History

Exam Board: AQA
Entry Requirements: Students must achieve Grade 6 in GCSE History and English. Students choosing this course need to have strong literacy and essay writing skills.

COURSE SUMMARY

History is highly academic and a well sought after qualification. With A Level History, Universities understand that you have developed high levels of research skill, the competence to work independently and can analyse large amounts of text sources to deduce and infer conclusions

COURSE STRUCTURE

Unit 1: The Tudors (1485-1603)

This is unit covers nearly 200 years of the cataclysmic struggle for control of the Holy Land between the Christians of Western Europe and the Muslims of the Levant. It is worth 40% of the A-Level. The unit gives students the chance to consider the causes of and reasons for the upheaval of the First Crusade, the creation of the Christian Crusader states centered around Jerusalem and the reasons for the successful fightback of Islamic forces under its greatest leader; Saladin.

Unit 2: The American Dream (1945-1980)

This option focuses on studying challenges faced by the USA at home and abroad as it emerged from the Second World War as a Superpower. For many Americans, post-war prosperity realised the 'American dream' but the prosperity was not shared by all and significant problems at home and abroad challenged the extent to which the 'American dream' was a reality. It explores concepts and ideas such as American identity at home and abroad, anti-communism, social equality, ethnic identities and federal versus states' rights.

Unit 3: Non-examined assessment

This is an independently researched (4,500 word) essay that makes up 20% of students' overall grade. At Trinity we focus this essay on The Fall of Tsardom. In this unit students complete a large-scale independent research project during the Year 12 summer holidays (August) and are required to find, and read, up to 30 academic articles. This is a self-taught course so requires a significant time commitment. The final essay is due in January of Year 13. Students use their own research, alongside an analysis of three primary sources and two historical interpretations, to come to a judgement about the causes of Fall od Tsardom the lead up to its collapse in 1917 and the impact of WW1. This is a demanding aspect of the course and requires a commitment to research and a love of writing.

SPECIFICATION

History AS and A-level Specification (sanity.io)

CAREER CHOICES

This course is useful for those students considering university degrees and careers in many areas, including banking and finance, public relations, research, education and administration or any career which requires the analysis of information