

History

Overview

The History A Level course is designed to cover a breadth of time. It allows students to study very different periods, from Early Stuart England to Twentieth Century Europe, and enables them to develop advanced skills in the interpretation and evaluation of historical argument. History demands consideration of historical ideas and beliefs and so helps students to understand important political, social, and economic issues in the Modern World. Students will be encouraged to learn to question the utility of historical evidence and to develop techniques in independent research. The course will allow them to further develop skills in writing essays and so enable them to write an extended piece of coursework. In class, through a variety of teaching methods, students will be encouraged to express their ideas and viewpoints and to debate issues and controversial topics of the historical time period in question. These skills are essential requirements for study in Further Education as well as pre-requisites for a variety of careers that demand an expertise in communication. An understanding and an interest in modern political debate is essential for students to flourish on this course. Finally, and of equal importance, students will be prepared fully for their A Level examinations.

Students will follow the AQA A level History course (code 7042LS)

1L: The Quest for Political Stability, Germany 1871-1991, Breadth Study 40%

2S: The Making of Modern Britain, 1951-2007, Depth Study 40%

An Historical Enquiry. Coursework. 3500 words. 20%. The focus is England in the Seventeenth Century.

Expectations:

Students will be assigned core texts that will cover their A Level study, but additional reading and research is also expected. Furthermore, and so to better consolidate classroom learning, students will be expected to add to class notes, building on arguments and developing more in-depth knowledge of key historical events. Students can expect to engage in lively whole class discussions and should be prepared to have their world view challenged as well as challenging the viewpoints of others.

Extra-Curricular Activities/Independent Learning Opportunities:

In the past we have run a variety of trips abroad as well as a trips to the Houses of Parliament. There may also be an opportunity to take part in the 'Lessons from Auschwitz' project.

Entry Requirements:

5 subjects or more at grade 5 and above (including 4+ in English and Maths), including History. Or 5 subjects or more at grade 5 and above (including 4+ in Maths) AND grade 5 and above in English Language if no History GCSE.