

# ST MARY'S COLLEGE



## INTRODUCTION

"A society unaware of its history is like a man who has lost his memory. He may survive, after a fashion, but his actions will be erratic, irresponsible, even meaningless to himself". Studying History at 'A' Level you will investigate major questions of appeasement and war, totalitarianism and democracy, economic depression and progress in education, health and housing. By studying how people in the past confronted their problems you will be better able to understand our problems in the present.

## AS LEVEL

### *Content*

The AS course lasts one year and is made up of two modules:

- **Module 1: The Development of Germany 1871-1925**
- **Module 2: Britain 1902-1918: The Impact of New Liberalism**

### *How is the course delivered?*

A variety of teaching methods are used:- lectures, groupwork, class discussions, individual tutorials. Emphasis is placed on students acquiring the skills of independent study.

### *Entry requirements*

5 GCSE passes at higher grades (C or above) including History and English Language. Students who have not studied History to GCSE, will not be excluded provided that the other requirements are met.



## ***What skills and interests do I need?***

Successful A-level History students have good written communication skills, enjoy reading, can concentrate for lengthy periods and have a willingness to learn a lot of information.

A-level History will appeal to students with a curiosity about the past and an interest in social, economic and political issues, who want to understand more about the world around us and how it came to be the way it is. If you have an interest in investigation, detective work, finding clues and selecting evidence and get satisfaction from working out complex explanations then History is the subject for you.

## ***How does it build upon studies in Key Stage 4?***

You may have studied these periods of History at GCSE, but at 'A' Level you have the opportunity to study History in greater depth. You will be expected to take more responsibility for your own learning and to develop further the skills of analysis and interpretation of evidence used at GCSE. At 'A' Level you will also look at the work of particular historians and above all in writing essays you will learn to present clear, well thought out arguments and to reach balanced judgements.

## ***How is the course assessed?***

The modules will be assessed through two written examination papers. The exam for Module 1 will be taken in January and that for Module 2 in June.

## **A2 LEVEL**

### ***Content***

The A2 course lasts for one year and is made up of two modules:

- **Module 3: The State and the People: Britain 1918-64**
- **Module 4: An Historical Enquiry (approx 3500 words), placed in the context of 100 years, on an issue arising from the history of Russia between 1801 and 1953**

## ***How is the course delivered?***

The teaching methods used will be similar to those employed within the AS. However, it will be expected that students have developed as independent learners and thus be able to take more responsibility for their own learning.

## ***Entry requirements***

A pass grade in AS History.

## ***How is the course assessed?***

The modules will be assessed through one written paper of 1½ hours (which will be taken in June) and an internally assessed and externally moderated Historical Enquiry.

## ***Progression routes***

The understanding of the past and the skills acquired through studying History are a sound basis for many careers, for example - Journalism, Law, Local Government, Civil Service, Library and Museum work. At degree level, besides studying History on its own you can combine it with many other subjects. As a subject in its own right it is possible to take a very broad degree in History or to specialise in the history of particular countries, periods or in areas such as Economic and Social History. There is a wide range of degree courses available.

## ***Further Information***

***For further information please contact Chris Leblique.***

***Full specifications can be found at [www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)***

**NOTES:**

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