

Oxford Cambridge and RSA Examinations

Introduction to GCSE History (Modern World) (Short Course)

Why study History?

History is about people – real people whose lives were sometimes exciting, like being a 'flapper' in the 1920s, and sometimes frightening, like sharing a muddy war-torn trench with rats, and feeling sick with fear waiting for the enemy to attack. Whatever their lives were about, there is a fascinating, and sometimes tragic, story behind them.

As well as being exciting, this course will help you develop skills which will be useful in a wide range of jobs or in the further study of History.

You will study:

- * International Relations, 1919-1989 (the core);
- * One Coursework Unit chosen from a range units which include the following:

Germany - the Rise of Hitler and Nazi Germany;

Russia - the Bolsheviks, Lenin and Stalin;

The USA - Boom, Bust and Recovery;

China under Mao, 1945-c.1976.

You will learn the following skills:

- * How to interpret and evaluate pieces of information (sources);
- * The ability to communicate and apply your knowledge;
- The ability to describe and analyse the key features of the period studied;
- * Critical thinking and problem solving.

You will have the opportunity to study photographs, films, videos, CD Roms, newspapers and original written sources.

Assessment:

The exam paper covers the full range of grades from G–A*. There are two aspects to your assessment.

Coursework

You will complete one assignment of about 1250 words based on a Coursework Unit.

It will focus on an individual, development, place or event.

Paper 1 (1 hour 45 minutes)

The paper is divided into two sections:

Section A: you will answer one question from a choice of two, each will be in five or six parts and will involve sources.

Section B: you will answer one question from a choice of four; each question will be in three parts.

GCSE

