

History A-Level

What are the aims of the course?

This is an academic course which provides students with the analytical, communication and research skills suitable for someone considering any academic University course, and particularly Humanities or Social Sciences courses.

What does it involve?

The Course comprises of 4 units:

Units 1 and 2 will be completed in Year 12 and provide an AS qualification.

Units 3 and 4 will be completed in Year 13 and provide an A2 qualification.

Unit 1: Russia in Revolution 1881-1924, Stalin's Russia 1924-53 (50% of AS Level, 25% of A2)

- Why did Russia go from a Tsarist state, to a democracy to the first Communist country in the world?
- How did Stalin takeover and control Communist Russia?

Unit 2: Britain and the Nationalist Challenge in India 1900-47? (50% of AS Level, 25% of A2)

- How did the British control, develop and exploit India?
- How and why did India receive its independence in 1947 and what problems did this create?

Unit 3: Superpower Relations (The Cold War) 1945-91 (30% of A2 Level)

- Why did the Cold War begin and what were the key events in it?
- Why did the Cold War end and who was to blame for it?

Unit 4: China in the 20th Century (coursework) (20% of A2 Level)

- Why were the Communists able to seize control in China?
- How did the Communists control and change the world's largest country?

How is it assessed?

Units 1, 2 and 3 are assessed by external exam, with Units 2 and 3 involving the analysis of source material to investigate historical controversies. Unit 4 is a coursework unit which is internally assessed.

Are there any specific entry requirements?

5 A*-C at GCSE including either History grade C or English Language grade C or above.

Why is it a useful qualification?

History is a well respected academic qualification, favoured by many universities and employers. Students who study History often pursue careers in law, journalism, the civil service, consultancy or business. The skills in research, analysing information and communication developed in History are vital for many careers.