

Faculty : Humanities  
Subject : History – Year 13



St John Fisher  
Catholic High School

**Faculty Introduction:**

A2 History attracts a range of students with differing paths for post-18 study. Ambitious students, keen to go to university, can use it as an impressive qualification to gain entry onto a range of courses. The skills learnt can aid the writing of an effective personal statement. Alternatively, pupils keen to get straight into the world of work, can use the time management, research and analysis skills which they will learn to increase their employability.



**Topics/Modules to be covered in the year:**

In Year 13, students continue to study the Edexcel History GCE syllabus to its completion. Students are examined in the two A2 level units at the end of Year 13 via one examination and a piece of coursework. There is also the opportunity to resit Year 12 units where necessary.

A2 Unit 3: The United States: Challenged and Transformed – Students study the United States from 1917-1954 looking at social issues, politics and the impact of the First and Second World War. Students develop source skills and the ability to use sources to support or discredit opinions. This paper is a combination of own knowledge and source use/skills.

A2 Unit 4: The Golden Age of Spain – students study Spanish history from 1474-1598 by assessing the reigns of Ferdinand and Isabella, Charles I and Philip II. Having looked at the themes of religion, social change, war, politics and international relations they then move on to select their own questions to complete a 4,000 word piece of coursework.

**Assessment:**

Students are examined in the two A2 level units at the end of Year 13 via one examination and a piece of coursework. There is also the opportunity to resit Year 12 units where necessary.

To assess academic progress during Year 13, 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 A2 History Unit 4 Historical Enquiry