

Overview

The History A Level course focuses on history from the end of the medieval period to the end of the twentieth century, and includes new elements as well as content students will be familiar with from their GCSE studies. The A Level builds on the historical thinking skills developed from Key Stage 3, for example causation, evaluating primary evidence and evaluating interpretations.

Awarding Organisation: OCR

Minimum course requirements:
GCSE Grade 4+ in History and
5+ in English or 6+ in History
and 4+ in English

More information:
Mrs M Grantham

Curriculum and assessment

YEAR 12

- England, 1445-1509: Lancastrians, Yorkists and Henry VII
- International Relations 1890-1941

YEAR 13

- Investigation/topic based essay
- Civil Rights in the USA 1865-1992

ASSESSMENT

Students will take three written examinations:

- British Paper – 25%
- International Relations in the 20th Century – 15%
- Civil Rights in the USA 1865-1992 – 40%
- Coursework – 20%

Skills that will be developed

- Knowledge and understanding
- Research skills
- Critical thinking
- Analytical and evaluative reasoning
- Extended writing
- Source work
- Empathy

Post 18 opportunities

History is a subject which is highly regarded by universities, not only for its content and ability to develop a student's capacity for knowledge but also the skills required to study it at an advanced level. Students who successfully complete the subject at A Level demonstrate enhanced understanding of causal and consequential factors and show a higher ability of independent research skills as well as increased empathy. These are all assets when universities are completing their selection process.

Destinations of students in recent years:

Oxford University – History

Birmingham University – History

Bristol University – History

Cardiff University – History

Sussex University – Law

Expenses

Students will be expected to purchase their own course textbooks. Some students also purchase additional reference material for the coursework unit and are given an extended reading list in their course guide. We have our library as well as links to Reading University Library.