

History

Award: GCSE

Board: AQA

Brief summary of course content

This GCSE encourages learners to develop and extend their knowledge and understanding of specified key events, periods and societies in local, British and wider world History.

Structure of the Examinations

Paper 1 America, 1920–1973: Opportunity and inequality

This period study focuses on the development of the USA during a turbulent half century of change. Students will study the political, economic, social and cultural aspects of the period, as well as the role of key individuals and groups in shaping change and the impact the developments had on them.

Paper 1 Conflict and tension between East and West, 1945–1972

This wider world depth study enables students to understand the complex and diverse interests of different states and individuals and the ideologies they represented. It focuses on the causes and events of the Cold War and seeks to show how and why conflict occurred and why it proved difficult to resolve the tensions which arose during the Cold War.

Paper 2 Britain: Health and the people: c1000 to the present day

This thematic study will enable students to gain an understanding of how medicine and public health developed in Britain over a long period of time. Students will have the opportunity to see how some ideas and events in the wider world affected Britain and will promote the idea that key themes did not develop in isolation, but these ideas and events should be referenced in terms of their effects on the core theme for Britain and British people.

Paper 2 Norman England, c1066–c1100 including the historic environment study

This option allows students to study in depth the arrival of the Normans and the establishment of their rule. The depth study will focus on major aspects of Norman rule, considered from economic, religious, political, social and cultural standpoints of this period and arising contemporary and historical controversies. Students will be examined on a specific site from the time period in depth. It is intended that study of different historic environments will enrich students' understanding of Norman England.

Assessment Methods

Paper 1: 2 hours 50% of whole mark

Paper 2: 2 hours 50% of whole mark