Key Stage: 5

Subject: History





Aims of the subject: To develop an appreciation of British, European and world history. Students will read and research in more depth and engage in more sophisticated debate and discussion than at GCSE. They will acquire the skills to develop their own line of inquiry and to examine the credibility of historical views as well as sources. They will develop the skills of synthesis, critical analysis and logic in order to confidently organise information and make reasoned judgements.

GCE Examination Board: Edexcel

Assessment Overview

Year 12

- Unit 1 (1C) Britain, 1625-1701: conflict, revolution and settlement (30% of the total qualification)
- Unit 2 (2C.2) Russia in revolution, 1894-1924 (20% of the total qualification)

Year 13

- Unit 3 (36.2) Ireland and the Union, c.1774-1923 (30% of the total qualification)
- Unit 4 Coursework (20% of the total qualification)

Course	What will I study?	Assessment
Y12	Term 1	Regular essays to practise different essay styles and
	Unit 1: The quest for political stability 1625-88 and Religion: conflict and	develop analytical and planning skills.
	dissent, 1625-88	Regular knowledge tests.
	Unit 2 : The rule of Nicholas II, 1894-1905 and The end of Romanov rule,	Timed essays and the development of revision skills.
	1906-17	Practice source analysis and evaluation questions.
		Regular exam past papers.
	Term 2	Ongoing timeline activities.
	Unit 1: Social and intellectual challenge, 1625-88 and Economy, trade and	Skills booklet activities.
	empire, 1625-88	Summative textbook activities to complete each
	Unit 2: The Provisional Government and its opponents, February-October	topic.
	1917 and Defending the Bolshevik Revolution, October 1917-1924	Discussion and debate.
	Term 3	Assessed in two exams:
	Unit 1: Revision and Historical interpretation: How revolutionary, in the	Unit 1: Written examination, lasting 2 hours 15
	years to 1701, was the Glorious Revolution of 1688-9?	minutes. • Marks available: 60 • Students answer

Unit 2: Revision of four topics and exam technique	three questions: one from Section A, one from Section B and one from Section C. • Sections A and B comprise a choice of essays that assess understanding of the period in breadth (AO1). • Section C comprises one compulsory question that assesses the ability to analyse and evaluate historical interpretations (AO3). Unit 2: Written examination, lasting 1 hour 30 minutes. • Marks available: 40 • Students answer two questions: one from Section A and one from Section B. • Section A comprises one compulsory two-part question for the option studied, each part based on one source. It assesses source analysis and evaluation skills (AO2). • Section B comprises a choice of essays that assess understanding of the period in depth (AO1).
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Y13

Term 1

Unit 3: Aspects in breadth: the struggle for constitutional change, c1774-1923. Themes: Irish nationalism: from agitation to civil war and British reaction: from resistance to acceptance

Term 2

Unit 3: Aspects in depth: societies in change. Key topics: Towards emancipation, 1774-1830; Industrialisation in Ulster, 1825-55; The Irish Famine, 1843-51; The Irish land issue, 1870-1882; Improving working and living conditions: trades union militancy in Ireland, 1907-14

Term 3

Unit 3: Revision for unit 3 and Revision of Year 12 content (Britain) and exam technique.

Term 1

Unit 4 (Coursework): Skills-based course of study that covers the work of historians in creating interpretations and approaches to the analysis and evaluation of historical interpretations.

Short course covering contextual background of example question – Causes of WW1.

Designing the question, research and planning.

Term 2

Unit 4 (Coursework):

Research and planning.

Writing coursework.

Term 3

Unit 4 (Coursework):

Revision of Year 12 content (Russia) and exam technique.

Regular essays to practise different essay styles and develop analytical and planning skills.

Regular knowledge tests.

Timed essays and the development of revision skills. Discussion and debate.

Assessed in one exam:

Unit 3: Written examination, lasting 2 hours 15 minutes. • Marks available: 60 • Students answer three questions: one from Section A, one from Section B and one from Section C. • Section A comprises one compulsory question for the option studied, assessing source analysis and evaluation skills (AO2). • Section B comprises a choice of essays that assess understanding of the period in depth (AO1). • Section C comprises a choice of essays that assess understanding of the period in breadth (AO1).

*Students will also sit two exams covering the content of Unit 1 and Unit 2 with more sophisticated and rigorous question styles.

Assessed as coursework: 4000 word essay Students complete a single assignment on a question set by the centre. ● The assignment will assess the ability to carry out a historical enquiry, analysing and evaluating historical interpretations, and organising and communicating the findings (AO1/AO3).

Enrichment opportunities

Holocaust Memorial Trust - visit to Poland

Suggestions for wider reading:

Students are given a reading list for all units which they are expected to add to during the course.

Useful sites:

Digital dimension of learning research data bases on school intranet:

- CREDO
- History Reference Centre
- EBSCO
- Gales News Vault- free access to sources which are very useful for coursework in Year 13

Other sites:

- www.active history.co.uk
- http://bcw-project.org/
- http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/
- http://www.parliament.uk/about/living-heritage/evolutionofparliament/
- www.historylearningsite.co.uk
- www.nationalarchives.gov.uk
- www.revolutionaryrussia.com
- www.orlandofiges.info

Films:

- 'Nicholas and Alexandra' overview of Nicholas II reign
- 'Michael Collins' Vincent McDonnell
- 'The Wind That Shakes The Barley'
- 'Cromwell'