

History



What our students say:

“Knowledgeable teachers help keep the content accessible but the challenge high. I have really enjoyed choosing my own topic for my coursework and being able to independently research a period I’ve always found interesting.”

Why this course is right for you:

As a facilitating subject, history not only develops your understanding of the past and how it has shaped the modern world, but also focuses on skills which will be applied across a range of other subjects.

In Year 12, students will hone their source skills, examining the challenges facing the later Tudor monarchs: Edward, Mary and Elizabeth. In contrast, they will consider Germany’s transition through democracy to dictatorship and the external events which influenced the course of this period of history.

In Year 13, students will have the opportunity to select an independent study topic of their choice to research and investigate. Recent topics have included the causes of the Nanjing Massacre, the reasons Mary I deserves the title ‘Bloody Mary’; and the view that the threat of communism was the main reason America became involved in the Vietnam War. Alongside this, students will also learn of the struggle of four key groups to gain freedom and equal rights in America from the end of American Civil War to the early 1990s.

Apart from being interesting, history is extremely useful. Employers recognise a range of skills, such as precise and analytical thinking and the ability to construct an argument effectively - particularly relevant to careers paths such as law, teaching, politics and curating.

What you need to know:

Exam Board: OCR

Who to speak to: Mrs Cavanagh

Topics Covered:

English History: 1547-1603
German History: 1919-1963
Civil rights in the USA: 1865-1992
Topic-based essay

Assessment:

Unit 1: English History: 1547-1603: The Later Tudors (25%)
Unit 2: Democracy and dictatorship in Germany 1919-1963 (15%)
Unit 3: Civil Rights in the USA 1865-1992 (40%)
Unit 4: Topic based essay (20%)

Entry Requirements:

Grade 5 in GCSE History required
Grade 6 in GCSE History desired

Co-curricular/trips:

Residential trip to Auschwitz