

# History

## A Level

Exam Board: **OCR**



**ST. MARY MAGDALENE**  
C OF E SIXTH FORM  
PENINSULA CAMPUS  
*Excellence through innovation,  
founded in faith since 1840.*

### What is History?

History is about time and the evidence that has survived. Historians need to work with this evidence and ask questions in order to develop substantive knowledge. In doing so they construct meaning through identifying change and continuity, causes and consequences, and the significance of past events. This process is on-going and dynamic and results in the continued evolution and emergence of interpretations of the past.

### What Will I Study?

#### **Unit 1: British Period Study and Enquiry:**

- The Early Stuarts and the Origins of the Civil War 1603–1660

#### **Unit 2: Non-British Period Study:**

- The Cold War in Europe 1941–1995

#### **Unit 3: Thematic study and historical interpretations:**

- Civil Rights in the USA 1865–1992

#### **Unit 4: Topic Based Essay: 3000-4000 words.**

- An essay on a topic of the student's choice which explains and analyses different perspectives of a historical issue.

### What entry requirements will I need?

In addition to the general entry requirements it is preferable to have a grade 5 or above in History.

### How will I be taught?

Students will learn through a variety of methods including discussion and group work. Students will be expected to carry out reading and note-taking in order to consolidate and extend lesson content outside of their timetabled lesson time.

### How will I be assessed?

**Unit 1:** 1 hour 30 minutes written paper (worth 25% of the A Level)

**Unit 2:** 1 hour written paper (worth 15% of the A Level)

**Unit 3:** 2 hour 30 minutes written paper (worth 40% of the A Level) **NEA**

**(Coursework):** Topic based essay (worth 20% of the A Level)

### What career opportunities does this open up?

History students have forged careers in academia, research, civil service, politics, journalism, consultancy, banking, business, PR, marketing, retail, accountancy and more. An A Level in History offers transferable skills which can lead to the most varied career paths.

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/history>