

History

HISTORY & POLITICS DEPARTMENT

Head of Department: Mr R McDonald

Why choose the subject? 'To be ignorant of what happened before you were born is to be forever a child.' Cicero.

Studying History has far more uses than you may imagine. Many employers are only too willing to accept people with a History qualification at either A level or degree level, particularly Business, Commerce, Management Training, Personnel, the Civil Service, Accountancy, the Legal Profession or Retailing. This is because studying History enables you to develop skills of analysis, logical thinking, powers of deduction and formulation of ideas and arguments. These are just the sort of skills that all employers are looking for. In fact, the senior recruiting officer for one of the major banks once admitted that they were looking for people with a background in History - in preference to any other subject!

Finally, if you enjoyed GCSE History, you will enjoy History at A level even more!

Who is eligible?

We like students doing History to have at least a grade 6 at GCSE. However, some students in certain circumstances join the course without having studied GCSE History but they should have at least a grade 6 in English. We particularly welcome those students who are quite well organised, able to work independently and who have plenty of enthusiasm!

A LEVEL QUALIFICATION

Examination Board: OCR	UNIT 1	British Period Study and Enquiry
	Description of Subject Content	Y106 England 1485 - 1558 : The Early Tudors (Enquiry Topic - Mid Tudor Crisis 1547 - 58)
	Length of Exam	1 hour 30 minutes
	Weighting	25% of A level
	Nature of Exam	One essay and one document based question.
	UNIT 2	Non-British Period Study
	Description of Subject Content	Y223 The Cold War in Europe 1941 - 1995
	Length of Exam	1 hour
	Weighting	15% of A level
	Nature of Exam	One essay and one mini essay question.
	UNIT 3	Thematic Study and Historical Interpretations
	Description of Subject Content	Y319 Civil Rights in the USA 1865 - 1992
	Length of Exam	2 hour 30 minutes
	Weighting	40% A level
	Nature of Exam	One essay question and one document-based question.


UNIT 4	
Description of Subject Content	Y100 Coursework An independently researched 3000 – 4000 word essay analysing different perspectives using a range of primary and secondary sources.
Weighting	20% of A level

AS LEVEL QUALIFICATION

Examination Board: OCR	UNIT 1	British Period Study and Enquiry
	Description of Subject Content	Y106 England 1485 - 1558 : The Early Tudors (Enquiry Topic – Mid Tudor Crisis 1547 – 58)
	Length of Exam	1 hour 30 minutes
	Weighting	50% of AS level
	Nature of Exam	One essay and one document based question.
	UNIT 2	Non-British Period Study
	Description of Subject Content	Y223 The Cold War in Europe 1941 – 1995
	Length of Exam	1 hour 30 minutes
	Weighting	50% of AS level
	Nature of Exam	One essay and one mini essay question.

STUDENT VIEW

History



History is a riveting, enjoyable and well-respected subject, which enables students to gain a vast understanding of various areas of the past from the Tudors to the Cold War to American Civil Rights. It is with the study of History, we can make connections through time and see the legends of the past in the present! History will help anyone further their analytical and essay writing skills as you take the transition from GCSE to A level. Studying History also provides the opportunity for debate, as you will learn about the origins of problematic political issues of the past which are still argued about in the 21st Century. Each lesson is engaging and it is easy to focus and get involved in class discussion. History also goes well alongside other essay based subjects such as English Literature, Politics and Religious Studies and gives a basis to careers such as law and journalism. If you enjoyed History GCSE and want to extend your knowledge of the past even more, then A Level History is for you!

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