GCSE History

Outline of the course

You will study four topics
THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE 1250-Present day
This aspect of the course traces a single development over a long period of time, a fascinating study of the way in which people have dealt with injury and disease across the centuries. There is also an in depth focus on the developments in medicine and trench warfare in World War One.
EARLY ELIZABETHAN ENGLAND 1558-88
This study looks at society, government, political rivalries and exploration.
THE AMERICAN WEST 1835-1895
This aspect of the course looks at settlement in the American West and the devastating impact this had on Native American tribes, particularly the Plains Indians
WEIMAR & NAZI GERMANY 1918-39 This depth study investigates the effects of World War I upon Germany; the coming to power of Adolf Hitler and life in Germany under Nazi rule.

Assessment

100% of the final GCSE grade is based on 3 examination papers.

Paper 1 - The History of Medicine (30%)
Paper 2 – Early Elizabethan England and the American West (40%)
Paper 3 – Weimar and Nazi Germany (30%)

Each paper requires you to recall specific events, use historical skills and compare features of different time periods to achieve highly. Extended writing is key to doing well, command words such as ‘explain’, ‘significance’, ‘importance’, ‘analyse’ and ‘how far’ feature heavily.

Why study History?

History is a well established, popular option. A key feature of the course are the variety of topics studied of the course build upon your Year 8 studies. The course involves the development of useful skills such as analysis, evaluation and interpretation which are valued by employers and demonstrate well a student’s ability. If you have found History interesting in the first two years of study, you will certainly find GCSE History an enjoyable and challenging option.

For more information about this subject and the course, please contact:
Mrs A Wain or your history teacher.