

# History: A-level (Awarding Body EDEXCEL)

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 or above in History GCSE is useful but not essential. GCSE English at grade 5 or better.

## CONTENT

### First Year

#### **Unit 1 - Russia, 1917–91: from Lenin to Yeltsin**

Students will study the key themes of political, economic, control and social change between 1917-85 and also Gorbachev and the fall of the USSR 1985-91.

#### **Unit 2 - Mao's China 1949-1976 – Depth Study**

Students will study four key topics of establishing Communist rule, economic change, the Cultural Revolution and social change.

### Second Year

#### **Unit 3 - Rebellion and disorder under the Tudors, 1485 - 1603**

Students will study changes the Tudors brought, the impact of their rule as well as rebellions and revolts such as Kett's rebellion and the revolt of the Northern Earls.

Assessment is through three exams and students are given a choice of questions and required to write essays and source-based answers.

#### **Unit 4 : Coursework Option**

This unit looks at the struggle for civil rights in America, including the role of Martin Luther King. The students choose the focus of their coursework and it accounts for 20% of their final mark.

## PROGRESSION

History is a great subject choice for students who wish to pursue a career in Law, Journalism, Teaching, Medicine and Accountancy as well as the Civil Service and the Heritage Industry. Many students go on to study the subject at university before embarking on a specific career.

History A-level is highly regarded as a facilitating subject, which means that universities and employers prefer it as a qualification and it enables students to get on to a degree course of their choice. History would help keep options open when choosing a degree or career path.

## GENERAL COMMENTS

A-level History is a brilliant opportunity to learn about some of the most fascinating periods in History and acquire and develop essential and transferable skills. Students are taught by committed and enthusiastic teachers who encourage debate and discussion in class as well as motivating students to think independently. A-level History will enable students to develop important skills such as information-handling, analysis and clear presentation of ideas. It will also develop students' understanding of the world we live in as well as contributing to a balanced understanding of world politics.



A-level History is by far one of the most engaging and interesting of all subjects. The course allows each lesson to be as exciting and absorbing as the next. To discover events of the past in a much deeper, detailed variety of learning, and applying this extended knowledge to current affairs to gain a greater insight of the influence that the past has on the present is both fascinating and enthralling.

Not only has the choice to study History furthered my understanding of previous happenings, it has also aided my general essay writing and analytical skills - contributing to improvement in other classes. Gaining the confidence to debate conflicting viewpoints objectively is one of the many valuable skills provided with this course of study.

The teachers in particular are extremely enthusiastic about the subject which is shown by their engaging teaching methods, approachable nature and ongoing encouragement and support.

**AMELIA BROWN**

