

SOCIETY AND CULTURE AWARDS FOR HSC 2020

Featuring Top 10 and High Distinction and Distinction PIPs

Top 10 HSC Exam Performance

Rank in HSC	Name	School
First and the Prof Sol Encel Award	Hugh Service	Hunters Hill High School
Second	Ginger Maree Kaye Arena	Northern Beaches SC Mackellar Girls Campus
Third	Claudia Blane	Mercy Catholic College
Fourth	Katelyn Williams	Central Coast Grammar School
Equal Fifth	Heidi Finlayson	Willoughby Girls High School
Equal Fifth	Mia Thom	Byron Bay High School
Seventh	Isabella Baker	Northern Beaches SC Mackellar Girls Campus
Eighth	Flynn Broom	Patrician Brothers' College Blacktown
Ninth	Stephanie Lee	Hornsby Girls High School
Tenth	Emma Young	Belmont High School

In HSC Society and Culture in 2020 of 4580 candidates. 12 High Distinctions and 16 Distinctions Personal Interest Projects (PIP) were awarded.

High Distinction

Name	School	High Distinction PIP Topic	Topic Detail
Jessica Beutum Dr Margaret White Award	Emanuel School	The making of the other	An investigation into the role of the media in maintaining the process of othering, with a specific focus on perceptions of Indigenous Australians and women in the workforce.
Flynn Poelmann	Barrenjoey High School	Racism and Representation through the Pigeonhole	An investigation into the ways in which the misrepresentation of Indigenous Australians within film media perpetuates misinformed cultural stereotypes throughout society
Michelle Foerderer	Willoughby Girls High School	Sign of the times	Despite perceptions of youth shallowness and apathetic political engagement, moral conservatism from government institutions has prompted a deeply engaged youth population.
Simone Yaco	St Narsai Assyrian Christian College	And they're still painting privilege	An in-depth investigation on the role of mass media and unconscious bias in the perpetuation of prejudices and racial stereotypes that influence injustices experienced by minority groups within contemporary society.

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Madison Wilson	Willoughby Girls High School	Saving or Serving – Voluntourism	An investigation into the problematic nature of the voluntourism industry and the associated repercussions for the communities deemed in need
Sophie Ridley	Willoughby Girls High School	Big data meets big brother	Data tracking as part of a macro political agenda of social control, leading to the corruption of civil liberties and political polarisation.
Louis Valente	Freshwater Senior Campus	Change the system not the climate	An investigation into the social and ideological nature of the ecological crisis, and the need for radical structural change.
Kyoko Ichida-Griffin	Macarthur Anglican School Cobbitty	In money we trust	An investigation into the implications of the commodification of social activism on the public's perception of its capability to educate, persuade and transform.
Harriette Burke	Freshwater Senior Campus	News Media: The Guardian of <u>Democracy</u> the Elite.	A cross-cultural investigation into the power and influence corporate media owners and consumers have over the news media content produced throughout Australia.
Jasleen Singh	Macarthur Girls High School	Girls behind the games	An investigation into the Gender Disparity and Hegemonic Representations of Women in Gaming Culture and Esports.
Molly Robinson	Jindabyne Central School	Onnara She – Gendered language in Japan	A critical evaluation of gendered language in Japanese and the implications that it holds for feminine stereotypes in Japan.
Oscar Dow	Blackwattle Bay Campus	A fair go in a country on fire	How have the 2019/2020 bushfires shaped Australian's perceptions of charitable donation across the socioeconomic divide?

Distinctions

Name	School	Distinction PIP Topic	Topic Detail
Stephany Lu	Willoughby Girls High School	Beyond the Asian mystique	An investigation into the effects of stereotyped Asian representations on screen and consequent commodification of Asian culture by western oriental views.
Heidi Finlayson	Willoughby Girls High School	All the news that's fit to print	An investigation into how media is increasingly becoming a politicised platform the challenging the concept of journalistic truth and authenticity.
Mandy-Lee Taitz	Moriah College	You can't say that	How has the idea of political correctness censored individuals from speaking publicly?
Sasha Evans Rorris	Blackwattle Bay Campus	Man of the house	To what extent does traditional Greek cultural heritage and gender constructs impact on father-daughter relationships in a Greek-Australian contemporary context?

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Allegra Nash	Willoughby Girls High School	Out of Sight. Out of Mind- The Australian Homeless crisis	Despite the supposedly egalitarian nature of Australian society, the homeless population are a highly marginalised group who face constant stigma from an apathetic and ignorant public.
Bianca Dowd	Bulli High School	Ignorance is Bliss'	To what extent does Australian society view racism as a contemporary social issue? An investigation into the Caucasian majority's disregard and trivialisation of contemporary forms of racism and its role in facilitating the continuity of discrimination towards Persons of Colour.
Alice Morgan	Ryde Secondary College	Born on the Wrong Side of the 38th Parallel	A case study of the effects of the process of acculturation on cultural identity formation of North Korean defectors living in South Korea.
Lucy Matthews	Willoughby Girls High School	Voluntourism	Despite voluntourism supposedly representing philanthropic intentions, it actually perpetuates harmful ethnocentric and neo-colonial perspectives indicative of a saviour complex.'
Savannah Kopsias	Willoughby Girls High School	This raunch has no dressing	The increasing prominence of raunch culture is having a detrimental impact on feminist cultural narratives distorting notions of empowerment.
Hugh Service	Hunters Hill High School	Political Tribalism – Us Them	How has the human proclivity for tribal networks contributed to a political sphere of polarisation?
Samantha Naiman	Moriah College	Heels on a glass ceiling	Have female politicians broken the barrier inhibiting them from equal representation and treatment to their male counterparts?
Lucinda Devereaux	Willoughby Girls High School	There is a fine line between liberation and titillation	Bodily autonomy remains a highly contested issue as women's breasts are a point of sexual objectification, censorship and commodification.
Shanelle Anjaiya	Clancy Catholic College	Once upon a time in Bollywood	To what extent do Bollywood films reinforce traditional gender stereotypes or function as an agent of gender-based empowerment amongst Indian Australians.
Mia Thom	Byron Bay High School	Decolonising the Patriarchy	An investigation into the effects of the innately patriarchal systems of colonisation and its enduring societal impacts on the value and status of Aboriginal women within contemporary Australian society and culture.
Kayla Christie	Freshwater Senior Campus	Pride and Prejudice	An investigation into the correlation of patriotism and nationalism, and their conflict with multiculturalism
Stephanie Bosmans	Clancy Catholic College	Easy, Breezy, Beautiful, Covergirl.	An investigation into 'Femvertising' and its effectiveness in empowering women and creating greater gender equality. To what extent is femvertising superficial or a new frontier of feminism?