

HISTORY

Examination Board: OCR

Syllabus Number: ASH106/H506

Why Study HISTORY to AS Level?

It is interesting as it is the story of human behaviour. History is about people, their ambitions, actions and responses to events. It is relevant to our lives as it has shaped the world we live in today. It is useful because it develops a range of analytical and communication skills that complement a wide range of other subject choices from English, languages, sciences and social sciences. Top universities, in all subject areas, like students who have undergone the academic training provided by A level History.

Why Study HISTORY to A2?

This is an opportunity to build on knowledge and skills developed at AS. The subject content tackles global issues and helps develop a strong sense of citizenship. In addition, you will have the opportunity to devise and carry out a piece of independent research which reflects your interests and will act as a showcase of your abilities to prospective universities and employers.

Entry Requirements

We want students who:

- have a real interest and enthusiasm for learning about the past
- have enjoyed GCSE or Lower School History
- are good at analysing and interpreting information
- can communicate their ideas clearly
- enjoy independent learning and reading
- have plenty of determination

Students should have GCSE History and GCSE English, Grade C or above.

If students without GCSE History wish to apply they will be considered provided that they have GCSE English at Grade C or above.

We are looking for students with a high level of motivation.

Higher Education

The skills of critical analysis, interpretation, and evaluation you will learn at History A level will be attractive to all universities. When applying for any degree course a background in History will be recognised as an indication of academic rigour and achievement. Degree courses in History are very popular and many students take advantage of the opportunity to continue studying a subject they enjoy or combining it in a multi-discipline degree with politics, languages, economics or in an allied discipline such as archaeology or European Studies.

Careers

There are many careers specific to History such as archaeology, the heritage industry, curating or even teaching! At the same time, high proportions of students move from a degree in History to careers in law, journalism, accountancy, business management and politics.

Course Content (PROVISIONAL) – 4 MODULES

COURSE CONTENT WILL BE DEPENDENT ON THE NEW SPECIFICATIONS.

Year 12 – AS Level

Module 1: European History - **Peace and War: International Relations c.1890-1941**

How true is it to say that a world war started because a chauffeur was not given the right directions? Did British politicians lack the strength of character to stand up to a megalomaniac who ultimately caused millions of deaths? In this unit students will develop their historical skills and understanding of key concepts.

Module 2: British History – **England and the New Century 1900-1924**

How was 20th century Britain forged from the party politics and social upheaval of Ireland, the suffragettes and workers' rights? Who or what was “Mr Balfour’s poodle”? How was Mary Blathwayt of Batheaston part of a national revolution? This is a historical enquiry unit in which students are asked to make critical use of evidence in the investigation and assessing historical questions.

Year 13 A Level

Module 3: The Coursework Unit – **20th Century America 1920-1941**

Study the highs and lows of American life: why did banning alcohol lead to so much crime? How could the stock market crash so badly? Did the New Deal solve the Great Depression? We will also look at American foreign policy – why did it take the bombing of Pearl Harbour to persuade the US to enter the Second World War?

Module 4 – Historical Themes - **Civil Rights in the USA 1865-1992**

What are civil rights? How and why were so many people denied them and how did they come together to fight for their rights? How did the aims and methods of leaders like Martin Luther King and Malcolm X differ?

Assessment

Module	Duration	Weighting
1: Peace & War	One Hour	50% 25%
2: England & New Century	45 minutes	50% 25%
3: USA between the Wars	Coursework	25%
4: Civil Rights in the USA	One Hour + 30 minutes	25%

