



Faculty Introduction:

AS/A2 Level History teaches students about relationships between rulers and their people, different political systems and the impact of war on societies. It draws together a range of subjects History, Geography, Religious Education, Sociology and Citizenship and Ethics. It develops skills in source analysis, using information and writing extended essays and arguments.



Topics/Modules to be covered in the year:

In Year 12, students study the Edexcel History GCE syllabus as the first year of a two year course. This is a modular course comprising four units of study. Students are examined in the two AS level units at the end of Year 12, The remaining two units are assessed in Year 13 via coursework and one further examination.

AS Unit 1: A World Divided: Communism and Democracy in the Twentieth Century. Students study Russia in revolution from 1881-1924. They look at the condition of and challenges to the Tsarist state, the impact of WWI on Russia and the revolution that would end centuries of monarchy and turn Russia into a Communist state. They examine the characteristics of Russia under the Bolsheviks and look at the regime of Stalin. They will look at his rise to power, his policies and the impact of WW2 on Russia. This is a knowledge based paper where students complete two essays in their examination.

AS Unit 2: Henry VIII: Authority, Nation and Religion 1509–1540. Pupils study the reign of Henry VIII. They start by addressing how the Tudors came to power and the success or failure of Henry's early reign. They look at the impact of his desire for a son and the religious and political changes caused by the Break With Rome. They assess the characteristics and success of Henry's quest for international glory. This unit is a mixture of source use and own knowledge.

Assessment:

Formal external assessment of the AS elements of the Edexcel GCE History course is by examination and takes place at the end of Yr 12.

To assess academic progress during Year 12, students are also tested regularly using past Edexcel AS exam papers and essays. These assessments are completed both in class and at home and are assessed before being fed back to students. They are also used as the working grades which are reported to parents on a termly basis.

Homework expectations/key deadlines:

Students should expect to receive 90 minutes of formal History homework per week. Homework is an integral part of the students learning and will be directly related to classroom teaching. Students are also expected to spend an additional 90 minutes informally each week, reading around the subject, improving knowledge and understanding to reinforce the work covered in class.

Enrichment activities/revision sessions:

Enrichment and extension activities include visits to listen to historians discuss the topics studied, an online wiki where students can post ideas and debate with one another and resource packs containing articles by historians to further stretch pupil knowledge and progress.

Useful websites for revision/revision guides/exam boards:

Spark Notes (<http://www.sparknotes.com/history/>)

Revision World (<http://revisionworld.com/a2-level-level-revision/history-gcse-level>)

Collins Student Support Materials: Edexcel AS History Unit 1 D3 Russia in Revolution 1881-1924, Edexcel AS History Unit 1 D1 Stalin's Russia 1924-1953, Edexcel AS History Unit 2 A1 Henry VIII: Authority, Nation and Religion.

My Revision Notes: AS Edexcel History Henry VIII: Authority, Nation and Religion, AS Edexcel History Russia in Revolution 1881-1924, AS Edexcel History Stalin's Russia 1924 - 1953

