

Course Titles: GCSE History

Awarding Body: AQA

Further information available from: Mr Lloyd

The GCSE History course is made up of the following units:-

Paper 1 – Understanding the Modern World

This has 2 components:

Section A: Period Study – Germany 1890-1945: Democracy and Dictatorship. This period study will focus on the development of Germany during a turbulent half century of change. It was a period of Democracy and Dictatorship – the development and collapse of Democracy and the rise and fall of Nazism.

Section B: Wider World Study – Conflict and Tension: The First World War, 1894-1918. This wider world depth study enables students to understand the complex and diverse interests of the Great Powers and other states at the start of the Twentieth Century. It focuses on the causes, nature and the conclusions of the First World War and seeks to show how and why conflict occurred, and why it proved difficult to bring the war to a conclusion.

Paper 2 – Shaping the Nation

This has 2 components:

Section A: Thematic Study – Health and the People c.1000 to the present day. This thematic study will enable students to gain an understanding of how medicine and public health developed in Britain over a long period of time. It considers the causes, scale, nature, and consequences of short and long term developments, their impact on British society and how they were related to the key features and characteristics of the periods during which they took place.

Section B: British Depth Study including the Historic Environment study – Elizabethan England c.1568-1603. This option allows students to study in depth a specific period, the last 35 years of Elizabeth I's reign. The study will focus on major events during this period based around economic, cultural, religious, political and social events. There will also be an opportunity to focus on a specific historical environment during this topic, such as a specific building or a town or village. This will change each year and will form the basis of one question on this paper.

The course is assessed through two single tier exam papers that are 2 hours each. The History Department selected this GCSE syllabus from the wide range on offer for a number of reasons.

Firstly, because it includes a range of interesting study units which build on the topics students have studied in Year 9, therefore students will have a good foundation of knowledge and skills to build upon. Secondly, because the examination questions are very clear and are designed to find out what a student has learned and can do, not to catch students out.

If you require any further information please speak to any member of the History Department.