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SPRINGBOARD



A-Level History

OUR COURSE DETAILS

Studying History at A Level helps students understand the significance of historical events, the role of individuals in history and the nature of change over time. This qualification will help students to gain a deeper understanding of the past through political, social, religious, economic and cultural perspectives. AQA History offers students the ability to develop a wide range of higher order skills such as being able to evaluate and analyse information, constructing arguments and forming and defending judgements. The coursework component also enables students to develop their independent research and writing skills as they produce a 4500-word investigation. We also offer a 3- day trip to London to experience Tudor places of significance such as seeing Henry VII's tomb at Westminster Abbey, Hampton Court Palace and the Tower of London, plus the Imperial War Museum.



EMPLOYABILITY

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree>

History at A Level has many transferable skills for all degree courses plus many occupations. Skills you will learn are: the ability to form and defend a judgement, evaluation and analysis, reading and concise note taking and confidence to present Ideas in front of your peers.



PREPARING FOR STUDY

If you haven't done GCSE History, then don't worry, it isn't a requirement. One of the A Level history skills will be evaluating primary sources that some of you might be familiar with from GCSE.

How about you practise with a recent news article and try to answer the following question, how valuable is this source in determining how well the government is dealing with the coronavirus outbreak? What to consider:

- Author- do some research as to the type of newspaper- does this make a difference?
- Date of the article- was anything else happening on this date to make it more or less valuable to addressing the question?
- Audience- who is the audience, the public? How might this impact the validity in finding out how well the government or doing?
- Purpose- could the article have an ulterior motive? Sensationalizing to sell more copies?

Accuracy and honesty- how accurate might the article be on the government? Do the papers know the full story?



UNIVERSITY COURSES

We have had lots of A Level History students in the past few years go on to study a History degree at prestigious universities such as Oxford, Bristol and Nottingham. We have also had students study joint honors degrees with German at Edinburgh, American Studies at UCL and with Politics at Warwick. History A Level is also extremely versatile for a number of non-history university courses. It is often cited as desirable for courses such as Law and PPE.

<https://www.theuniguide.co.uk/subjects/history>



OUR TOP READS

Fiction:

Philippa Gregory's 'Tudor Court' series such as the White Queen

Hilary Mantel's series Wolf Hall, Bringing up the Bodies and The Mirror and the Light

Non-fiction:

The Tudors by Richard Rex

For 45 Years the World Held It's Breath- by Taylor Downing and Jeremy Issacs



PEOPLE TO RESEARCH

If you would like to find out more about the Individuals of the Civil Rights period, research any of the following key civil rights leaders and find out what they did to help African Americans

Frederick Douglass, Ida B Wells, Booker T Washington, W. E. B Du Bois, Mary McLeod Bethune, Marcus Garvey, Ella Baker, Martin Luther King and Malcolm X.

Online resources: www.history.com <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zcpcwmn/revision/1>



FILMS

- Mary Queen of Scots (2018)
- 13 Days (2000)
- Red Joan (Netflix)
- Bridge of Spies (2015)
- Tinker, Taylor, Soldier, Spy (2011)
- Death of Stalin (2017)
- 13th (Netflix)



USEFUL ONLINE LINKS

Tudors: Winter King by Thomas Penn- Overview of Henry VII 1485-1509

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-5FsriGn300>

Cold War: Why did it start? Episode 1 CNN Cold War series
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=22KIQ1QNnhE&list=PL3H6z037pboGWTxs3xGP7HRGrQ5dOQdGc>

Other useful websites:

Seneca Summer Preparation for A Level Tudors plus History taster: <https://app.senecalearning.com/classroom/course/55998e20-92a6-4d38-a59e-69c2e2b8fb52/section/856d7fe3-388e-4f78-82f0-06b862f6636b/session>



LINKS TO THE SPECIFICATIONS

Exam paper 1: 1C The Tudors 1485-1603 (breadth study with a British focus), this is worth 40 % of the total marks.

Exam paper 2: 2R The Cold War 1945-1991 (depth study with a global focus), this is worth 40 % of the total marks.

Non-examined assessment: African American Civil Rights 1865-1968 (change over time with an American focus), this is worth 40 % of the total marks.

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/history/as-and-a-level/history-7041-7042/specification-at-a-glance>