

POST 16 SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Name of Subject - History A-Level

Which Examination Specification is Studied for this Course?

AQA History (History 7041,7042, 1C, 2Q)

Why should I study this course? The unique demands of A Level History afford you the opportunity to embark on a study of a range of events, societies, issues and individuals that have interacted to shape our world.

The history course will include a study of many historical concepts such as power, the notion of historical significance and the idea of change and continuity across different periods of time. A further key aim of the course will be the fostering and demonstrating critical thinking.

Whilst the topics will be new to most students, the skills demanded of AS students are a smooth step up from GCSE. The content of the AS course naturally overlaps the A Level course and so is an excellent stepping stone to the full A Level qualification. For students with an interest in the way the world has developed through the ages and those who enjoy investigation, discovery and debate, this is an excellent vehicle for enhancing those skills.

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The course covers Social, Economic and Political change and how people in Britain and the USA have been affected by change in the short and long term.

Through source investigation, debate/discussion, presentations and independent enquiry students will acquire excellent historical skills in order to assess the significance of events, individuals, beliefs and movements from that particular time. They will develop their ability to reach substantiated judgements on key questions in history and how to construct an effective balanced argument. The A level course for Year 13 will have a breadth of study of a significant historical development over a 100 year period, a depth study of a major historical change and historical research. We choose to complete our Historical Investigation about Russia c.1860-c.1964

Who is suitable to study this course?

History is thriving at A Level because it gives students the opportunity to understand the big issues behind today's headlines, to ask questions and to express their opinions in a variety of ways. If students enjoy active learning through group work, debates and problem solving scenarios, they will certainly enjoy History at this level. It also compliments many other subjects such as English, Geography, Media Studies, Psychology, Philosophy & Ethics and Business Studies.

What GCSE Qualifications Support the Study of this Course? It compliments many other subjects such as English, Geography, Media Studies, Psychology, Philosophy & Ethics and Business Studies.

What are the Qualification Requirements for this Course? Students should have achieved a grade 5 in English Language and Literature otherwise it is likely that they will find the course extremely challenging.

How is the Course Delivered? Two experienced A-Level History teachers deliver Unit 1 and Unit 2 alongside one another for two hours each week. At the end of year 12/ beginning of year 13 students will be introduced to their Historical Investigation which they will receive regular support with but which will be undertaken independently over the autumn term in year 13. This is a challenging but rewarding part of the course.

Units covered over the two year course are:-

Unit 1: The Tudors: England 1485-1603

Unit 2: The American Dream: reality and illusion 1945-1980

Unit 3: Historical Enquiry.

Subject Overview		
Half Term	Year 12	Year 13
Autumn 1	<p style="text-align: center;">Britain 1485-1509</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Henry Tudor's consolidation of power: character and aims; establishing the Tudor dynasty • Government: councils, parliament, justice, royal finance, domestic policies • Relationships with Scotland and other foreign powers; securing the succession; marriage alliances <p style="text-align: center;">USA 1945-1960</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Historical investigation - Russia 1855-1964</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The United States in 1945 and the legacies of the world war: the powers of the presidency; the main political parties; post-war prosperity; regional, ethnic and social divisions • The USA as a Superpower: Truman's character and policies; post-war peace making; the Cold War and 'containment' in Europe and Asia; the response to the rise of Communism in Asia • Truman and post-war reconstruction: the economy; political divisions and domestic problems; the rise of McCarthyism 	
Autumn 2	<p>Britain 1485-1509</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Society: churchmen, nobles and commoners; regional division; social discontent and rebellions • Economic development: trade, exploration, prosperity and depression • Religion; humanism; arts and learning <p>USA 1945-1960</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • African-Americans in North and South: the impact of the Second World War; campaigns for Civil Rights; the responses of the federal and state authorities • The presidency: Eisenhower's personality and the policies of 'dynamic conservatism'; Nixon as Vice-President; the Republican Party; the end of McCarthyism 	<p>Britain 1563-1603</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elizabethan government: court, ministers and parliament; factional rivalries • Foreign affairs: issues of succession; Mary, Queen of Scots; relations with Spain • Society: continuity and change; problems in the regions; social discontent and rebellions <p>USA 1963-1980</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The limits of American world power: peace negotiations and the continuation of the war in Vietnam and Cambodia; the influence of Kissinger on US policies towards the USSR, Latin America and China • The Watergate Affair and its aftermath: the role of Congress; the resignation of the President; Nixon's political legacy

