com.au/"

BWAC Australian Apprenticeship Centres

BWAC was established in 1993 as a specialised Employment Service and has been placing apprentices and trainees in jobs from that time. As an Australian Apprenticeships Centre, we are committed to providing an ongoing high level of expertise and support to employers and employees and to make a real contribution to the challenge of fulfilling Australia’s skills needs into the future.

BWAC Australian Apprenticeship centres are located at Lidcombe and Gosford.


Sydney Dance Company Summer School

JUNIORS 10TH – 13TH JANUARY
SENIORS 17TH – 20TH JANUARY
For dancers aged 8 to 18
2 days $145
Contact: Tammy Wheeler
Administration and enquiries
Phone: 02 9258 4818
"mailto:sdc@sydneydancecompany.com"
"http://www.sydneydancecompany.com/cms/wp-

University of Canberra
Worried about your ATAR - Don't Panic!
Even if you didn’t get an ATAR, or didn’t get the ATAR you were hoping for, Don’t Panic! The University of Canberra is committed to making tertiary education more accessible to students with the desire and commitment to succeed.

The University of Canberra has a number of entry initiatives which provide flexible access into our undergraduate degrees. These pathways enable school-leavers and mature age applicants to participate in higher education.

There is a University of Canberra pathway to suit each individual student.
Phone: 1800 UNI CAN (1800 864 226)
E-mail: "mailto:study@canberra.edu.au"
See: "http://www.canberra.edu.au/dontpanic"

Information Sessions
If you miss out on direct entry into university, the University of Canberra College has a range of great preparation programs to help you access your chosen University of Canberra degree.

Dates:
20 December 2011
5 January 2012
Come to enrolment day for 2012 on
24 and 25 January from 12 noon to 7:00
in room R1.7
at Meadowbank TAFE

For more information call Lee on 9942-3801 or
The Literacy/Numeracy Centre
9942-3567

From Sydney University
For Gifted and Talented Yr11 2010 Students
Applications close 8/12
(see Mr Blundell)

Start University in Year 11
America: Rebels, Heroes & Renegades
America: Rebels, Heroes & Renegades is a Board of Studies endorsed HSC course that offers Year 11 students the opportunity to develop university standard writing and thinking skills and earn credit towards a tertiary degree. Offered by the United States Studies Centre at the University of Sydney, America: Rebels, Heroes & Renegades covers new and exciting ground outside the HSC curriculum to enrich the study of the United States in the humanities and political sciences.

About the course
The course views historical and contemporary America through the lens of its influential rebels, heroes, and renegades: female and male, ordinary and extraordinary, political and cultural, known and unsung. By studying these people, students learn about the complexity and diversity of the US and gain insight into how it has become such a powerful global force.

The benefits
- Knowledge and understanding of the United States and its impact on the world.
- Skills in oral and written expression of conceptually difficult ideas and independent critical thinking. These skills will prove useful for other essay-based HSC subjects and debating.
- After successful completion of the course, students will gain one subject (a six credit point semester-length unit of study) towards a degree in Arts or other combined degree programs at the University of Sydney.
- The course fee represents approximately one-third of the full fee rate for one subject (a six credit point Arts unit of study) at the University of Sydney. Students who gain admission to a degree—which this subject can be credited toward—will not incur a HECS debt or be liable for the full fee for these six credit points.
Course outline

Who are the most significant heroes and rebels in recent American history?
Do these people fight for individual freedom or social justice?
What do American heroes, rebels and renegades reveal to us about the domestic United States and its global power?

By examining American heroes and rebels this course explores how these individuals reflect and shape the United States, with an emphasis on developing a student's ability to think critically and develop evidence-based, well-reasoned arguments.

The course consists of the following four core sections:

Understanding the hero, the rebel & the renegade
Who is a hero or renegade? Who defines heroes and rebels? What role does the American media play in the attribution of these labels? Can a hero be a typical citizen? How are heroes and rebels portrayed?

Heroic journeys & the US in the world
Is every hero or rebel connected with adventure or a journey? Is there a pattern to the heroic journey? Is the journey of each American hero or rebel equivalent to the journey experienced by the US as a nation in a hostile world?

Politicians & celebrities
The political landscape includes politicians, presidents, policy makers, journalists, television commentators and military heroes. Are these people celebrities? Can a celebrity be a hero? Is fame a necessary part of heroism? What part do American values and beliefs play in the formation of political heroes?

Obstacles to heroism in the US
Why are some people denied hero status? Are heroic women and people of colour ignored or forgotten? Does heroic action need to be individual or can it be collective? How does the structure of American society both block and fuel heroism?

Assessment

Assessment consists of journal entries (1500 words worth 25%); a character profile on a chosen person (1000 words worth 25%); a research essay (2000 words worth 40%); and class participation (10%).

How is this course recognised?

America: Rebels, Heroes & Renegades is endorsed as a one-unit option. The course is recognised by the Board of Studies as a Year 11 preliminary unit and forms part of a student’s final HSC record. Board Endorsed Courses are designed for high-achieving students to supplement and extend the HSC curriculum, though the results in these courses are not included in the calculation of the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR). The result for America: Rebels, Heroes & Renegades will appear on a student’s Record of Achievement and is worth six credit points toward an undergraduate degree at the University.

Session times

9-13 January 2012, 10am—2pm
16-20 January 2012, 10am—2pm
4 and 11 February 2012, 10am—2pm
Each session includes a one-hour lunch break.

Eligibility

Any student who has an interest in the topics covered and the ability and aptitude to undertake university-level study is welcome to apply. Only students who will commence Year 11 or Year 12 in 2012 may apply to enrol in the course.

Application process

Applications are assessed by the course convener on the basis of a student's past academic record and their school principal's recommendation that the student has the capacity to meet the demands of the course. This takes into account a candidate's potential to work at university-level and their ability to work both in a team and independently.

Completed applications (including all necessary attached documents) should be submitted by the school Principal to:

United States Studies Institute Building (H03)
The University of Sydney NSW 2006

Applications are due by 25 November 2011.

Course costs

The cost of America: Heroes, Rebels & Renegades is $775. The fee is payable once you are accepted into the course.

Scholarships

The United States Studies Centre is offering two merit scholarships to students with an outstanding academic record and one equity scholarship to a student who can demonstrate financial hardship and/or educational disadvantage.

Offers

Offers will be sent out to successful applicants with fee payment details by 5 December 2011, Students will need to accept and finalise payment by 16 December 2011.

For more information

Amelia Trial
Student Affairs Officer
E: amelia.trial@sydney.