



KIRKHAM
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

HISTORY

History provides candidates with a testing intellectual challenge. To know what happened in the past is important but to be able to think and argue knowledgeably about why it happened is more valuable and fulfilling.

The course aims to develop the skills of Historical Understanding, Investigation and Communication. It is taught using a mixture of tutorials, lectures, seminars, documents and video and audio tapes. It is not necessary to have studied History at GCSE, but a good grade in English is helpful, as is the ability to write clearly and think objectively.

THE COURSE

Examination Board: OCR

The course will consist of study of the following aspects of History:

A-Level

Unit 1: Britain 1900 – 1951

This unit provides an understanding of change and continuity in Britain from 1900 to 1951, through periods of peace and war to an era of consensus and affluence. Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of important individuals, such as Lloyd George, Ramsay MacDonald, Stanley Baldwin, Winston Churchill, Clement Attlee and key ideas such as socialism, liberalism and conservatism. They will also look at the impact of economic and social change on government policies and, by studying the key events and developments, will be able to draw conclusions about the changing relationship between the state and its citizens.

Unit 2: Russia 1894 – 1941

This unit gives an understanding of the causes and events which led to the collapse of the Tsarist Regime in Russia and the subsequent success of Lenin and the Bolsheviks. It then provides an understanding of Stalin's rise to power and his dictatorship up to the Nazi invasion of Russia in 1941.

Unit 3: Popular Culture and the Witch Craze of the 16th and 17th Centuries

This module provides an insight into popular culture and attitudes to religions, social and economic change in the period. It then analyses the reasons for the persecution of witches and which particular groups were persecuted. The module concludes with an investigation into witchcraft in Southern Germany, Essex and Salem.

Unit 4: Essay

This is an independently researched essay of 3000-4000 words in length. It is assessed as coursework and the topic and title may be chosen by individual students. A range of 10–15 sources are to be studied, but this is not prescriptive, of which some must be primary and some secondary.

CAREERS

Many of our students continue with their studies in Higher Education where they read a wide range of subjects, including History, Politics, English, Mathematics, Geography, Economics and Management.

An A-level History qualification can lead to careers in the following areas:

- Accountancy
- Advertising
- Archive Works
- Armed Forces
- Auditing
- Banking
- Broadcasting
- The Civil Service
- Commerce
- The Health Service
- Hotel Management
- Insurance
- Journalism
- Law
- Local Government
- Management
- Marketing
- Museums
- Personnel Management
- Police Force
- Public Relations
- Publishing
- Retailing
- Social Services
- Teaching