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The growth of the American economy in the 1950s and the impact of the 'consumer society' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ford and Carter as presidents: responses to social divisions; political corruption and the loss of national self-confidence
Spring I	<p>Britain 1509-1547</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Henry VIII: character and aims; addressing Henry VII's legacy Government: Crown and Parliament, ministers, domestic policies including the establishment of Royal Supremacy Relationships with Scotland and other foreign powers; securing the succession <p>USA 1945-1963</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The USA and the Cold War: Superpower rivalry and conflict with the USSR; responses to developments in Western and Eastern Europe; reactions to the rise of Communism in Asia; responses to crises in the Middle East African-Americans in North and South: the emergence of the Civil Rights Movement; the policies and attitudes of the main political parties; the responses of the state and federal authorities The presidential election of 1960 and reasons for Kennedy's victory; the policies and personalities of the Kennedy administration; the ideas behind the 'New Frontier' 	<p>Britain 1563-1603</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic development: trade, exploration and colonisation; prosperity and depression Religious developments, change and continuity; the English renaissance and 'the Golden Age' of art, literature and music The last years of Elizabeth: the state of England politically, economically, religiously and socially by 1603 <p>USA 1963-1980</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The position of the USA as a world power: the final withdrawal from Vietnam; relations with the USSR and China; the response to crises in the Middle East; Iran and Afghanistan African-Americans in North and South: the impact of civil rights legislation; change and continuity in the 'New South'

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The USA by 1980: its position as a Superpower; the extent of social and economic change; the reasons for Reagan's victory in the presidential election.
<p>Spring 2</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Britain 1509-1547</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Society: elites and commoners; regional issues and the social impact of religious upheaval; rebellion Economic development: trade, exploration, prosperity and depression Religion: renaissance ideas; reform of the Church; continuity and change by 1547 <p style="text-align: center;">USA 1945-1963</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Challenges to American power: the legacy of crises over Berlin and relations with Khrushchev; the challenge of Castro's Cuba; deepening involvement in Vietnam African-Americans in North and South: the rise of the Civil Rights Movement; the opponents of Civil Rights, including within the Democratic Party; Kennedy's policies in response to the pressures for change The United States by 1963: its position as a world power; economic prosperity; the growing pressures for social change from women and youth 	<p>Historical Investigation completion</p> <p>Revision and deliberate practice in lessons</p>

Summer I	<p>Britain 1547-1563</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Edward VI, Somerset and Northumberland; royal authority; problems of succession; relations with foreign powers• The social impact of religious and economic changes under Edward VI; rebellion; intellectual developments; humanist and religious thought• Mary I and her ministers; royal authority; problems of succession; relations with foreign powers <p>USA 1963-1980</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Johnson as President: personality and policies; his pursuit of the 'Great Society'; the impact of the Kennedy legacy; economic developments• Maintaining American world power: escalation of the war in Vietnam; relations between the USA and its Western allies• African-Americans in North and South: developments in the Civil Rights Movement; Johnson's role in passing Civil Rights legislation; the impact of change including urban riots	Revision

<p>Summer 2</p>	<p>Britain 1547-1563</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The social impact of religious and economic changes under Mary I; rebellion; intellectual developments; humanist and religious thought • Elizabeth I: character and aims; consolidation of power, including the Act of Settlement and relations with foreign powers • The impact of economic, social and religious developments in the early years of Elizabeth's rule <p>USA 1963-1980</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social divisions and protest movements: education and youth; feminism; radicalisation of African-Americans; anti-war movements; the role of the media • The Presidential election of 1968 and the reasons for Nixon's victory: divisions within the Democratic Party; the personalities and policies of the Nixon administration • The restoration of conservative social policies; the reaction to protest movements and forces of social change; economic change and the end of the post-war boom 	
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How is the Course Assessed?

Paper 1 – 2½ hour external examination.

Paper 2 – 2½ hour external examination.

Paper 3 – Historical Investigation

Regular assignments are set on a weekly basis and mock tests are set on a whole school timetable. A selection of weekly assignments are selected as Key Indicator pieces throughout the year- all of these, as well as performance in class is then taken into account when setting Praising Stars grades.

