

History



Our students say...

"I love History. History is the real big picture as it shows the human systems of the past. You don't just learn History, you learn about economics, politics and psychology as well. It is really interesting and brings home how important History is today. The topics are really interesting which helps me to enjoy it as much as I do". Year 13 student

'The step up from GCSE to AS level is large, however at the Poly the teachers help you bridge this gap through regular revision sessions as well as encouraging students to develop the skills necessary to succeed at a higher level.' Year 12 students

Entry Requirements

Grades B in English and B in History GCSE.

Course Content — A Level

Component 1; Stuart Britain And the Crisis of Monarchy 1603-1702

Looking at the early Stuart Monarchs, students will examine how relations between crown and Parliament collapsed resulting in the English Civil War and execution of Charles I. This is followed by a study of the Interregnum, the period where England was ruled without a monarch through to the Restoration of the monarchy and the Glorious Revolution of 1689

Component 2; The American Dream 1945-80

For many Americans, post-war prosperity realised the 'American dream' but the prosperity was not shared by all and significant problems at home and abroad challenged the extent to which the 'American dream' was a reality. It explores concepts and ideas such as American identity at home and abroad, anti-communism, social equality, ethnic identities and federal versus states' rights. It also encourages students to reflect on the nature of democracy in a pluralist society, political protest and the power of the media.

Component 3: Historical Enquiry (Coursework) Northern Ireland 1893-2000

Examine the causes of conflict in Northern Ireland, through a student led, teacher supported study of Northern Ireland, using a wide range of sources to put together an extended essay which is internally assessed and externally moderated

Method of assessment

- AS Level: 100% Examination (Unit 1 and 2).
- A Level: 60% Examination (Unit 3) and 40% Coursework (Unit 4).

Key Skills

History at A-Level seeks to use the study of the past to empower its students to take control of their lives in the present.

Through studying the past students develop problem-solving and analysis skills. By instilling the belief that things do not 'just happen' but that events and situations can be understood and explained students are better equipped to deal with any challenges that life may present them with and avoid repeating past mistakes!