A LEVEL HISTORY
Exam Board: Edexcel

Sixth Form

Where do I start from?

For this subject you will need a minimum GCSE Grade 6 in History, Grade 6 in English Language or English Literature and Mathematics at a minimum Grade 4.

The course is open to anyone who has an interest in History, a curiosity about the past and the entry requirements shown above. However, a good standard of literacy will be expected.

What will I study?

Through the two-year course, you will study three modules concurrently. The modules covered are:

- "Russia 1917-1991: From Lenin to Yeltsin"
- "Mao's China 1949-1976"
- "Rebellion and disorder under the Tudors 1485-1603"

Having completed the Depth Study (Mao's China) by the end of Year 12, in Year 13, you will embark on a coursework module, that will focus on your preferred area of interest within the China module.

The course will develop analytical skills as well as core Historical skills such as identifying cause and consequence, measuring significance and source evaluation skills.

We have chosen these topics to provide a wide range of historical understanding from two very different time periods. They provide a British focus but also an understanding of the emerging giant of the twenty-first century, China. We hope you will find these courses rewarding and that they will stimulate a passion for History throughout the rest of your life.

How will I be assessed?

As well as termly tests and internal examinations you will sit three externally set examinations at the end of the course in Year 13. The coursework unit will be internally marked and moderated externally.

The examination board we use is Edexcel, and we follow Options 1E (USSR), 2E1 (China), 31 (Tudors) and the Coursework module. The Historical Enquiry or Coursework comprises one essay of between 3,000 and 4,000 words.

How will I study?

Methods of teaching and learning will vary during the course. There is an expectation for students to enhance their classroom experience through wider reading, and a continual emphasis on expanding their academic involvement. Through the deployment of individual work, group-tasks, class discussions, student presentations, note making and self-supported study, we expect students to engage with the subject and work towards achieving their potential.

Individual research is vital to the course and we have access to the Library material plus a range of online resources.

What does the subject combine well with?

The subject combines really well with English and Social Sciences, but students studying Mathematics choose the subject quite regularly. Students traditionally do very well in A Level History, and the skills of essay writing are often transferred between subjects.

Studying History at A Level develops a range of analytical skills that opens up a number of avenues for further study.