What is our Recommended Subject Reading list to Support your Study? -

Unit 1: • C Lee, Britain, 1483-1529, Nelson Thornes, 2008 • R Carpenter, The Church in England and the Struggle for Supremacy, 1529-1547, Nelson Thornes, 2009 • M Tillbrook, The Triumph of Elizabethan Britain 1547-1603, Nelson Thornes, 2009 • I Dawson, The Tudor Century, Nelson Thornes, 1993 • D Murphy (ed), England 1485-1603, Collins, 1999 • N Fellows, Disorder and Rebellion in Tudor England, Hodder, 2009 • R Lockyer & D O'Sullivan, Tudor Britain 1485-1603, Longman, 1993 • K Randall, Henry VIII and the Government of England, Hodder, 2001 • K Randall, Henry VIII and the Reformation in England, Hodder, 2001 • J Warren, Elizabeth I: Meeting the Challenge, Hodder, 2008 • G W Bernard, The Kings Reformation, Yale, 2005 • C Carpenter, The Wars of the Roses, CUP, 1997 • C S L Davies, Peace, Print and Protestantism, Paladin, 1995 • S Doran, Princes, Pastors and People, Routledge, 1991 • E Duffy, The Stripping of the Altars, Yale, 1992 • G R Elton, England Under the Tudors, Routledge, 1991 • A Fletcher & D MacCulloch, Tudor Rebellions, Longman, 2004 • Griffiths (ed), The Experience of Authority in Early Modern England, Macmillan, 1996 • S Gunn, Early Tudor Government, Macmillan, 1995 • J Guy, Tudor England, OUP, 1998 • C Haigh, The Reign of Elizabeth, Macmillan, 1984 • C Haigh, English Reformations, Clarendon Press, 1993 • J Loach, The Mid Tudor Polity 1540-1560, Macmillan, 1980 • D Loades, The Mid-Tudor Crisis, 1545-1565, Palgrave, 1992 • D Loades, Politics and the Nation 1450-1660, Blackwell, 1999 • D M Palliser, The Age of Elizabeth, Longman, 1992 • A J Pollard, The Wars of the Roses, Macmillan, 1988 • J Scarisbrick, The Reformation and the English People, Blackwell, 1984 • A G R Smith, Emergence of A Nation State, Pearson, 1997 • P Thomas, Authority and Disorder in Tudor Times 1485-1603, CUP, 1999 • Biographies and first-hand accounts • S Chrimes, Henry VII, Yale, 1999 • D Cook, Sixteenth Century England Documents and Debates, Macmillan, 1980 • D Cressy & L Ferrell, Religion and Society in Early modern England A Sourcebook, Routledge, 1996 • R Horrox, Richard III, CUP, 1991 • D Loades, The Reign of Mary Tudor, Longman, 1991 • J Loach, Edward VI, Yale, 1999 • D Starkey & L Wooding, Elizabeth, Vintage, 2001 • L Wooding, Henry VIII, Routledge, 2009

Visual sources and websites • www.johnguy.co.uk • www.history.ac.uk • www.activehistory.co.uk • www.bbc.co.uk/history • www.tudorplace.com • The Six Wives of Henry VIII, Elizabeth DVDs – D Starkey • A History of Britain DVD – S Schama

Unit 2 : C Bragg, Heinemann Advanced History: Vietnam, Korea and US Foreign Policy 1945-75, Heinemann, 2006 • O Edwards, Access to History: The USA and the Cold War 1945-63, Hodder, 2002 • D Murphy, Flagship History - United States 1917-2008, Collins, 2008 • M Hall, The Vietnam War (Seminar Studies in History), Routledge, 2008 • M Scott-Baumann, Civil Rights and Social Movements in the Americas, CUP, 2012 • V Sanders, Civil Rights in the USA 1945-68, Hodder, 2008 • J de Pennington, Modern America: 1865 to the Present, Hodder, 2005 • J Lewis Gaddis, The Cold War, Penguin, 2007 • J

