

**Scott Darlow Presentations – Curriculum Connections**

**Lesson 5 – Presentation – First Nations’ Soldiers**

Singer Songwriter and Aboriginal presenter, Scott Darlow, discusses some of the history of First Nations peoples fighting in the two great wars and the Vietnam War. This includes an acknowledgement of the disparity between what returning ‘white’ soldiers received and Indigenous Soldiers.

This presentation runs for 10 minutes and includes a performances by Scott and his band, with some special guest artists. The song, (a cover of Dragon’s *Don’t Go Out in the Rain*) was recorded in 2019 as a fundraiser for farmers experiencing the drought.

While watching Scott discussing the First Nation’s peoples who fought for Australia overseas, as teachers we make connections with the varying subject areas, skills and knowledge we aim to foster in our students.

This lesson is approachable for Years 7-11 and below are some examples of where it can connect to areas in the Australian and Victorian Curriculum.

**ACARA General Capabilities:**

<https://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/f-10-curriculum/general-capabilities/>

* Ethical Understanding

In the Australian Curriculum, students develop [ethical understanding](https://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/f-10-curriculum/general-capabilities/ethical-understanding/) as they identify and investigate the nature of ethical concepts, values and character traits, and understand how reasoning can assist ethical judgement. Ethical understanding involves students building a strong personal and socially oriented ethical outlook that helps them to manage context, conflict and uncertainty, and to develop an awareness of the influence that their values and behaviour have on others. It does this through fostering the development of ‘personal values and attributes such as honesty, resilience, empathy and respect for others’, and the capacity to act with ethical integrity, as outlined in the Melbourne Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians (MCEETYA 2008, p. 9).

Processes of inquiring into ethical issues include giving reasons, being consistent, finding meanings and causes, and providing proof and evidence. Interrogating such concepts through authentic cases such as global warming, sustainable living and socioeconomic disparity can involve group and independent inquiry, critical and creative thinking, and cooperative teamwork, and can contribute to personal and social learning.

As students engage with the elements of Ethical Understanding in an integrated way, they learn to recognise the complexity of many ethical issues. They develop a capacity to make reasoned ethical judgements through the investigation of a range of questions drawn from varied contexts in the curriculum.

**Victorian Curriculum Subject Areas**

This lesson on First Nations’ soldiers fits nicely into a study of History, especially conflict.

For example, [Australian history](https://victoriancurriculum.vcaa.vic.edu.au/the-humanities/history/introduction/rationale-and-aims) is taught within a world history approach. This equips students for the world in which they live and enhances students’ appreciation of Australian history. Students appreciate Australia's distinctive path of social, economic and political development, and Australia’s position in the Asia-Pacific region, and our global relationships. Students develop an understanding of the past and present experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, their identity, and the continuing contribution and value of their culture. This knowledge and understanding is essential for informed and active participation in Australia's diverse society.

[**VCAA Psychology Unit 3**](https://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Documents/vce/psychology/2016PsychologySD.pdf)

Scott’s discussion of the impacts on First Nations Peoples who not only fought the invasion of their own country, but went to war overseas, can also fit within a study of Psychology and in particular, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Ioss of identity.

**Unit 3: How does experience affect behaviour and mental processes?** Students explore how stress may affect a person’s psychological functioning and consider the causes and management of stress. Students investigate how mechanisms of memory and learning lead to the acquisition of knowledge, the development of new capacities and changed behaviours.

**Questions, and Extension Activities**

**Questions:**

1. Music – who are the other Australian artists featured in the song, *Don’t go out in the Rain?*
2. Geography - What is the name of the Aboriginal country that Scott Darlow is standing on?
3. History - What building is he in front of, and what does this represent for Australians?
4. History - Discuss what happened to Aboriginal soldiers when they returned form War that was different to other soldiers.
5. Psychology – what would be some of the psychological impacts on returned soldiers, especially First Nations’ soldiers?

**Extension Activity:**

* Research the policies surrounding land given to soldiers on returning to war.
* Research some of the Aboriginal soldiers that fought in wars overseas.