

# GCE Advanced Level History

Exam Board: AQA



# GCE Advanced Level History

## Description:

The aims and objectives of the AQA GCE Advanced History are to enable students to:

- Study the nature of causes and consequences, of change and continuity and of similarity and differences over a long period of time.
- Study the links between perspectives, such as political, economic, social or religious as well as appreciating developments relating to the perspectives separately over time.
- Study roles played by individuals, groups, ideas or ideology.

Students are encouraged to understand and think intelligently about aspects of History. It involves much more than just learning vast amounts of factual information. Of course, there is a lot to learn and students will immediately notice in how much greater detail a topic is covered than at GCSE. However, what most students find most rewarding in History is the attempt to understand, evaluate and analyse the past. Questions at AS/A level will never just ask students to simply recount what happened. They are designed to make you think critically about the material and to formulate your own judgement.

## Career paths:

Learners will have a number of skills relevant to many types of employment, such as the ability to seek information and to analyse it in order to identify facts and motives and to present information clearly for others to understand.

The skills you will obtain through studying history will be useful in a number of careers such as:

- Museum Curator
- Gallery Manager
- Heritage Director
- Record Offices and Archives Manager
- Teaching
- Journalism

## Entry Requirements:

5 or more GCSE grades 9-4 (GCSE or BTEC equivalent) including grade 5+ in Maths and English and a grade 7 or higher in History.

## Course details & Assessment:

### Theme one: Stuart Britain Absolutism Challenged Britain 1603-1649

- The Political Nation and basis of power
- James I and Charles I: character and views on monarchy, court and favourites
- Financial weaknesses of the crown and attempts to reform royal finance
- Religion and religious divisions: Catholics, Puritans and Arminianism
- Relations and disputes with parliaments
- The state of relations between Crown and Parliament by 1629
- Political divisions and challenges to Personal Rule in England, Scotland and Ireland
- First and Second Civil Wars
- Social divisions after the civil wars
- Regicide and the King's response

### Theme two (A-level only) Monarchy restored and restrained: Britain 1649-1702

- Consolidation of the Republic in Scotland and campaign in Ireland
- Political divisions and experiments
- Cromwell and his aims
- Charles II and the restored monarchy
- Political developments and conflicts
- Divisions in the Political Nation and emergence of Whigs and Tories and their impact
- Britain and its monarchy by 1702

### Theme three: The Russian Revolution and the Rise of Stalin 1917-1929

- Dissent and Revolution, 1917
- The Bolshevik consolidation 1918-1924
- Stalin's rise to power, 1924 – 1929

### Theme four (A-level only) Stalin's Rule 1929-1953

- Economy and society, 1929-1941
- Stalinism, politics and control 1929-1941
- The great Patriotic war 1941, 1953

