

HISTORY

History can be studied at both Advanced Subsidiary (AS) and Advanced (A) levels. History is a subject which interests many students and it is especially likely to be a useful qualification for those interested in studying History, Law, International Relations, Economics or Politics at university.

The course consists of a number of separately examined units. Details of the units are set out below.

The first year of study consists of three units leading to the AS qualification. AS History is a valuable qualification for a wide range of students as it promotes the development of good written communication skills and the ability to understand and analyse complex information. The combination of units in the AS may be particularly appropriate for students hoping to read for an Economics degree. Those who wish to continue their study of History in the second year will take a further three units to achieve the full A level. The A2 unit on the development of democracy in Britain introduces students to constitutional history, which is an element of many Law degrees.

Students wishing to take the subject at AS and A level need not have studied History at GCSE but they should have a good standard of written English, enjoy individual research and debating issues.

Year I (AS)

Victors and Vanquished – the USA, Germany and Great Britain c.1918-1939

CONTENT	EXAMINATION
Boom and Bust: Economy and Society In the USA 1917-33 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Boom: the impact of World War I, mass production, consumerism• Prohibition and organised crime• Political and social tensions e.g. Klu Klux Klan• Bust: causes, and the consequences of the Wall Street Crash	1 source based question on 4-6 extracts with 5 sub-questions (One and a half hours) (NB The time allowed for this exam will probably be reduced to one hour in 2003)
The Democratic Experiment: Weimar, Germany 1918-29 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Threats from left and right 1918-23• Political parties and the Constitution• The economy – hyper- inflation• Stability 1924-29 - Stresemann	Choice of 1 of 2 questions in two parts (One hour)
Conflict, Depression and Opportunity: British society between the wars 1919-39 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The General Strike• Depression and unemployment• Government policies• Living standards and regional differences	1 question in 3 parts, one of which will be based on sources (One hour)

If appropriate, units can be retaken.

For students proceeding into the second year the AS constitutes 50% of the full A level qualification

Year II (A 2 level) The triumph of Democracy?

CONTENT	EXAMINATION
<p>Containing Communism? The USA in Asia 1950-1973</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Korean War, 1950-53 • De-colonisation of South-East Asia and the conflict between Communism and Capitalism • The Vietnam War • Reaction to the Vietnam War within the USA 	<p>One essay question</p> <p>(One and a quarter hours)</p>
<p>Representation and Democracy in Britain 1830-1931</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes in the size and composition of the electorate • Development of political parties 	<p>1 question in 3 parts arising from two or three sources</p> <p>(One and a quarter hours)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Cold War to Détente 1945-90</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsibility for the Cold War <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - German partition, Truman Doctrine, Marshall Plan - Soviet bloc and NATO • Cold War – containment or supremacy? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ideology and propaganda – Berlin, Hungary, Cuba - Détente – Cuba to Afghanistan; Reagan and Gorbachev 	<p>2 questions based on 5 or 6 sources</p> <p>(One and three quarter hours)</p>