

HUMANITIES: tpurnell@rushcliffespencer.org.uk

HISTORY (A LEVEL)

AIMS OF THE COURSE

History develops the skills of critical thinking which are key to many aspects of life. To be able to question and challenge ideas provides an excellent foundation for many subjects at university, as well as the skills needed in the workplace. History also enables the student to develop the expertise needed to write logical and coherent arguments. History is inescapable, in that when we study the past we are also studying the immediate legacy of this past in our present. Understanding the linkages between past and present is an absolutely essential basis for a good understanding of the condition of being human. That, in a nutshell, is why History matters. It is not just 'useful', it is vital. A level History offers the student the chance to study deeply interesting topics and events that we often still feel the repercussions of today.

COURSE OUTLINE AND CONTENT

Assessment	Overview	Marks	%
2:30	Tsarist and Communist Russia 1855 - 1964	80	40
2:30	The Wars of the Roses 1450 - 1499	80	40
	Non-Examination Assessment (NEA)	40	20

This course uses two key historical periods to facilitate both "breadth" and "depth" approaches to understanding history. Students will develop a broad understanding of the nearly 100-year period of Tsarist and Communist Russia, as well as a deep study of the War of the Roses, with coursework based around an enquiry chosen by students.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I LEARN?

Key skills are developed during the course those of critical thinking: to analyse and challenge ideas and interpretations,

as well as the ability to construct complex synoptic responses in a literate way. Both the exam and the personal study will challenge students, and develop a wide range of skills valued by employers and university alike.

POSSIBLE CAREER PATHS

Students use History as a route into obvious careers like journalism, law and anything history related. In addition, the academic rigour it demands of students shows they have the transferable skills needed to succeed in many careers, for example past students who have studied History at A level have pursued careers in Accountancy and Medicine.

ADDITIONAL EXAM BOARD DETAILS

<https://shorturl.at/Siwbp>

PREVIOUS GRADES

Exam Board: AQA

	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U	X	Totals
2023	5	8	15	11	5	0	0	0	44
2024	0	7	12	6	1	0	0	0	26
2025	1	10	20	13	4	1	0	0	49

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- 5 GCSE grades 4-9 including Mathematics and English Language
- Grade 5 in English Language
- Grade 6 in History