

History – Higher Level

This course aims to promote the understanding of world history and in doing so encourages students to explore different cultures. The breadth of the course promotes international awareness and understanding, challenging students to look to the past explanations for current affairs. It is hoped that the courses will encourage students to develop a lasting interest in history.

Subject Areas

1. **Causes, practices and effects of war** – different types of warfare, origins and causes of war, nature of wars, effects and results. First and Second World Wars, Vietnam War, Civil War and Guerilla War are studied in depth.
2. **The Cold War** – Origins of east west rivalry, nature of the Cold War, Cold War development and the end of the Cold War
3. **The emergence and development of PRC, 1946 to 1964** – addresses internal issues and the role of Mao Zedong in the development of the PRC

Options

4. **China from the mid-18th century to 1870** - changes of Chinese society, the arrow incident and reigns of the emperors
5. **China 1860 to 1912** - “Hundred Days Reforms” of 1898, treaty port Chinese and the emergence of new classes and 1911 Revolution.
6. **Japan 1912 to 1945** - development of the political parties, conflict within the army and the domestic effects of war.
7. **China 1911 to 1949** - impact of WW2, the civil war and decline of Guomintang
8. **China 1949 to 1995** - China after Mao Zedong and Foreign affairs
9. **Japan 1945 to 1995** - US military occupation and economic superpower
10. **South East Asia 1945 to 1995** – communist insurgencies, neocolonialism and revolution and decolonization

Assessment

Internal Investigation Students undertake a historical investigation 20%

Students are required to select an area of interest for investigation. This may be an event, individual or place and can be based on local history. Students devise their own hypothesis and use the methods of an historian to draw conclusions from historical sources and information used.

External Paper 1	1 hr – a document based paper drawn from the 20 th Century world history topics. Contains three sections with four questions in each. Students select one section and answer the four questions.	20%
Paper 2	1 ½ hrs – essay based paper containing 30 questions, five on each of the six topics. Two questions to be answered coming from different topics.	25%
Paper 3	2 ½ hrs – five separate essay papers, each based on one regional option. Each exam paper will contain 25 questions. Three question to be answered in each exam paper	35%