Patterson, *Grand Expectations: The United States, 1945-1974*, OUP, 1998 • E Tyler May, *Homeward Bound: American Families in the Cold War Era*, Basic Books, 2008 • H Higgins, *Vietnam*, Heinemann, 1982 • D Farber, *The Age of Great Dreams: America in the Sixties*, Hill & Wang, 1994 • T Riches, *The Civil Rights Movement: Struggle and Resistance*, Macmillan, 2003 • D Sandbrook, *Mad As Hell: The Crisis of the 1970s and the Rise of the Populist Right*, Anchor, 2012 • L Cohen, *Consumer's Republic: The Politics of Mass Consumption in Postwar America* by Lizabeth Cohen, Vintage, 2003 • T Anderson, *The Movement and the Sixties*, OUP, 1995 • C Appy, *Vietnam: The Definitive Oral History, Told From All Sides*, Ebury Press, 2008 • R Perlstein, *Nixonland: The Rise of a President and the Fracturing of America*, Scribner, 2008 • M Halliwell, *American Culture in the 1950s*, Edinburgh University Press, 2007 • D Halberstam, *The Fifties*, Fawcett, 1994 • G Moss, *Moving on: The American People Since 1945*, Pearson, 2004 • M Dudziak, *Cold War Civil Rights*, Princeton University Press, 2011 • D Farber, *The Age of Great Dreams: America in the Sixties*, Hill & Wang, 1994 • T Branch, *Parting the Waters: America in the King Years, 1954–1963*, Simon & Schuster, 1998 • M Herr, *Dispatches*, Picador, 1991 • C Hitchens, *The Trial of Henry Kissinger*, Atlantic Books, 2002 • M Isserman & M Kazin, *America Divided, The Civil War of the 1960s*, OUP, 2007 • S Karnow, *Vietnam: A History*, Pimlico, 1994 • G Kolko, *Anatomy of a War*, New Press, 1994 • M Dickstein, *Gates of Eden: American Culture in the Sixties*, Harvard University Press, 1997 • M Marable, *Race, Reform and Rebellion 1945-82*, Pimlico, 1984 • T Weiner, *Enemies: A History of the FBI*, Penguin, 2012 • P Biskind, *Easy Riders, Raging Bulls: How the Sex-drugs-and Rock 'n' Roll Generation Changed Hollywood*, Bloomsbury, 1999 • G Tindall, *America: A Narrative History*, Norton, 2007 • J Williams, *Eyes on the Prize*, Longman, 1999

Biographies and first-hand accounts • S Ambrose, *Nixon: The Triumph of a Politician, 1962-72*, Simon and Schuster, 2014 • D McCullough, *Truman*, Simon & Schuster, 1993 • R Dallek, *Lyndon B. Johnson: Portrait of a President*, OUP, 2004 • R Dallek, *John F. Kennedy: An Unfinished Life*, Penguin, 2013 • A Haley & Malcolm X, *Autobiography of Malcolm X*, Penguin, 2007 • H Kissinger, *Diplomacy*, Pocket Books, 2003 • P Ling, *Martin Luther King*, Routledge, 2002 • M Marable, *Malcolm X: A Life of Reinvention*, Black Classic Press, 2012 • J Edward Smith, *Eisenhower in War & Peace*, Random House, 2013

Visual sources and websites • <http://www.jfklibrary.org/> • <http://www.lbjlibrary.org/> • <http://www.trumanlibrary.org/> • <http://www.eisenhower.archives.gov/> • <http://www.nixonlibrary.gov/>

Historical Investigation

Key texts for classroom and individual study • C Corin and T Fiehn, *Communist Russia under Lenin and Stalin*, Hodder, 2002 • J Laver, *Triumph and Collapse: Russia and the USSR 1941-1991*, Nelson Thornes, 2009 • A Todd, *The Soviet Union and Eastern Europe 1924-2000*, CUP, 2012 • S Waller, *Imperial Russia, Revolutions and the emergence of the Soviet State 1853-1924*, CUP, 2012 • S Waller, *Tsarist Russia, 1855-1917*, Nelson Thornes, 2009 • J Bromley, *Russia 1848–1917*, Heinemann, 2002 • G Darby, *The Russian Revolution*, Longman, 1998 • D Evans and J Jenkins, *Years of Russia, the USSR and the Collapse of Soviet Communism*, Hodder Arnold (2nd edn), 2001 • J Hite, *Tsarist Russia 1801–1917*, Causeway Press, 2004 • J Laver, *The Modernisation of Russia 1856–1985*, Heinemann, 2002 • S J Lee, *Russia and the USSR*, Routledge, 2005 • M Lynch, *Reaction and Revolutions: Russia 1881–1924*, Hodder Murray (2nd new edn), 2005 • D Murphy and T Morris, *Russia 1855–1964*, Collins, 2008 • A Wood, *The Russian Revolution*, Longman (2nd edn), • E Crankshaw, *The Shadow of the Winter Palace*, Penguin, 1976 • G Darby, *The Russian Revolution 1861–1924*, Longman, 1998 • O Figes, *A People's Tragedy*:

The Russian Revolution, 1891–1924, Pimlico, 1997 • S Fitzpatrick, The Russian Revolution, Oxford (3rd edn), 2008 • G Freeze, Russia, A History, Oxford University Press, 2002 • G Hosking, Russia and the Russians, Penguin, 2012 • J Hutchinson, Late Imperial Russia, Longman, 1999 • L Kochan, Russia in Revolution, Paladin, 1970

