

A Level History



Why should you choose A Level History?

- ▶ The study of History at A level is challenging, exciting and rewarding.
- ▶ The course offered by the History and Politics department has two key aims: to give both a broader and deeper understanding of key aspects of global history; and to develop skills of critical analysis, evaluation and argument that are highly regarded by universities and employers alike.



Component 1 (40%)

Tudors: England, 1485-1603.

This option allows students to study in breadth issues of change, continuity, cause and consequence in this period through the following key questions:

- ▶ How effectively did the Tudors restore and develop the powers of the monarchy?
- ▶ In what ways and how effectively was England governed during this period?
- ▶ How did relations with foreign powers change and how was the succession secured?
- ▶ How did English society and economy change and with what effects?
- ▶ How far did intellectual and religious ideas change and develop and with what effects?
- ▶ How important was the role of key individuals and groups and how were they affected by developments?



Broken down further...

- ▶ Henry VII, 1485-1509
- ▶ Henry VIII, 1509-1547
- ▶ Instability and consolidation: the 'Mid-Tudor Crisis', 1547-1563
- ▶ The triumph of Elizabeth, 1563-1603

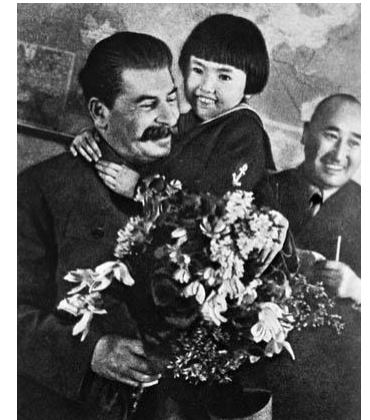
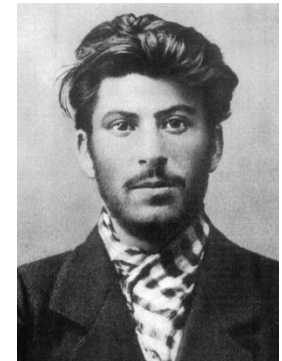


Component 2 (40%)

Revolution and dictatorship; Russia, 1917-1953.

This option provides for the study in depth of the coming and practice of communism in Russia. It explores concepts such as Marxism, communism, Leninism, and Stalinism, ideological control and dictatorship. It also enables students to consider issues of political authority, the power of individuals and the inter-relationship of governmental and economic and social change. To break it down further, this module comprises of two parts:

- ▶ Part 1: the Russian revolution as the rise of Stalin, 1917-1929.
- ▶ Part 2: Stalin's rule, 1929-1953



Component 3 (20%)

Non-examined assessment (Coursework)

- ▶ Across the full A level course students also complete a piece of coursework.
- ▶ Students will be offered the chance to make a choice of topic from the department's wide range of specialisms.
- ▶ This takes the form of an extended essay examining a question agreed between student and tutor.
- ▶ It is a fantastic opportunity to undertake independent study into a period of history that fascinates you.
- ▶ Such topics that have been covered in the past include the fall of the Roman Empire, the Crusades, the Ancien Regime and Indian independence.



The Study of History

- ▶ The course as a whole demands that students read widely and learn to distinguish between and evaluate differing historical interpretations.
- ▶ Unashamedly intellectual subject.
- ▶ Skills that are developed through the study of History at A Level are highly valued.
- ▶ The subject combines well with the study of Government and Politics, Geography, English Literature and Modern Foreign Languages.
- ▶ However, many scientists find that History's analytical nature adds valued breadth to their studies.

University and Careers

- ▶ History is a popular subject in the sixth form and many of our students decide to continue their study of the subject at university.
- ▶ The department has an excellent track record of helping students to achieve top grades and to achieve places at leading universities including Oxford and Cambridge.
- ▶ The study of History not only enables one to make better sense of the world in which we live but the skills it fosters are applicable in a wide range of careers: historians are to be found in the top levels of politics, business, media and entertainment...