

KS4 GCSE History

Course Specifications

Exam board: Pearson
Course type: GCSE

Course Description

The GCSE course comprises of four examined units. Students begin study of Nazi Germany in year 9, continue on to study the Cold War and Saxon Britain in year 10 and focus on Warfare Through Time during year 11.

Skills & Abilities

Critical evaluation, Analytical thinking, Data interpretation, Essay writing, Speech writing and oratory.

Why study History?

History helps you discover how your world evolved. History also helps you develop the skills to look beyond the headlines, to ask questions properly, and to express your own opinions. History disciplines your mind and trains you how to think laterally and process information that help develop an understanding of both past and present through comparison and evaluation of key events.

Assessment

Unit 1: International Relations: The Era of the Cold War 1943-1991

Key Topic 1: How did the Cold War in Europe develop? 1943–56

Key Topic 2: Three Cold War crises: Berlin, Cuba and Czechoslovakia c1957–69

Key Topic 3: Why did the Cold War end? From détente (1972) to the collapse of the Soviet Union (1991)

Unit 2: Germany 1918–39

Key Topic 1: The Weimar Republic 1918–29

Key Topic 2: Hitler and the rise of the Nazi Party 1919–33

Key Topic 3: The Nazi dictatorship 1933–39

Key Topic 4: Nazi domestic policies 1933–39

Unit 3: Warfare through time c1250 – present

Key Topic 1: Medieval Warfare and English Society 1250 - 1500

Key Topic 2: Warfare and English Society in the Early Modern Period 1500/1700

Key Topic 3: Warfare and British Society in the 18th and 19th Centuries 1700-1900

Key Topic 4: Warfare and British Society in the Modern Era 1900-present

Key Topic 5: London and the Second World War 1939-45

Unit 4: Anglo-Saxon and Norman England 1060-1087

Key Topic 1: Anglo-Saxon England and the Norman Conquest, 1060-66

Key Topic 2: William I in power: securing the kingdom, 1066-87

Key Topic 3: Norman England, 1066-88

Careers & Progression

History students are highly prized by many sections of the professional world as it is a Russell Group subject.

Potential careers areas include: journalism, media, education, civil service and politics; security services including MI5 and MI6; the legal profession and justice system; museums and galleries.

Guidance & Advice

Edexcel exam board website, Hodder and CPG revision resources, VIP Zone revision resources. Electronic Textbook via google online environment.