



Hillcrest Sixth Form



History



What does studying History involve?

History A Level encourages you to understand and think intellectually about aspects of modern history. It involves much more than just learning factual information. Of course, there is a lot to learn and you will immediately notice how much greater detail a topic is covered than at GCSE. However, what students find most rewarding in History is the attempt to understand, evaluate and analyse the past. Questions are designed to make you think critically about the material and to formulate your own assessments. You will, for example, learn to make judgments about the policies of individual leaders and nations, or to analyse the causes of a particular event and evaluate the importance of different factors.

What skills will I develop?

Key Skills are integral to the study of A level History and are assessed through the course. The following key skills can be developed through the History course:

- Communication, reflection and emotional intelligence
- Extended, formal essay writing skills essential for university study
- Critical analysis and research skills, including referencing

What subjects compliment History?

History is a Russell Group 'Facilitating' subject for entry to **any** university course, as it is well respected in terms of the skills of analysis, critical enquiry and extended essay-writing it instills. To get to the best universities, you should ensure you take History alongside at least one more facilitating subject as part of your 'A' level programme.

Where will the subject take me?

Past student who have studied history at A Level have moved on to degree courses such as: History (various History degrees), International Relations, Law, Politics and others.

Entry requirements:

Students are required to have gained a GCSE History grade between an A*-B. Students must have at least grade 6 in GCSE English Language.

Course content:

Unit 1: Tsarist and Communist Russia, 1855-1964

Unit 2: The Making of Modern Britain, 1951-2007

Unit 3: Historical Investigation – the late Stuart period

Assessment:

Unit 1: 2 ½ hour exam at the end of Year 13. One question asks you to assess three historical interpretations; you will also choose two essay questions from a choice of three.

Unit 2: 2 ½ hour exam at the end of Year 13. One question asks you to assess three primary sources; you will also choose two essay questions from a choice of three.

Unit 3: You choose your own coursework question after studying the politics of the late Stuart period, and write an extended essay (3000-3500 words).

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