



A Level History Transition Pack

History A Level @ St Peters

History isn't a subject that is stuck in the past, far from it. Historical events are what have shaped society into what it is today. Do you have a passion for knowledge, and an eagerness to explore different cultures and historical perspectives to see how these have shaped the world today? Then History is the A Level choice for you!

History is a traditionally academic subject which is desired by many employers and higher education institutions. A Level study will allow you to develop the analysis and interpretation skills which you began to explore at GCSE level, and expand your understanding of the history of some of the greatest powers in History.

How will you be assessed?

A Level

Paper one: Breadth study with interpretations

Britain transformed 1918-97 - topics include post-war economic challenges, creation of social welfare and development of the NHS, development of education, changing living standards and impact of popular culture, entertainment and leisure.

Assessment: 2 hour 15 minute written exam (30% of A-level)

Questions: Three essay questions with two assessing understanding of the period in breadth, and one which assesses the ability to analyse and evaluate historical interpretations.

Paper two: Depth Study

The USA, c1920-55: Boom, bust and recovery - topics include the economic boom of the 1920s, changes in society including the KKK, prohibition and organised crime, the Great Depression, Roosevelt and the New Deal, impact of WW2 and post-war change including growth of popular entertainment.

Assessment: 1 hour and 30 minutes written exam (20% of A-level)

Questions: You will answer two questions, one assessing source analysis and evaluation

skills and one which assesses the period in depth.

Paper 3: Themes in breadth with aspects in depth

The Witch Craze in Britain, Europe and North America c1580-c1750

Assessment: 2 hour and 15 minute written exam (30% of A Level)

Questions: You will answer three questions with one focusing on source analysis and evaluation, and two which are essay based questions looking at the topic in depth and breadth.

Coursework

You will complete one question which will assess your ability to carry out a historical enquiry, analysing and evaluating historical interpretations and organising and communicating ideas. This will be focused on interpretations of the Blitz.

How will I be assessed throughout the year?

You will be assessed throughout the year through a combination of in class and homework activities. You will receive regular exam style assignments/essays to complete, which will focus on developing the skills which you need to succeed in the exams. Some of these tasks will be completed as homework and some will be completed during timed conditions in class. You will complete an essay at least every two weeks. You will also complete a mock exam during the year.

Contact details:

Please contact Miss Kerr-Laslett for any additional information of help ekerr-laslett@stptershuntingdon.org

Task 1 - Paper 1 preparation

http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/pathways/firstworldwar/aftermath/brit_after_war.htm

<https://historicengland.org.uk/research/inclusive-heritage/disability-history/1914-1945/war/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/ztx66sg/revision/1>

1. Read through the articles about the impact of the Great War using the links above - you must read all three. Identify the main effects of the war on Britain, put these into a spider diagram or mind map.
2. Answer the question - How significant was the impact of the Great War on British politics and society? (approx. 1 side of A4) Use your spider diagram to help you.
3. Produce a timeline that contains some of the major events/reforms that affected Britain between 1918-1997. You may need to do some research to complete this. Make it bright and colourful; include wars, welfare state changes, social changes such as women getting the vote, and changes in popular culture such as musical genres and television.
4. Create a list of Prime Ministers from 1918 to 1997. You will need to include their dates in office and political party. This needs to be on A4 paper as you will need this throughout the course.

Task 2 - Paper 2 preparation

1. Glossary: Find out and write definitions for the following words:
 - Anti-saloon League
 - Attorney General
 - Big Bull Market
 - Bolshevik
 - Bootlegger
 - Closed shop
 - Cold War hawks

- Consumer Credit
- Corporations
- Democratic Party
- Draft(war)
- FBI
- Foreclosures
- Gold standard
- Ku Klux Klan
- Mass production
- Pentagon
- Prohibition
- Protectionism
- Separation of powers
- Sharecroppers
- Tariffs
- Temperance
- Veto

2. Make some notes or write a review of one book/film that you have looked at. The books/films can be from the reading list below or any other resource that you can find.

3. Make a timeline/list of US Presidents from 1918 to 1955; this must include their dates in office and political party. You will need this throughout the course so complete on A4 paper.

Suggested reading/viewing list for Paper 2

Books

Between Two Worlds by Upton Sinclair

Jazz by Tim Morrison

Mean Spirit by Linda Hodgson

The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald

The Beautiful and the Damned by F. Scott Fitzgerald

The Day of the Beast by Zane Grey

Grapes of Wrath by J. Steinbeck

Of Mice and Men by J. Steinbeck

Requiem by A.E. Fisher

Out of the Dust by Karen Hesse

A Dozen Tough Jobs by Howard Waldrop

Films

- *Great Gatsby* (2013)
- *Chicago* (2002)
- *Roaring Twenties* (1935)
- *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (1967)
- *The Untouchables* (1987)
- *Some Like it Hot* (1959)
- *Bugsy* (1991)
- *To Kill a Mockingbird*