HISTORY

Examination Board Specification: Edexcel 9HI0

Why Study History?: History analyses the past, and looks at cause and consequence to build a narrative of human experience. You will explore the historical theme of revolutions though a study of revolutionary upheavals in Britain and Russia that span the early modern and modern periods. The differing causes and consequences of these revolutions will be explored in breadth and depth. The units we study look predominantly at political history, but this is set in the wider economic, social and religious context. You will learn to synthesise information, analyse argument, see connections between countries and time periods, to read critically, and to advance and support your own line of argument across a piece of extended writing.

Content and Assessment of the Course:

Unit 1	**Breadth study with interpretations**	**2 hr 15 min. examination**	**30%**
This unit covers political change in Britain in the seventeenth century, namely *Britain, 1625–1701: conflict, revolution and settlement*. Students will explore the key features of monarchical and republican rule during this time period, set within the context of broader social, economic and religious change. The course allows students to develop a broad understanding of a period that saw a decisive shift in the balance of power between crown and parliament. In the exam, students will be required to answer three essay questions, one of which will be based on an evaluation of historical interpretations.			
Unit 2	**Depth study**	**1 hr 30 min. examination**	**20%**
This unit explores political change in twentieth century Russia, namely *Russia in revolution, 1894–1924*. It covers the causes, course and consolidation of the Russian Revolution of 1917, which had a momentous effect on twentieth-century Russia and throughout the modern world. Students will gain an in-depth understanding of revolutionary activity in Russia in the years 1894 to 1917, the response of successive governments to opposition to their rule, and the reasons for the successful consolidation of the revolution of October 1917 under Lenin and the Bolsheviks. In the exam students will answer two questions; one compulsory source question, where students will be expected to analyse and evaluate source material, and one essay question assessing understanding of the period in depth.			
Unit 3	**Themes in breadth with aspects in depth**	**2 hr 15 min. examination**	**30%**
This unit focuses on German history between 1871 and 1990, namely *Germany 1871-1990: United, Divided and Reunited.* This unit is comprised of two parts: the *Aspects in breadth* focus on long-term changes and contextualise the *Aspects in depth*, which focus in detail on key episodes. Together, the breadth and depth topics explore developments that have shaped German History, including the attempts to construct Germany as a Reich, a democracy and a dictatorship; studies of Bismarck, Ebert, Hitler, Adenauer and Kohl; and the rise of the German economy across the period. In the exam, students will be required to answer two essay questions, and to conduct one document-based analysis.			
Unit 4	**Coursework**	**Extended essay**	**20%**
The focus of the coursework unit will be chosen by individual students supported by the History Department; this is likely to be a choice between the Holocaust and Charlemagne although it is possible to look at investigations from wider history. The assignment will assess the ability to carry out a historical enquiry, analysing and evaluating historical interpretations, and organising and communicating the findings. As such, students will be required to read widely and undertake their own research; and it should be noted that whilst their work will be guided by their teacher, this is essentially an independent project. The essay should be between 3000 and 4000 words in length.			

Entrance Requirements: Students should preferably have studied History at GCSE level and should have achieved at least a grade 7. Those without History at GCSE should have achieved at least a grade of 8 in a subject involving a significant amount of extended writing and should be able to demonstrate an interest in analysing events and exploring the motives of historical figures. A taste for reading and researching and also for writing is important.