



# History GCSE

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Course Title	Exam Board	Specification Code	Head of Department
GCSE History	Edexcel	1HI0/11, 1HI0/2B4, 1HI0/2P3, 1HI0/31	Ms J Turney

**Course Information** Our GCSE course will cover a range of different parts of the past, from Elizabethan England to Weimar and Nazi Germany. This course offers pupils with a breadth of knowledge about different parts of History from across the world and how they have shaped the lives we have today. Pupils will develop key skills such as explanation, evaluation and analysis throughout their GCSE which will aid them to think in a more complex way. Pupils will also build on their knowledge and desire to learn about the past. Learning about the past and individuals who have influenced history helps us to understand how, and why, the world got to the point it's at now. Not only does it aid our understanding of the present, but it also better prepares us for the future, as we continue to adapt to the changing situations of society.

**Skills/Aptitude Required** Studying history enables you to develop a wide range of valuable skills such as:

- Analysis of sources
- Analysis of Historic Interpretations
- Research and problem solving skills
- Explanation of events/causes/consequences
- Evaluation of the importance of events/factors
- Communication and Essay Writing skills

**Next Steps** A GCSE in History is essential to study History at A-Level. The skills developed when studying GCSE History has good links to other A-Levels such as English, Law, Sociology and Philosophy and Ethics.

**Future Careers** Studying History can lead to a large range of career options such as:

- Armed forces/police (£22k+)
- Journalist (£25K+)
- Lawyer (£50k+)
- Business Manager (£37k+)
- Politician (£32k+)
- Archaeologist (£20k+)
- Marketing (£34k+)
- Teaching (£24k+)

## The Course in Depth

**Year 9 Topics Covered** Students will spend the first half of Year 9 studying The American West (1835-1890). In this section of the course students will look at the ever-changing lives of Plains Indians, the impact the development of America had on them and the conflict it caused. This will include the growing tension between Plains Indians and White Americans which resulted in numerous conflicts. Pupils will then spend the second half of Year 9 learning about Early Elizabethan England (1558-1588). Students will study the key events and challenges Elizabeth faced such as the plots and revolts against Elizabeth as well as the attempted invasion of the Spanish Armada.

**Year 10 Topics Covered** Throughout Year 10, students will learn about the development of medicine in Britain from the Middle Ages (1250) up to present day. Pupils will investigate the roles that factors such as war, science, technology and individuals played in the development of medical breakthroughs. Students will learn about the Black Death (1348), the discovery of germs, medical treatment during the First World War and the discovery of DNA. This is then followed with a case study, in which students will learn about medicine on the Western Front during World War One. The case study will enable pupils to get a wider understanding of illness, injuries and the battles of the First World War which led to later medical discoveries.

**Year 11 Topics Covered** Students will continue to develop their historic skills as well as study Germany from 1918 to 1939. For the start of Year 11, pupils will have the opportunity to study the political and economic impact of the First World War in Germany, focusing on the Treaty of Versailles, Hyperinflation and the Wall Street Crash. This is followed by the events that led to Hitler and the Nazi Party's rise to power, with pupils looking in detail at how Hitler was able to turn a democratic country into a dictatorship so quickly. Continuing to build on their knowledge, pupils will then study life inside Nazi Germany, by assessing the use of propaganda and fear as a means of control. This will lead pupils to their final area of study; the treatment and persecution of Jews and other ethnic groups inside Germany.

**Internal Assessment** Students will practice exam answers throughout their History GCSE within lessons to enable opportunities for staff to give feedback, enabling pupils to make good progress and be fully prepared for their exams in Year 11. Pupils will also have an assessment at the end of every topic. This will inform students and staff where improvements can be made to ensure they continue to make good progress. The internal assessment does not contribute to your final grade.

**External Assessment** **Paper 1: Medicine in Britain, 1250–present and The British sector of the Western Front, 1914–1918: Injuries, Treatment and the Trenches.**  
Written examination: 1 hour 20 minutes

**Paper 2: Early Elizabethan England, 1558-1588 and The American West, 1830-1890.**  
Written examination: 1 hour 50 minutes

**Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-1939.**  
Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes

*“We are not the makers of History. We are made by History.”*

Martin Luther King Jr.