



Sixth Form Subject Guide

HISTORY

★★★ CAREERS RELATED TO STUDYING THIS SUBJECT

If you choose to study History, you will develop skills such as gathering and sorting of historical evidence fostering a sense of understanding of historical processes and their relationships to human experience, activity, and motivation.

Through organising and expressing historical ideas and information, students will refine their written and oral communication skills, in particular their ability to set forth arguments with precision and clarity. Therefore, careers in law, media, police, journalism, politics, education, economics, and academia, to name but a few, can all stem from the study of History.

★★★ A LEVEL COURSE CONTENT

Paper 1 & 2: (AS Level) International History 1870-1945

- Empire and the emergence of world powers, 1870–1919
- The League of Nations and international relations in the 1920s
- The League of Nations and international relations in the 1930s
- China and Japan, 1912–45

Paper 3: (A Level) (Students study one of the following)

- Topic 1: The origins of the First World War
- Topic 2: The Holocaust
- Topic 3: The origins and development of the Cold War

Paper 4: (A Level) International option, Depth study 3: International history, 1945–92

- Theme 1: US–Soviet relations during the Cold War, 1950–91
- Theme 2: The spread of communism in East and Southeast Asia, 1945–91
- Theme 3: Decolonisation, the Cold War, and the UN in Sub-Saharan Africa, 1950–92
- Theme 4: Conflict in the Middle East, 1948–91

★★★ A LEVEL METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

Assessment Component	Weighting	
	AS Level	A Level
International option: International history, 1870–1945		
Paper 1: Source based paper on one of the four topics (rotates each year).	40%	20%
Paper 2: Essay paper on three of the topics	60%	30%
Paper 3: Interpretations question on one of the three topics	N/A	20%
Paper 4: Essay paper on the themes	N/A	30%

★★★ METHODS OF STUDY FOR A LEVEL

In History, you will learn by reading historical texts and journal articles, watching historical documentaries, watching historical films, constructing historical arguments, analysing historical sources, engaging in class discussions and formal debates, and participating, on occasion, in historical role-play activities. It is expected that in their own time, students also carry out independent reading, note-taking, and other activities to further their historical knowledge.

To be successful you should be prepared to work hard, get involved with the subject, and take an interest in the past and different cultures.

★★★ ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR A LEVEL

It is recommended they have achieved a B in History or English at IGCSE/SPM (or equivalent).