



Why study History?

History is an endlessly fascinating subject with infinite possibilities and perspectives. It is probably the academic subject that gives rise to most public debate in Britain, and its contemporary importance and relevance are widely acknowledged. As Marcus Garvey remarked, a people without knowledge of their past history is like a tree without roots.

The skills acquired in A level history complement the study of a wide range of other academic courses and they help to prepare you for successful careers in, amongst other things, the law, the civil service, the media, marketing, accountancy, research, teaching and heritage work. At undergraduate degree level, History is among the most popular subjects studied at university and can be combined with many other subjects (both scientific and in the humanities/arts) for a joint as well as single Honours degrees.

As you would expect, to help you get the most from this vivid and varied subject you will be presented with a wealth of opportunities, including trips to London and elsewhere, and we will host visits from distinguished historians. Lessons will involve teacher exposition, individual and group work, student-led debates and presentations.

Why study History at Hackney New Sixth Form?

The focus of all our courses is to study significant individuals, events, developments and issues within their historical context. Through your studies, you will gain a better understanding of the present as you engage in detail with the past. You will develop skills in writing, structuring arguments, formulating and justifying judgments, and critically evaluating differing views. The History Department is extremely well experienced in successfully delivering A level to Sixth Formers and knowledge of the periods being studied is thorough and extensive. The A level course will give students an excellent understanding of what shaped modern Britain and Europe.

The two-year course is divided into three units, of which two are exam based and the third is a historical investigation (coursework) – an essay of 3500 words. Each unit focuses on a different, contrasting area of history. For the examined units students will examine Stuart Britain and the Crisis of Monarchy (studying the reigns of James I and Charles I, up to the execution of Charles I after the English Civil War, 1603-1649). Furthermore, Unit 1 at A level will involve the study of the Interregnum, the Restoration, the reigns of Charles II, James II and William and Mary from 1603 – 1702. This period will give the student an insight into the emergence of our modern parliamentary democracy. Unit 2 at A level will involve the study of Democracy and Nazism: Germany 1918 – 1945 and will focus on the post-war establishment of the Weimar Republic (1918 - 1933) and the impact of the Treaty of Versailles on the new state. Students will look at socio-economic issues as well as political instability in addition to examining the rise of extremism on both the left and the right. The collapse of democracy in Weimar Germany

will also be studied, leading to a detailed analysis of the rise of Nazism and the one-party dictatorship. Students will examine the 'Terror State' and look at Nazi social, economic and racial policies. The final part of Unit 2 will see students tackle the impact of war on Germany (1939 - 1945), as well as looking at the Wannsee Conference and 'The Final Solution'. Students will also do a comprehensive study of opposition and resistance to the Nazi regime throughout the period. Unit 3 is solely an A level unit and will cover the period Britain and Ireland: 1798 – 1998, where students will write a 3500 word essay on a topic of their choice within the stated historical period.

The Examination Board that we will be following will be AQA.

Entry Criteria: Grade 6+ in History (if taken) or a 6+ in another Humanities subject.

How will I be assessed?

A level Unit 1: Breadth Study	1D: 'Stuart Britain and the Crisis of Monarchy 1603 – 1702' Written Examination: 2 hours and 30 minutes	3 questions (1 compulsory) 80 marks 40% of A level
A level Unit 2: Depth Study	20: 'Democracy and Nazism: Germany 1918 – 1945' Written Examination: 2 hours 30 minutes	3 questions (1 compulsory on Sources) 80 marks 40% of A level
A level Unit 3: Historical Investigation (Personal Study/Coursework)	'Britain & Ireland: 1798 – 1998'	3000 - 3500 word essay (marked by teacher) 40 marks 20% of A level

