

A Level History



"A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots."

Marcus Garvey

Have you ever wondered 'Why was the Berlin wall built?' or have you thought 'What would I have done if I was Henry VIII?' Do you enjoy debating the evidence and arguing a case? This course introduces you to some of the most important subjects and problems in British and European history. It's a fantastic way of understanding how the world we live in was created – and provides some valuable opportunities for you to build your own arguments around, and interpret our past.

What you need to get started:

You will need to have History at grade 5 and English at grade 5. You need to be confident with independent research and able to effectively read and analyse academic work.



Paper 1 – Germany and West Germany, 1918-89 (Contributes to 30% of final grade)

We focus on Weimar Germany and how Hitler exploited the weaknesses of this government to become the Dictator of Germany. Finally, we look at how the loss of WW2 hit Germany and how it rebuilt itself to become the economic powerhouse of Europe.

Paper 2 – The Rise and Fall of Fascism in Italy, c1911 – 46 (Contributes to 20% of final grade)

This focuses on the cult that Mussolini created and how he managed to rise to power and where within years of rising, this then began to crumble as it was unsustainable in the political climate at the time

Paper 3 – Rebellion and Disorder under the Tudors 1485-1603 (Contributes to 30% of final grade)

This covers the reign of the Tudors starting with Henry VII and how he reunited England after the War of the Roses. It then focuses upon Henry VIII and how his governance and change within religion started a religious roller coaster for subsequent monarchs.

Independent Historical Enquiry (Contributes to 20% of final grade)

Enquiry focused on a topic of interest. The coursework involves research into your own Historical Enquiry using actual Historians' works to evaluate their interpretations creating a 4000 word essay.

How you will be assessed:

Three exams at the end of Year 13 and an independent historical enquiry.

What our students say:

"I chose History because it is unlike any other subject as it challenges me to think outside the box and form my own views. I have enjoyed studying A-Level because of the range of topics we study and the freedom we have to research our own topic within our coursework."

Jeevan Shokar

"History has helped me develop precise analysis skills as well as interpretation and evaluation abilities. I chose History because the past and the events that led us to where we are today is fascinating and learning about the areas we do at A-Level has only inspired me further."

Luca Amini

What next?

History is a subject highly regarded by both universities and employers. The critical analysis skills that you will develop can enable progression into a wide variety of careers such as law, journalism and the media, marketing and business, management and teaching, as well as more specialist occupations such as archaeology, historical research and museum curation.

... pursuing excellence