



# History

## **Why study History?**

History is full of the most amazing stories of human courage, sacrifice, greed or weakness. The study of History will allow you to develop an awareness of the significance of events, individuals, issues and societies in history. You will discover the theories of historians and the language that they use to discuss their ideas, comprehend the nature of historical evidence and develop an understanding of how the past has been interpreted. This course will appeal to you if you: have an interest in the way that the world has developed; enjoy investigation and discovery; relish debate and argument; want to improve your analytical skills; want to study a subject which encourages you to make up your own mind.

## **What skills will I gain from studying History?**

Students who study A Level History will develop a wide range of skills. You will learn how to research, evaluate and analyse information, weigh up historical evidence and develop an ability to express your own ideas confidently and effectively.

## **Having studied History what opportunities will be open to me?**

Students who study A Level History have an extensive range of career or Higher Education opportunities as you will have developed skills which are highly valued by employers, universities and colleges. Indeed, History is one of the 'facilitating' academic subjects recommended by the Russell Group of leading UK universities. History A level provides an excellent foundation for a number of popular careers including journalism, law, media and business.

## **Entry requirements**

6 in History (if taken at GCSE) or Grade 6 in English Language or English Literature (if not).

**Exam Board – Edexcel**

**Specification code/no. - 9H10**

## **Topics covered in Year 12**

In search of the American Dream: the USA, 1917-96

Topics include: Black American civil rights and the work of Martin Luther King and Malcolm X as well as the struggle for rights for other minority groups, the emergence of the gay rights movement: the changing position of women.

South Africa, 1948– 94: from apartheid state to 'rainbow nation' This option comprises a study in depth of South Africa during its transition from white minority rule to the free elections of 1994, a long, and at times, dramatic process in which South Africa changed from a racist apartheid state into a multi-racial democracy.

## **Topics covered in Year 13**

Poverty, public health and the state in Britain, c1780–1939

This Unit will explore the ways in which the British state gradually, and not always successfully, became involved in taking on responsibility for people's health and welfare. The scale of the problem posed a question that is still asked today: where does responsibility for health and welfare lie – with the individual or with society?

Students will also complete an independently researched enquiry on historical interpretations of a choice of events or historical figures.