

Subject: **History**
Qualification: **GCSE**
Exam Board: **Edexcel**

What will I study?

Your GCSE course will involve studying a variety of historical periods and give you a thorough understanding of History over a long period of time:

Paper 1 – Thematic Study and historic environment.

The thematic study requires students to understand change and continuity across a long sweep of history, including the most significant characteristics of different ages from the medieval to modern periods. We look at Crime and punishment in Britain, c1000-present. This focuses on different crimes such as treason, heresy and witchcraft, types of punishment such as the death penalty and changes in law enforcement.

The Historic environment section focuses on a historic environment which is linked to the thematic study and focuses on that site in its historical context. We will be studying Whitechapel in the 19th century, looking at the problems in this area and how this impacts on policing as well as the development of the Metropolitan Police force and crimes such as the Whitechapel murders.

Paper 2: Period study and British depth study

The depth studies focus on a substantial and coherent short time span and require students to understand the complexity of a society or historical situation and the interplay of different aspects within it. This paper focuses on AO1 (Knowledge and Understanding) and AO2 (Second Order Concepts). Students will study the following two depth studies:

Students will study a British depth study on Anglo-Saxon and Norman England c1060-88 and a Period study on Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941–91 and answer 3 questions on both topics.

Paper 3 – Modern depth study

This focuses on Weimar and Nazi Germany 1918-39. Within this we will look at the aftermath of WW1 in Germany, the rise of Hitler and the Nazi's and life in Hitler's Germany including education and the persecution of Jews. This paper focuses on AO3 (Source skills) and AO4 (Interpretation skills) and requires students to look at a range of material to make decisions about the past.

How is this course assessed? 100% exam

Paper 1 - external exam (30%),

Paper 2 - external exam (40%), **Paper 3** - external exam (30%)

What can this qualification lead to?

Students often go on to complete A level History as well as subjects such as English and Sociology. This subject is an ideal choice at GCSE as it develops a wide range of key skills that are cross-subject such as analysis of factors, reaching reasoned judgments, comprehension and evaluation.

Further information

For additional information about the course at

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/history-2016.html>

Please contact

Miss E Kerr-Laslett, Head of History, EKerr-Laslett@stpetershuntingdon.org