
HISTORY

The overall aims of A Level History are:

To develop knowledge and understanding of selected periods of history.

To explore important and interesting events, individuals, issues and societies. To understand the nature of historical evidence and how history has been interpreted – do you believe everything you read?

To develop your interest, enthusiasm and enjoyment of history!

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS TO THE A LEVEL COURSE

Please see the Sixth Form Admissions Policy for the entry requirements to this course.

AQA: Units 1C and 2Q

Unit 1: The Tudors 1485-1603

- The reign of Henry VII – and the establishment of the Tudor dynasty
- Henry VIII – the break with Rome, his government and relationship with foreign powers.
- Edward and Mary – was there a ‘Mid-Tudor crisis’?
- The reign of Elizabeth – her style of government, the religious settlement, war with Spain and socio-economic hardship.

Unit 2: The American Dream: reality and illusion, 1945–1980

- The presidencies of Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon and Carter with a focus on:
 - Domestic policy and the power of the presidency
 - Civil Rights
 - The Cold War in Europe and the Far-East

Unit 4: Coursework

An individual assignment of 4,500 words which will address historical interpretations of a given topic. The topics for coursework include topics such as:

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- The causes of the Russian Revolution (1917)

- The French Revolution
- Women's campaign for the vote in the 19th and 20th centuries
- The Crusades
- The Witch Craze of 15th and 16th century Europe
- Britain's development during the Industrial Revolution

There may also be an opportunity for students to pick their own area of study. This will be decided on an individual basis and is dependent upon the suitability of the proposed topic.

STUDENT VIEWPOINT

History is more than just factual information. It is about exploring the past and finding out why things happened, and if they happened the way we have been led to believe! History continues to be a very well-respected subject in terms of career prospects and Further Education. This is because of the skills you develop as historians; research, analysis, evaluation, debate, discussion, literacy, the ability to construct an opinion or an argument, and most importantly – empathy.

COMPLEMENTARY SUBJECTS

English, Government and Politics, Religious Studies, Languages and Sociology.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

As well as a career in research or teaching, History opens your mind to important political, economic, social and religious issues, allowing you to develop an excellent sense of the world around you. For this reason, employers in: accountancy, journalism, publishing, public relations, general management, sales and marketing, law, politics, and administration all value History degrees and a History A Level qualification.