

Spalding Grammar School Sixth Form

Subject Information

History

Entry Requirement:

Grade 6 in GCSE History if studied or Grade 6 in GCSE English Language or English Literature.

Awarding body: Edexcel

About the subject: The study of History in the Sixth Form attracts those who have an enquiring mind, a passion in the past and its relevance to the present, and an ability to communicate ideas effectively and with enthusiasm. The A Level courses offer students the opportunity to study history in breadth as well as in depth, developing knowledge and understanding of significant events, individuals and issues, as well as a range of historical perspectives and continuity and change over a period of time.

The History Department offers two separate courses:

- Route B - a course in Early Modern History, where the units are linked by the theme, "Religion and the State".
- Route F - a Modern History option where the units are linked by the theme of "Rights and Freedoms".

Each course is composed of four units.

The Department welcomes students who choose History simply for the love of the subject, but those who study History at A Level develop the necessary skills in analysis, synthesis, presentation and communication which will allow access to a wide range of higher education opportunities and will provide a firm foundation for many popular and rewarding careers including journalism, law, the civil service, local government, the heritage and leisure industry, new media, education and the world of business.

Assessment:

Early Modern History:

- Unit 1 of the course (30% of the qualification) involves a study of England 1509-1603 based on the themes of authority, nation and religion under the Tudor Monarchs.
- Unit 2 (20% of the qualification) is a depth study of Luther and the German Reformation, c.1515-1555.
- Unit 3 (30% of the qualification) combines elements of both breadth and depth studies, with the chosen option being: The Witch Craze in Britain, Europe and North America c. 1580-c.1750.
- Unit 4 (the remaining 20% of the qualification) is made up of a single coursework assignment which will assess the ability to analyse and evaluate historical interpretations.

Modern History:

- Unit 1 of the course (30% of the qualification) involves a study of the USA 1917-1996 based on the theme of searching for rights and freedoms.
- Unit 2 (20% of the qualification) is a depth study of India and the road to independence, 1914-1948.
- Unit 3 (30% of the qualification) combines elements of both breadth and depth studies, with the chosen option being Britain, losing and gaining an Empire, 1763-1914.
- Unit 4 (the remaining 20% of the qualification) is made up of a single coursework assignment which will assess the ability to analyse and evaluate historical interpretations.

In both cases, assessment will be by means of external written examinations in each of the first three units, plus the coursework unit which will be internally assessed and externally moderated.