

HISTORY

What will I study?

AQA A Level Specification

Paper 1. British History: Absolutism challenged: Stuart Britain 1603-1702 (40% of the A level)

We learn how James I and Charles I ran their Court and why England was plunged into Civil War 1642-1648, resulting in the execution of Charles I; did Parliament have any right to execute him?

In Year 13 we discover why Oliver Cromwell's Republic was a failure in the 1650s and why England chose to return to a monarchy in 1660. This is followed by the reign of the much mistrusted Catholic, James II and how he was deposed in 1688 by a Parliament who invited William III and Mary II to become Protestant Monarchs.

Paper 2. Revolution and Dictatorship: Russia 1917 – 1953 (40% of the A Level)

We start with the nature of Imperial Russia prior to the Bolshevik revolution and the character of Tsar Nicholas II. Bolsheviks including Lenin and Trotsky, their ideology and how they imposed a revolution on Russia is our next port of call. We then assess the fear and terror Stalin imposed until 1953 in order to ensure the consolidation of Communism.

Coursework (20% of the A Level)

The focus is Black Civil Rights in the USA. You will choose a question based on which President did the most to develop Black Civil Rights; whether woman organized, whilst men led the movement; or whether Malcolm X or Martin Luther King was the most influential leader of the movement. The final piece is 4000 words and will develop stylish analysis and evaluation in your writing.

Exam Board: AQA

**Assessment: 80% Written Examination
20% Coursework**

What are the recommended entry requirements?

Studying GCSE History is not a requisite. A Grade 5 or above in History, Geography, Latin or English is a good platform for A Level History.

How will I be assessed?

At the end of Year 13:

- 1 exam on Stuarts of 2½ hours.
- 1 exam on Russia of 2½ hours.
- The Coursework is written in Year 13 and marked in School and moderated by the exam board.

Where might I go next?

Cicero 468.B.C stated: "Not to know what happened before you were born is to be a child forever."

History helps you to make sense of the world you live in today. It is a highly respected subject for those going on to study the Arts and Humanities but also complements Science based courses at University. History provides an excellent skills set for careers in Politics, Law, the Civil Service, Government, Journalism, Marketing, Accountancy and Business, and the Arts amongst many others. Employer's value pupils of History as you are able to judge significance, write a succinct and persuasive argument and you can use analysis and evaluation with ease.



Jane Selby, Head of History