

Name of subject - A Level History - **Which exam board will we be using?** - AQA

Why should I study this course?

In A Level History, your studies will allow you to explore key events across both British and Global History, building up a core of knowledge to allow you to construct analytical writing from a range of different perspectives.

History will equip you with a critical and inquisitive mind, always looking for a deeper understanding and always challenging yourself to reflect on your perspective. You will develop your skills of persuasion and reasoning, as well as improving your ability to condense large amounts of information into succinct but well-reasoned responses. You will consider the viewpoint of other historians and consider how “convinced” you are by their arguments. You’ll look at source material from the time and really embrace the mindset of those that experienced the period of History we’ll be looking at. Alongside this you’ll always be an asset in any quiz!

You’ll find a great breadth of topics to study as you look at post war America and how it grew out of the Second World War to face the challenges of superpower conflict with the USSR and China, and how that was manifested in proxy wars across the world. From a British point of view, you will be looking at how the end of the Tudor dynasty gave England an extraordinary opportunity to develop into a parliamentary democracy and also eventually a union with the Scots thanks to the Stuarts, but how they had to deal with a few teething problems along the way (the execution of the King for example)

Who is suitable to study this course?

Study of History at GCSE is desirable but not necessary to study A Level History. Further to this, a strong grasp of English Language and Literature would definitely help to be able to unpack some of the historical arguments.

The main suitability for this course would be those that are passionate and inquisitive about History. These things are essential in any successful Historian. History in itself is a desirable subject to most universities/employers/apprenticeships as it builds a lot of skills that are applicable in most scenarios. Skills like communication of ideas, writing in a persuasive manner and condensing large amounts of information into a short, decisive argument are all skills that will be developed and celebrated throughout A Level history.

How is the Course Delivered?

The course is delivered over 5 taught periods per week. It is split between 3 hours for Britain and 2 hours for the USA and is taught by two different teachers in Y12. This continues into Y13 but there will be some allocation for the non-examined assessment which we will decide on in the next few months.

1D – Stuart Britain and the Crisis of Monarchy, 1603 -1702

Monarchs and Parliament – 1603 – 1629

Revolution – 1629 – 1649

From Republic to restored and limited monarchy – 1649 – 1678

The establishment of constitutional monarchy – 1678 – 1702

2Q – The American Dream: Reality and Illusion, 1945 - 1980

Truman and Post-war America, 1945 - 1952

Eisenhower: Tranquility and crisis, 1952 – 1960

John F Kennedy and the ‘New Frontier’, 1960 – 1963

The Johnson Presidency, 1963 – 1968

Republican reaction: the Nixon Presidency, 1968 – 1974

The USA after Nixon, 1974 - 1980

Component 3 – Historical Investigation (non exam assessment)

Topic to be determined – maybe Russia or China

How is the Course Assessed?

Unit 1 – Stuart Britain and the Crisis of Monarchy, 1603 -1702 (40%)

In the assessment you will answer three questions.. One of the questions will test your ability to understand interpretations and two essay-based questions.

Unit 2 – The American Dream: Reality and Illusion, 1945 – 1980 (40%)

In the assessment you will answer three questions.. One of the questions will test your ability to understand historical sources and two essay-based questions.

NEA - TBC - You will get the opportunity to pursue your own historical investigation into one of the central themes surrounding our chosen topic.

This will take the form of a 4,000 word essay where you will be expected to do your own research including finding your own interpretations and sources as well as appropriate referencing.