

HISTORY - Option

Examination Board: EDEXCEL Syllabus A
(The Making of the Modern World)

Syllabus Content:

The GCSE course is very varied combining a high level of interest with a great deal of relevance to our lives today. The syllabus consists mainly of twentieth century world history and the British history element has a topic focus from the late nineteenth century through to the latter part of the twentieth century.

There are four major topics that will be covered throughout the GCSE. One of the major topics is the **Cold War**: its development and course in Germany, Cuba, Czechoslovakia and Afghanistan to the collapse of the Soviet Union. Students will also study two eras of American history: the first looking in **depth 1919-41** (the roaring 20s, prohibition, gangsters, the depression and segregation) and a source based study of **1945-70** (the 'Red Scare', the Black Civil Rights movements and the women's and students' movements). The British history topic will focus on **crime, policing and punishment** from c1880-c1990 with case studies on Jack the Ripper and Derek Bentley to name a few.

Students will take part in a variety of activities , although History always centre around discussion, and literacy based tasks using a wide variety of resources including those which are written, picture, audio-visual, and ICT based. As part of the British History unit students could take part in walking the route of Jack the Ripper's murders on a professionally guided tour, as part of the Curriculum Enrichment Day (CED) options.

Assessment:

The four elements of the course have equal weighting (25% of the final mark per topic), both of the USA units and the Cold War unit will be assessed by formal examination and the British history unit is the controlled conditions assessment, where the students will be taught an overview of the topic, and be given the sources and time for independent research two weeks before the final write up under controlled conditions.

For further information please contact Miss J Pearson