
History

Course Introduction

History is a subject that really comes into its own at AS and A2 with the chance to pursue a course of study that will develop your skills in research and how to construct an argument. Through looking back at past events you will gain a greater appreciation of how we find ourselves living in the world we do today. You will develop a political awareness as well as an understanding of economics and how they have affected the social climate of various countries.

Assessment

- Unit 1 F, Written examination, lasting 2 hours 15 minutes, Students answer three questions: answer one question from each section A, B & C.

- Unit 2 F, Written examination, lasting 1 hour 30 minutes. Students answer two questions: answer one question from each section A, B & C.

- Unit 3,34.2: Poverty, public health and the state in Britain, c1780–1939, 2hours 15 minutes Students answer three questions: one from Section A, one from Section B and one from Section C.

- Unit 4, Coursework with students carrying out a personal enquiry based on a historical debate.

Minimum Entry Requirement

B grade in GCSE History. B grade in GCSE Geography or Grade 6 in GCSE English Language if History has not been taken at GCSE.

History

AS Level Specification

The new specification for history means that students will study the same two units for the first year of the course whether they opt for AS or A2. The units are linked by an overarching theme which determines the combination that students have to follow. The department has not fully decided on which combination to follow but set out below are the details of a possible program of study.

Route F: Searching for rights and freedoms in the twentieth century

Overview

Students taking Route F will study: Paper 1, Option 1F: In search of the American Dream: the USA, 1917–96 and Paper 2, Option 2F.1: India, c1914–48: the road to independence.

The options in Route F are linked by the common theme of a search for rights, freedoms and greater equality during the twentieth century. In the USA, the quest for political, social and economic advancement looked mainly to reform existing structures. In India this quest led to more radical outcomes, bringing an end to imperial rule in India.

Studying two different countries allows students to develop a greater understanding of both similarities and differences in the search for greater rights, freedoms and equality in the twentieth century world

A Level Specification

Student study the full A level course they will be required to have a focus on British history which is mandatory.

Unit 3, Poverty, public health and the state in Britain, c1780–1939

Together, the breadth and depth topics explore the ways in which the British state gradually, and not always successfully, became involved in taking on responsibility for people's health and welfare. This happened in reaction to a rapidly industrialising society, where thousands of people lived out their domestic and working lives in close proximity. The scale of the problem posed a question that is still asked today: where does responsibility for health and welfare lie – with the individual or with society.

Unit 4, Coursework

The purpose of this coursework is to enable students to develop skills in the analysis and evaluation of interpretations of history in a chosen question, problem or issue as part of an independently researched assignment. Students will be required to form a critical view based on relevant reading on the question, problem or issue. They will also be specifically required to analyse, explain and evaluate the interpretations of three historians.