

HISTORY Advanced Level

Qualification Level 3 Advanced GCE in History

Exam Board AQA

Course Specific Entry Requirements Grade 5 or above in GCSE History **or** Grade 5 or above in GCSE English Language **or** Grade 5 or above in GCSE English Literature. It is not necessary to have studied History at GCSE

Overview

History is a well-respected subject which would suit both those students who wish to specialise in history as a career and those who wish to create a 'well balanced' academic profile.

What will I learn?

▲ *Component 1* **Making of a Superpower: USA 1865-1975**

From Lincoln to Nixon, from the Civil War to the Cold War, this unit covers the sweeping history of America from the bitter divisions of the mid-19th century to its position as a dominant world superpower in the 20th century. It looks at the issues that blighted Black people from the Ku Klux Klan to the Civil Rights Movement. It looks at the Boom and Bust of the 1920s and prohibition, the Great Depression and the New Deal in the 1930s. A sweeping story of possibly the most powerful and yet most divided nation on earth.

▲ *Component 2* **The Wars of the Roses: 1450-1499**

This unit looks at the bitter conflict over who should be monarch that ripped Britain apart in the late 15th century. From the feeble mutterings of Henry VI to Henry VII, The Winter King, the Wars of the Roses were a time of blood, murder and intrigue. You will discover that the dramatic fiction written by the likes of Philippa Gregory are based on historical events: dynastic intrigue between cousins; schemes of power by powerful women; the murder of the Princes in the Tower and more villains than you can shake a stick at! This unit really has it all! You will chart the conflicts between the House of York and the House of Lancaster before seeing the ultimate triumph of the Tudors.

▲ *Component 3* **Coursework**

You can pick any topic you want to focus on that is not covered by the two exam components. You might explore the reasons for the fall of the Roman Empire or questions on the significance of Nelson Mandela. The coursework is as close to an under-graduate dissertation as you can get at A Level and therefore helps make this course so highly valued by universities. You will need to research and explore historical issues and debates, to use and evaluate contemporary documents, to make and express judgements on key questions. This unit is assessed via a 3500 word report.

How will I learn?

A variety of teaching and learning styles will be employed throughout the course. You will be given the opportunity to acquire and effectively communicate knowledge and understanding of selected periods of history; develop understanding of historical terms and concepts; explore the significance of events, individuals, issues and societies in history; understand the nature of historical evidence and the methods used by historians in analysis and evaluation; develop your understanding of how the past has been interpreted and represented and develop your interest in, and enthusiasm for, history.

Where could it lead?

History deals in-depth with the ideas, dreams and actions of the most fascinating creature on the planet: humans! By studying History, you will develop key skills in researching, analysing and synthesising information from a range of sources and producing substantiated and reasoned conclusions. Vital skills for life! Advanced Level History is highly regarded by universities. Many prominent lawyers, politicians and professionals in a wide variety of fields have enjoyed an academic historical training which has been beneficial to their careers. This course is ideal for both students who are considering specialising in History at degree level as well as those students following different paths who want to show a well-rounded education and well developed skills in debate. An understanding of history is an essential prerequisite to an understanding of the human condition. For many it becomes a lifelong interest and pastime.