

History

What is this course about?

The course will cover three eras of history: Medieval (500–1500), Early Modern (1450–1750) and Modern (1700–present day).

Students will develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the key features and characteristics of the periods studied: the chronology, individuals, events, developments and issues in the specified content. They will create their own structured accounts, and show their understanding of the key features and characteristics of the periods studied

Students will use range of contemporary source material appropriate to the period (including written historical sources) to frame their own valid historical questions and make their own historical claims, develop their understanding of how evidence is used and why different interpretations of the past have been constructed.

What skills will students gain?

Students will develop skills of enquiry, analysis, independent research and time management that are vital for further study and highly valued by employers. Students will gain:

- A view of history from national and international perspectives.
- A detailed look at dramatic and troubled periods of human history.
- An appreciation of how learning from past events can help improve the future.
- An insight into international relations, global conflict and political developments in key countries.

What skills are needed?

- To do well in GCSE History you need to be able to **read and write fluently**, because a lot of information is written down. Therefore if you find these two things difficult History may be rather challenging for you. **It is also essential that you have a natural enjoyment of reading**, it is simply not possible to get a good grade in History without it!
- You also need to be able to analyse and interpret historical sources, which involves thinking for yourself about why people represent historical events in certain ways.
- It is very helpful to be inquisitive and sceptical. You need to be able to explain, justify and defend your own ideas about History, so the ability to argue and debate constructively with other people is very helpful.
- The ability (and self-confidence) to "speak your mind" and "say how you know" will help you to become a good historian.

How is this course assessed?

100% externally examined with no controlled assessment and all exams at the end of the course.

A minimum of 3.5 hours assessment.

A requirement to study at least 40% British History (the current requirement is 25%). Students will also be required to study the history of a locality and the wider world.

There will be a thematic study over time; a period study of at least 50 years; at least one British and one wider world depth study and a study of a historical environment.

Qualification Received: GCSE

Grade Range: 9 - 1

What career or further education opportunities does this course lead to?

History is recognised as a strong academic subject by both professions and institutes of higher education. If you are going into law, or politics, or any profession which requires logically thinking things through or problem solving, then History is great preparation.

The study of people is at the heart of History – their feelings, attitudes, prejudices and motivation. This understanding is very useful in the '*people professions*', from receptionists, hairdressers and beauticians, to teachers, the Health Service, Social Work and Personnel.

History requires extended, logical, reasoned debate in writing. It is useful for any job which requires writing reports such as the Civil Service or Journalism.

Historical knowledge is essential for certain jobs, such as Artist, Architect, Designer, Librarian or Archaeologist.