History

OCR A-level History A (H505)

Head of Department: Mr James Dunn

Introduction

The study of history is thriving at the College, and the A-level course offers the chance to delve deeply into topics including the early Tudors, the Cold War, and Russia and its rulers, as well as develop a wide range of important skills.

We are fortunate to have a committed team of teachers, all of whom are history graduates from leading universities, and who use their experience and expertise to maximise student potential.

We visit Hampton Court to support the Tudor course, and an A-level trip to the former Communist Bloc is in the pipeline.

Subject Requirements

Students will need at least a Grade 7 in GCSE history. Grade 7s or above in English language and English literature are also recommended.

Course Outline

At A-level we explore the OCR history A specification. Students are examined in three modules which they study over both of their years in the Sixth Form. There is also a free-standing coursework module which is completed in the third and fourth terms of the A-level. The course contains the following topics for study:

Unit I: England 1485-1558: The Early Tudors

Unit 2: The Cold War in Europe 1945-1991

Unit 3: Russia and its Rulers 1855-1964

Unit 4: Historical Skills (Non-examined) + 4000 word coursework essay.

Higher Education and Careers

A-level history is very highly regarded by universities and employers, and previous Epsom students have gone on to a wide range of degree subjects at leading universities having studied it.

A history degree is seen as a rigorous, versatile and prestigious qualification. History graduates are highly employable across a wide range of professions from: journalism, accountancy and law to teaching, academia, finance, HR and marketing.

What should I study alongside history?

Other discursive subjects are good companions with history. The regular practice of essay writing only helps the students write better essays and we would recommend that history is studied alongside other subjects that demand a nuanced and detailed grip of detail when expressing written argument.