

AQA Advanced Level History

Entry Requirements

Students should have achieved a minimum of 5 GCSEs of which English Language should be one of these subjects together with GCSE grade C or above in History. (Please note that subjects can only be counted once); national data shows that this course is not suitable for students with an average GCSE points score of less than 40.4.

Course Description

AS outline: At AS, this specification supports historical study that should promote an understanding of change and development over time (Unit 1) plus an understanding of change over a short period studied in depth (Unit 2).

Britain, 1629-1642: the Failure of Absolutism? & Russia and Germany, 1871-1914

A2 outline: At A2, the specification offers a natural progression from AS. Unit 3 focuses on the relationship between the state and the people, and the forces which influenced this relationship. Unit 4 is an historical enquiry which tests understanding of change over 100 years.

British Monarchy: the Crisis of State 1642-1689 & Historical Enquiry: How Wars Begin: The European Powers & The Origins of Two World Wars, 1815-1941.

Assessment

AS:

Written Paper: 1 hour 15 minutes
Weighting: 50% of total A/S marks/25% of total A Level marks

(For the Germany/Russia Module) Written paper chosen from one of 13 options. Two questions should be answered from a choice of 3 two-part questions. This tests the understanding of change over time.

Written Paper: 1 hour 30 minutes
Weighting: 50% of total AS marks/25% of total A Level marks

(For the British Module) a written paper chosen from one of 17 options: 1 compulsory two-part, source-based question and 1 structured two-part question from a choice of 2. This tests the understanding of a significant period of history in depth.

A2:

Written Paper: 1 hour 30 minutes
Weighting: 30% of total A Level marks

(For the British Module) Written paper chosen from one of 12 options. Two essay questions should be answered from a choice of three. This tests understanding both in depth and breadth.

Historical Enquiry
Weighting: 20% of total A Level marks

A study of approximately 3500 words: an analysis of an historical issue. The issue developed must show understanding of change over 100 years. This is internally assessed by the centre and moderated by AQA.

Benefits of Studying History

It trains students to weigh up evidence and to produce balanced arguments and conclusions. It allows students to detect bias, to be able to write logically, able to assess information and evidence.

Career Opportunities and Pathways

History prepares students for a wide range of careers which involve dealing with people, management, commerce, finance, law, teaching and media. In addition History is also recognised as a valuable qualification for entry into a wide range of Higher Education courses.

Subject Leaders

Blake Valley Technology College - Mr Masters

Kingsmead Technology College - Miss Hughes