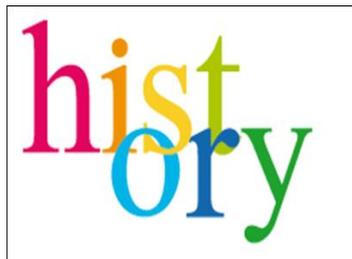


History

What is history?



History is not a subject that is stuck in the past. Far from it. Historical events are what have shaped society worldwide into what it is today. Take the Magna Carta as a case in point. Signed in 1215, it was a charter which covered topics like citizen's rights and taxes. But it did not exist in isolation. The Magna Carta wouldn't have happened without the Norman Conquest. There is also a direct link between the Magna Carta and the United States constitution. The A level History course at Malbank will help you to understand the value and significance of world events in the past. If you choose to study history at Malbank then you

will be taught by teachers who have a long and proven track record in teaching the subject at Advanced level. The subject also has a record of fantastic results and achievements, generally attaining 85% A- C at A2. Furthermore, students of History regularly gain a place at Oxford or Cambridge to study. They have come highly commended in Oxbridge essay writing competitions. A past student also achieved one of the top 5 highest grades in the country in his A2 exam. The department not only has excellent resources but also has its own library dedicated to sixth form study and a place where you will be able to widen your understanding of the past beyond the confines of the curriculum.

Why study history?

"If you would understand anything, observe its beginning and development". Aristotle.

History in itself is interesting. People love to find out about the past and ask questions about the world around them. History also develops skills in young people. History enables you to think for yourselves, to question why we and other people live as we do, to put forward a point of view, to understand a wide range of opinions and interpretations, to formulate ideas and opinions and to use a wide range of literacy and personal skills.



History leads to a wide range of career paths: Barrister, Lawyer, Solicitor, Corporate Management, Teacher, Research Staff, Lecturer, Politician, Media/Journalist, Accountancy, Archivist, Museum Curator, Public Sector Management,

...and many more that require skills in dealing with information, working with people and expressing your ideas in a logical and ordered

The department follows the AQA GCE History syllabus. The syllabus has changed this year

The course is now composed of two key papers and a Personal Study. The themes will cover British and Russian History

Paper 1: The breadth study. The Tudor monarchs



The aim of this paper is to enable you to understand change over time. In this Unit you will study the Tudors. You will look explicitly at each monarch. In the first year, you investigate the Henrys. In the second year, you will look at the Mid Tudor crisis and the Triumph of Elizabeth. The content covers politics, economics, society and rebellion. The exam paper will require you to examine historiography as well as develop your essay writing skills.

Paper 2: The depth study. Russia 1917-1953 This option provides for the study in depth and practice of communism in Russia. It explores concepts such as Marxism, communism, Stalinism, ideological control and dictatorship. It also enables you to consider issues of political authority, the power of individuals and the inter-relationship of governmental and economic and social change. In year 12 the focus will be on Russia, the Revolution and the rise of Stalin. In the second year you will investigate the consolidation of the Stalinist



of the coming Leninism, and

state and investigate events such as the purges, collectivisation and the transformation of the USSR. The exam paper will require you to examine primary sources as well as develop your essay writing skills.

The Personal study- An historical enquiry

The purpose of the Historical investigation is to enable you to develop the skills, knowledge and historical understanding acquired through the study of the examined components of the specification. Through undertaking the Historical investigation you will develop an enhanced understanding of the nature and purpose of history as a discipline and how historians work. You will study a particular aspect of history over a period of 100 years. This will be on The Irish Question 1800-1922

What skills will I develop?

You will be encouraged to develop your thinking skills: such as problem solving, empathy, source analysis, understanding causation, consequences and differing interpretations of the past. You will also develop an understanding of chronology and of course, history is crucial in supporting good literacy skills. Hopefully, you will also develop a respect for and an enjoyment for the past

How will I be assessed

You may opt to sit two module exams in the Summer of Year 12. These two exams are worth 100% of your AS grade. Alternatively, you may simply opt to sit the A level paper in year 13. For this you will sit two papers each lasting 2 and a half hours. You will also submit a personal study of 3,000 words. The personal study is worth 20% of your final grade and the exams 40% each.

What Extra Opportunities are available?

Every year two students are given the opportunity to take part in a Holocaust Education course which involves 3 days of study including a trip to Poland. The course is worthy of University accreditation.

Which other subjects link well with this subject?

Students who take History often also take Geography, Languages or Sociology. History also supports other specialist subjects like English Language / Literature, Government and Politics and Philosophy.

What are the entry requirements?

You do not need to have studied History at GCSE but a keen interest in the subject is essential. A good pass grade at GCSE is preferable.

