



History

Discovering the Past



THE LADY
ELIZABETH
SCHOOL

AS/A2 history

Examination Board:
Edexcel International

Level: A2

REQUIREMENTS TO STUDY INTERNATIONAL A LEVEL HISTORY:

This International A Level course builds upon the skills acquired at IGCSE History (or equivalent) in Key Stage 4. Therefore it is necessary to have studied History at this level and to have achieved a Grade B or above.

It is also essential to have achieved a good pass in GCSE English as A Level History examinations take into account the quality, clarity and expression of written work. Most importantly, an interest in history and the use of historical material is essential.

There are many career opportunities available through the study of history. Any career that rewards clear thinking, good writing, articulate speaking and the ability to ask and answer complex questions about how the world works will be open to a student of history.

The study of History at this level will also provide an excellent foundation for further academic study in disciplines such as Politics, International Relations, PPE and Law

EXAMINATION TIME

It is possible for students to take examinations at the end of Year 1 and Year 2 of the course.

CONTACT:

If you wish to receive further clarification of the course or some personal advice regarding studying A Level History in the 6th Form, please do not hesitate to contact me via email.

SUE MCCLAREN
HEAD OF HUMANITIES

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The Programme

Paper 1: Depth Study with Interpretations

Topic: Russia in Revolution, 1881–1917

This option comprises a study in depth of the causes and course of Revolution in Russia in 1905 and 1917, which had a momentous effect on 20th-century Russia and throughout the modern world. Students will gain an in-depth understanding of the changes in Russia in the years 1881 to 1917, the response of successive governments to opposition to their rule, and the reasons for the successful seizure of power by Lenin and the Bolsheviks.

ASSESSMENT

2 hours written examination

50% AS Level

25% of A Level

Students must answer two 25-mark essay questions from a choice of four.

Paper 2: Breadth Study with Source Evaluation

Topic: China, 1900–76

This option comprises a study in breadth of China in a period of momentous change in the 20th century. The focus of study is on developments and changes over a broad timescale and so the content is presented as themes spanning a significant period: 1900–76. This option also contains a study using two sources that relate to nominated areas of the specification

ASSESSMENT

2 hours written examination

50% of AS Level

25% A Level

Students answer two questions. One compulsory question in two parts, which assesses the ability to analyse and evaluate two sources, and a choice of three essays, which assess understanding of the period in depth.

Paper 3: Thematic Study with Source Evaluation

This option explores, through five key topics, the ways in which Germany evolved as a new state in Europe undergoing dramatic changes of fortune. Certain key themes run through the key topics, namely: 1 Relations with and influence of Germany's neighbors 2 Economic pressures and influences 3 Authority and leadership 4 Protest, dissent and workers' organisations 5 Ideologies and political parties.

ASSESSMENT

2 hours written examination.

25% of the A Level

Students answer two questions, one compulsory essay, which assesses source analysis and evaluation skills and a choice of two essays, which assess the ability to evaluate the significance of historical explanations of the period in breadth.

Paper 4: International Study with Historical Interpretations

Topic: The World Divided: Superpower Relations, 1943–90

This option contains a study in depth of historical interpretations on a broad question, namely the reasons for the outbreak and development of the Cold War in the years 1943–53. This is contextualised by, and overlaps with, a study of superpower relations (USA, USSR and China) in the years 1953–90. The two main themes are confrontation and the threat of war on the one hand, and Détente and the resolution of conflict on the other.

ASSESSMENT

2 hours written examination

25% of A Level

Students answer two questions. One compulsory question, which assesses the ability to evaluate contrasting interpretations of the period studied, and a choice of two essays, which assess understanding of the period in depth.