

HISTORY

“A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots”

Marcus Garvey, Early Civil Rights Activist

Current Teaching Staff:

Ms R North - Head of Department
Miss S Medhurst

Examination board and syllabus:

AQA

Entrance requirement:

Grade 6 or above in History GCSE or Grade 6 or above in English Language or Literature GCSE

A Level Outline:

Unit 1: Breadth Study

1C The Tudors: England, 1485–1603

This is a fascinating period of History, studying some of England's most famous monarchs including Henry VIII and Elizabeth I.

This option allows students to study in breadth issues of change, continuity, cause and consequence in this period through the following key questions:

- How effectively did the Tudors restore and develop the powers of the monarchy?
- In what ways and how effectively was England governed during this period?
- How did relations with foreign powers change and how was the succession secured?
- How did English society and economy change and with what effects?
- How far did intellectual and religious ideas change and develop and with what effects?
- How important was the role of key individuals and groups and how were they affected by developments?

Unit 2: Depth Study

Revolution and dictatorship: Russia, 1917–1953, Lenin and Stalin

Another fascinating period of History, this option provides for the study in depth of the coming and practice of communism in Russia. It explores concepts such as Marxism, communism, Leninism, and Stalinism, ideological control and dictatorship. It also enables students to consider issues of political authority, the power of individuals and the inter-relationship of governmental and economic and social change

Unit 3: Coursework

This is a personal study. The topic is British History in the Twentieth century including Thatcher, The Suffragettes, World Wars, Protest eg Poll Tax riots etc. This unit demands extensive research and thorough reading, and will provide a fantastic opportunity for independent learning. This unit is particularly good preparation for university and students who go on to write dissertations.

Name of Unit	% of A Level	Coursework / Examination	Length of Time / words	Examination / Coursework entered
Unit 1: Tudors	40%	Examination	2 hour 30 minutes	End of 2 year course
Unit 2: Russia	40%	Examination	2 hour 30 minutes	End of 2 year course
Unit 3: Coursework	20%	Coursework	Approx. 3500 words	End of 2 year course

A Level classes will have two teachers, one for each side of the course. Information is provided in the form of lectures, seminars, active learning, student presentations and various types of audio-visual

materials with a view to preparing the student for a course which will be organised and examined through both traditional essay format and source evaluation and an extended piece of written coursework. The different units are designed to test the skills of essay writing, interpretation of source material, personal research and problem solving.

You will be expected to show independence in your learning and be able to organise your own pattern of work from reading lists and be prepared to locate and utilise your own reading material. Typical work you may be asked to carry out could include: research, collaborating with others to prepare group presentations and participating in debate. Active learning is an important part of History A Level and we encourage creativity in interpreting historical themes. Problem solving, essay writing and using evidence are all a regular part of History lessons.

Students are offered regular lunchtime support, and one to one help when required, as well as revision sessions in advance of examinations. The History department will always offer extra advice to develop historical skills. We run a session during the Sixth Form Immersion Day to give further examination guidance. There is a History Film Club to enhance the student's wider understanding of the topics we study. Students will also be able to attend a residential trip to London to see Hampton Court, Parliament and Westminster Abbey in June of Year 12.

In order to achieve your potential in History you will need to:
Manage your time effectively and meet deadlines; read extensively from a variety of different texts;
follow current historical debate.

Students will need to:	Compulsory	Optional
Attend extra sessions before Examinations		X
Read widely around the subject	X	
Make extensive notes	X	
Carry out detailed revision for regular tests beyond public examinations	X	
Be willing to lead class discussions	X	

CAREERS

Evidence shows that an A Level in History is useful for a variety of careers including law, management, local and national government, journalism, police work and archaeology, as well as numerous others.