

*History remains both a popular and important subject, an indispensable guide to how the modern world has come to be as it is.*



**Are you interested in:**

- thinking
- discussion
- research
- solving problems

**Leading to a career in:**

- Law
- Education
- Media
- Business
- and many others

**Teacher to contact:**

**Mr G Mather**

**Exam Board: AQA**

## A-level

A-level History develops and deepens the skills of analysis and communication learnt at GCSE. You do not have to have studied History at GCSE to succeed at A-level, but you should have a good grade in a humanities subject. You should also enjoy discussing, reading and writing about the past.

At A-level we follow the AQA History course (7042). This is a two year course with three components of study: all three components are assessed at the end of the second year.

### **Component 1**

#### **Paper 1 - The Breadth Study - 1C: England 1485-1603.**

This breadth study focuses on the changes that happened over this hundred year period. In particular the key questions looked at are: how Tudor monarchs established and consolidated their power; the religious changes of the period; and the danger posed by revolts and opposition from abroad. This course will be taught in a largely chronological order to ensure students develop a good understanding of the period and the key changes that happened in the different reigns.

The examination requires students to analyse themes across the time period.

These will be focused on in the teaching of the course. How historians have viewed the key changes in this time period will also be studied.

This course will focus on the development of formal essay writing skills and the development of the ability to read and assess the arguments of historians concisely.

**Examination : Breadth Study (England 1485-1603) - 40%**

2 hours 30mins – 80 marks in total.

Section A: Assessment of Historical Interpretations (30 marks)

Section B: Two from three essays (25 marks each)

**Component 2****Paper 2 -The Depth Study - 2N: Russia 1917-1953.**

The depth studies focus on a short period of major historical change. This depth study focuses on Russia after the fall of the Tsar and looks at the October Revolution and the establishment of Communist rule. Stalin's rise to power and his rule of Russia until his death in 1953.

Some of the key questions focused on in this course are: Who were the Bolsheviks and how were they able to come to power in October 1917? What effect did World War 2 have on Stalin's dictatorship?

The examination in this paper requires detailed understanding of events and the ability to communicate this clearly in essays. Reading and analysing source material is also key part of this exam

**Examination - Depth Study ( Russia 1917-1953) – 40%**

2 hours 30mins – 80 marks in total.

Section A - Analysis of sources contemporary to the period (30 marks)

Section B - Two from three essays (25 marks each)

**Component 3****The Historical Investigation.**

This is a piece of independent work on a taught topic of historiographical debate. The topic we teach is: "The Struggle for Civil Rights by black Americans 1865-1968". This part of the course begins in the summer term of Year 12. Students are taught background lessons, and advised about the assessment criteria of the task and of their choice of question and how to structure their work. They are also given advice and guidance on reading they should do.

This component gives opportunity for students to work independently and demonstrate their skills in communication, analysis and research outside of the time pressure of the examination hall.

**Non-Exam Unit– The Historical Investigation – 20%**

Word limit: 3,500 to 4,500 words (40 marks)

