

What will I learn?

You will follow the AQA History specification. The course is broken down into three sections:

- The Breadth Study – The Emergence of a Superpower: The USA 1865–1975. You will study the development of America from the end of the Civil War, through the First World War, the Great Depression and conflict in Vietnam. Throughout you will think about political, social and economic changes.
- The Depth Study – The Wars of the Roses 1450–1499. You will study the changing dynastic fortunes of one, large extended family who all claimed the throne of England. The course follows the battles, the successive kings and the impact of all of this on the people of England.
- Historical Investigation. The investigation will study the 100 years leading up to the Russian Revolution of 1917, looking at a variety of causes of the revolution from economic and social issues, through the role of the tsars and military factors. You will then choose a theme within this to form your own question to answer in 4500 words, using a range of contemporary sources and historiography as well as your own research.

How will I learn?

The focus of the teaching at A Level will be you using the available evidence to draw conclusions about the historical events you are studying and put forward your own arguments using that evidence. There will be lots of debate and discussion. There will also be lots of opportunities to work on exam technique, working on exam questions both at home and in class to prepare you for the demands of the exam. When working on the historical investigation, the broad course will be taught briefly before you are able to embark on independent research, where lessons will involve informal meetings with your teacher to check progress and provide support and guidance on next steps.

How will I be assessed?

This course is assessed by two 2 ½ hour exams, where you will answer one question on the specific area and two standard essay questions.

FAQs.

What kind of student is this course suitable for?

- interested in history and interested in studying it at university,
- thinking of following a career in an area related to history – e.g. law, journalism, education, museums, archaeology, research,
- want a course that will complement other subjects such as English, Geography or Sociology, or one that demonstrates to potential future employers or universities that you write well and are a critical thinker.

What could I go on to do at the end of my course?

You might go to university or college to study for higher qualifications in History. It is also a very useful qualification if you want to study other subjects at university, as it provides evidence of an ability to write well and be a critical thinker.

Exam Board

AQA

Skills Gained

Data Analysis
Report writing
Synthesis of information
Statistical techniques
Debating
Team Work
Fieldwork
Research
Presentation
Map interpretation

Careers

Solicitor
Journalism
News reporting
TV research
Archaeologist
Politician
Teacher
Managing director