

# History GCSE

## Overview

History is an engaging subject that is well respected by many colleges, universities, and employers. We provide a varied and interesting GCSE curriculum that also offers the opportunity for students to develop skills including the ability to communicate, how to express and explain complex ideas, analytical skills to help students understand information and viewpoints and how to form well supported arguments. History students can access a diverse field of future careers; graduates often go into areas such as Law, Journalism, and Politics or into direct historical roles such as Archaeology or Museum and Heritage Management.

## Topics

**Thematic Study:** Medicine in Britain, 1250- Present Day Students will study the development of thinking about the cause and spread of disease in Britain from the medieval era through to the modern period. We will also study how public health changed, the development of cities and the creation of the NHS. There is a separate enquiry study into injuries, treatment, and surgery in the trenches during the First World War that will encourage students to use source evidence from that time period.

**British Depth Study:** Anglo Saxon and Norman England: 1060-1088 this unit is an opportunity to study in depth a fascinating period of British history. Students will study Anglo-Saxon society and government, including the powerful Godwin family and the Kingship of Edward the Confessor. They will study the reasons for the crisis in 1066 and the three battles that decided the outcome: Gate Fulford, Stamford Bridge and Hastings. Students will then go on to examine the course of the Norman Invasion, analysing how William the Conqueror subdued England. Finally, students will compare the two systems of government and decide to what extent the Normans revolutionised England.

**Period Study:** The American West c.1835-1895 A study of American history during a crucial period. They will consider the lifestyle of the Plains Indians and, over a depth study of sixty years, explore how that lifestyle was changed by the different groups arriving and settling in the West. We will also consider some of the most iconic images of the Wild West, such as cowboys and gunslingers.

**Modern Depth Study:** Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-1939 This unit allows students to learn in much more detail about historical events with which they may already be familiar. We will study the political troubles in Germany following the First World War, the uneasy peace between World War I and II and the rise of the Nazi Party. A strong element of this unit is life in Germany under Nazi control, including methods to control the population, control of social aspects like literature, art and propaganda, and the persecution of minority groups.

## Course Structure

This GCSE is entirely examined – there is no longer a coursework element. Students sit their units across three exam papers at the end of Year 11. All students are entered for the same exam – there are no tiers of entry.

- **Paper 1-** 1 hour 15 minutes: **Medicine in Britain**, c1250-present and **The British sector of the Western Front**, 1914-18: injuries, treatment, and the trenches.
- **Paper 2-** 1 hour 45 minutes: **Anglo-Saxon and Norman England** c1068-88 and **The American West**, c1835-1895.
- **Paper 3 -** 1 hour 20 minutes: **Weimar and Nazi Germany**, 1918-39.

### Additional Information & Who to Contact

- For more information please follow the link to the course specification on the exam board website <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/history-2016.html>
- If any further Information is required, please contact Mr. T Graham Head of History via email [terence.graham@consilium-at.com](mailto:terence.graham@consilium-at.com)

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