

HISTORY IN THE SIXTH FORM

WHY STUDY HISTORY

History Departments tend to justify the study of History by emphasizing the skills students will learn: the critical mind, the art of writing an elegant argument, the investigative tools gained in their examination of primary documents. Fortunately, these are all notable skills which provide students with a substantial toolkit for success no matter what subject they study at university and, consequently, universities are always impressed with students who choose to study History at A Level. However, for our department, the study of History means more to us than only learning skills. It is also about learning who we are and who we want to become - as citizens, as a nation, as part of a global society. Whilst we do not necessarily believe Edmund Burke's argument that 'those who don't know history are doomed to repeat it', we do believe that History develops wisdom and perspective, qualities more in demand in the 21st century than any 'skill' taught in a lesson.

We also believe the study of History is good fun.

A LEVEL

The OCR A Level course is examined through three examinations and a coursework assignment at the end of two years. Students are offered a broad study of History over 4 modules:

- Britain 1783-1853
- The Cold War in Asia 1945-1993
- Popular Culture and the Witchcraze 16th & 17th centuries
- A personal study by students of an historical issue of their choice



CO-CURRICULAR LEARNING

- Sixth Form History Reading Group
- Sixth Form visits to the National Archives
- Model United Nations
- Sixth Form Debating Society
- Student conferences and history lectures in London
- Membership to the Historical Association (Central London Branch) and Sevenoaks Historical Society.



CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

History is a broad subject and has a well-deserved reputation as a rigorous academic discipline, and as such it supports a range of careers. The skills students learn through the study of History are prized by most professions and easily transferable. It is also future-proofed. According to the World Economic Forum, the number of careers that need 'human' skills like analytical thinking, effective communication and leadership are growing. The study of History provides students with the knowledge and skills to pursue careers in the future, no matter what direction technology, global trade and politics might take them.

History is very well-regarded by both employers and universities due to the highly prized skills students will learn, such as argumentation, communication, research and how to think critically. Previous Walthamstow Hall students have progressed to Law, Publishing and Media, Economics and Finance, Business, Politics and International Relations, Marketing and Advertising, Conservation and Restoration, Museum Curation, Science and Research, Archaeology, Education and Library Services.

A LEVEL RESULTS 2010-2019

GRADE	A	B	C
History	80 %	13 %	7 %

Last year's A Level results can be found at www.walthamstow-hall.co.uk/sixth-form/academic/examination-results/