

A Level History

What the course covers

You will study 3 units in A Level History:

Unit 1 Breadth study

The Making of a Superpower: USA 1865-1975

Unit 1 will take the long view on recent American History, examining how the USA recovered from the Civil War, grew into an economic and military powerhouse, endured two world wars and the great depression before becoming the world's leading superpower during the Cold War. This course will delve into the jazz age, civil rights, the red scare and Vietnam, examining the relationship between what happened inside America and how it shaped the modern world.

This unit covers the following topics:

- The Era of Reconstruction and the Gilded Age, 1865–1890
- Populism, Progressivism and Imperialism, 1890–1920
- Crisis of Identity, 1920–1945
- The Superpower, 1945–1975

Unit 2 Depth study

The Making of Modern Britain: UK 1951-2007

Unit 2 will focus on recent British history, looking in depth at the political, economic, social and international developments of the last half century. This course explains how the UK went from being the most dominant global superpower to the declining sick man of Europe in the 1970s and ended up as a modern, dynamic European economic hub under the New Labour government of the last decade. It will look in depth at key individuals and movements, from the Beatles to Thatcher, in order to explain why we are the way we are today.

This unit covers the following topics:

- The affluent society, 1951–1964
- The Sixties, 1964–1970
- The end of post-war consensus, 1970–1979
- The impact of Thatcherism, 1979–1987
- Towards a new consensus, 1987–1997
- The era of new Labour, 1997–2007

Unit 3 Historical investigation

A personal study based on a topic of student's choice. This should take the form of a question in the context of approximately 100 years.

This NEA will examine the rise of the British Empire from the end of the eighteenth century to the First World War.

The complete specification can be viewed on the AQA website. www.aqa.org.uk

What students can do with this course

History is a facilitating subject, making it one of the best choices at A Level, as it is highly regarded by all Universities and complements any A Level choice combinations. History is excellent for the development of extended writing, analysis of complex materials and the ability to construct complex and nuanced arguments. History is a popular degree choice for many students at University, as the knowledge and skills acquired are essential in most top professional jobs, from education to law, journalism and politics. History is also essential for heritage related jobs such as, museum work, archaeology and archive work.

A Level History

How this course is assessed

Unit 1 Examination 1 hour 30 minutes 40% of A Level

Unit 2 Examination 1 hour 30 minutes 40% of A Level

Unit 3 Non examined assessment 20% of A Level

Entry requirements

All our course entry requirements are detailed in the Entry Requirements document located in the admissions section of our website.