

# Course Information



## A Level History

### What is A Level History?

#### A Level History is about:

- The significance of events, individuals, issues and societies in history
- How and why societies have changed over time
- The theories of historians and language that they use to discuss their ideas
- Understanding the nature of historical evidence and the methods used by historians to analyse and evaluate it
- Developing an understanding of how the past has been interpreted and represented
- Expressing your own historical ideas confidently and effectively

#### Entry requirements: Grade 5 at GCSE

#### Year 12:

##### What will the course cover?

Communist states in the 20th century - Russia 1917-1991 from Lenin to Yeltsin  
(30% of qualification)

- ◆ Why did the Russian Revolution happen?
- ◆ What role did the USSR have in the Cold War?
- ◆ What did Khrushchev do to change Russia?
- ◆ Why did the Soviet Union fall?

The German Democratic Republic 1949-1990  
(20% of qualification)

- ◆ How was the GDR formed?
- ◆ Why was the Berlin Wall built?
- ◆ How did the government keep control in the GDR?
- ◆ Why did communist rule collapse?

#### Year 13

##### What themes are studied in Year 13?

Poverty, Public Health and the state in Britain 1780-1939  
(30% of qualification)

- ◆ Why did Public Health reforms happen?
- ◆ Who were the key individuals involved in reform?
- ◆ How did society change for different groups of people?

Russia coursework assignment  
(20% of qualification)

- ◆ How have Historians disagreed about what caused the Revolution in 1917?
- ◆ What do different sources say about the causes of the Russian Revolution?

#### How is it assessed?

##### Exam Board: Edexcel

Students take exams for all 3 topics at the end of Year 13. Coursework completed at school and moderated externally.

#### What next?

Students who study History have access to a wide range of career and educational opportunities. By the end of the course you will have learnt how to analyse and evaluate information, how to weigh up evidence and how to communicate complex ideas effectively. These skills are recognised and valued by all employers, Universities and Colleges. History combines effectively with Maths and Science subjects to create an attractive portfolio of qualifications, enabling a student to move on to a University Science based course. Combined with English and Modern Foreign Language it would provide an excellent basis for arts or languages based degrees. For more information about the course, your suitability and possible career paths for students, please talk to your History teacher or Mrs Downs.