

# Advanced GCE in History

**Board:** AQA

**Qualification:** Advanced Level GCE in History

## What is the course about?

The course has been designed to allow students to study changes and continuities over time, as well as focusing on aspects of the past in depth.

## The A Level course comprises three elements:

### The Tudors: England, 1485-1603 (worth 40% of A-Level)

- How effectively did the Tudors restore and develop the powers of the monarchy?
- In what ways and how effectively was England governed during this period?
- How did relations with foreign powers change and how was the succession secured?
- How did English society and economy change and with what effects?
- How far did intellectual and religious ideas change and develop and with what effects?
- How important was the role of key individuals and groups and how were they affected by developments?

### Revolution and Dictatorship: Russia 1917-1953 (Worth 40% of A-Level)

- Problems in Russia during WW1
- The February Revolution 1917
- Why the Provisional Government failed
- Why/ how did the October Revolution begin?
- The start of Communist Russia and the Civil War
- **Lenin's** death and the rise of Stalin
- **Stalin's** political purges
- Russia in WW2
- Impact of Stalinism

### Personal Study (20% of A Level)

- This is an individual research project
- The coursework is a study of 100 years of history- it will focus on **Stuart Britain (1603-1702)**
- **You will be required to write an essay of 4,500 words**

## How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed by two external exams in June of Year 13. In addition, there is an independent study that will also be assessed which is similar to a university style dissertation.

## What skills will I develop?

During the course you will develop knowledge of British and European History. Alongside this you will develop transferrable skills such as critical thinking skills, evaluating viewpoints and historical evidence, constructing persuasive arguments, an ability to read, re-read and evaluate information, assessing the validity of a variety of viewpoints and carrying out independent research. Written work is a key skill and the course will help you to develop written work and express your knowledge and ideas effectively.

## Why might this course be for me?

History allows you to study the past as an interesting subject in itself, as well as considering its impact on the present day. History combines well with English, as well as other Social Studies subjects such as Psychology and Sociology. History also prepares students well for a career in law as both subjects require students to critically consider evidence.

## Where can I go next?

History is a well-respected academic subject and is highly favoured by universities and employers. History trains you to make sound judgements, think flexibly, express yourself clearly and is highly regarded as a preparation for careers which involve information management and decision making. This could include employment in administration, management, education, museum service, business, law, accountancy or journalism.