

HISTORY

AS Level History

What are the aims of the course?

Both AS and Advanced GCE students are required to:

- Students study aspects of the past in breadth through periods or themes. The unit addresses breadth of study, requiring students to study two linked themes from a range of perspectives, for example social, religious, political and cultural.
- Students will study British history in some depth. Grounded in an exploration of source material in its historical context, this unit enables students to develop an in-depth understanding of the attitudes, beliefs and structures of the societies they study. In working with selected sources, students will be required to demonstrate evidence skills which enable them to make reasoned and supported judgements and to address a historical view or claim.

What does it involve?

AS Level:

Unit 1: A World Divided: Communism and Democracy in the 20th Century

Unit 2: British Political History in the 19th Century

How is it assessed?

Written examinations for Units 1 and 2

Are there any specific entry requirements?

All students should have at least a C grade in GCSE English. Students who have studied GCSE History should have at least a C grade.

Why is it a useful qualification?

Apart from being interesting, history is very useful. Employers who see that you have a qualification in history know certain things about you. They will know that you have taken on certain key skills which, learned through history, can be applied to all sorts of situations.

They know that you can understand how people tick, what motivates them, what they think and feel; you are able to gather and read different types of information; you are able to look carefully at this information and check it for bias or propaganda; you can read maps, graphs and other diagrams.

Perhaps most importantly of all you are able to communicate clearly and have learned to express yourself verbally and on paper – a quality that many employers complain their employees do not have!