

Understanding the past, *inspiring the future*

with our complete suite of
History specifications

The qualifications consist of a comprehensive and coherent package, created to inspire students and equip them with a range of skills that will enable them to make sense of the modern world and set them on course for their further education and future career.

We offer a comprehensive range of support materials and services to help you teach our History specifications, making the challenge of putting the past into perspective rewarding for you.



Entry Level Certificate

Enjoy the excitement of a range of fascinating topics, from ancient Greek medicine to youth culture in the 1960s to the Iraq War. Alternatively, focus purely on topics that match students' interests.

- **Discover** the key elements of history through an accommodating range of options.
- **Pursue** subjects that correspond to existing interests.
- Work towards **any** GCSE History specification.

GCSE Ancient History

Study some of the remarkable people from ancient history whose lives have had a dramatic impact on the world we live in today.

- Look at **defining** characters from history such as Alexander the Great, Cleopatra and Hannibal.
- Understand the conflicting nature of **evidence** for the ancient world.
- **Engage** in the process of enquiry, developing critical and reflective thinking skills.



GCSE History A – Schools History Project

Take a new approach to a wide range of updated historical topics, including British and international events that will capture the imagination and inspire further study.

- **View** history from a number of different perspectives.
- **Investigate** a local historical site, putting real history into context.
- **Gain** knowledge to pursue History at A Level or as a career.

GCSE History B – Modern World History

Look at the turbulent history of the 20th century, exploring international relations, global conflict, political shifts in key countries and changes in British society.

- Study world-changing developments in **depth**, from Mao's China to the rise of the USA.
- **Examine** the changing role of women, changing patterns of ethnicity and how young people's lives have changed in the UK.
- **Understand** the background to the world we live in today.



GCSE Short Courses

Shortened specifications offer a slimmed-down version of a full GCSE course. The following are available as GCSE short courses:

- Ancient History
- History B

The benefits of taking a short course:

- There is greater **flexibility** in the subjects covered and the time taken to complete the course.
- Students who are interested in history, but don't have time to study a full course, have **more** learning options.
- More able students can **complement** their studies by taking the course as an additional subject.



IGCSE History

IGCSEs and GCSEs are equivalent qualifications, but, Cambridge IGCSEs are linear and are designed to be taught holistically to allow more time for students to develop their ideas. Exams are at the end of the two-year course, providing more time for teaching and learning. Cambridge IGCSE provides students with excellent preparation for their next steps, including progression to further education such as A/AS Level study and employment.

- **Choose** from a wider variety of topics in order to develop an interest in, and enthusiasm for, learning and understanding from history.
- **Develop** skills in analysis, interpretation and evaluation throughout the course.
- **Take** a different approach to assessment to help you make the best choice for your students.

A Level Ancient History

Explore fascinating and highly relevant issues, from citizenship to the birth of democracy, by investigating classical sources in their ancient world context.

- **Gain** knowledge and understanding of selected aspects of classical civilisation.
- **Understand** the continuing influence of the classical world on current times.
- **Develop** sophisticated analytical and evaluative skills.

A Level History A

Examine a wide range of topics in British, European and world history, from the medieval period through to the late 20th century.

- **Stretch** and challenge existing understanding of key historical subjects.
- **Develop** expertise in general as well as historical skills.
- **Demonstrate** knowledge and understanding of the periods studied.

A Level History B

Develop an understanding of the nature of history as a discipline, through the study of four crucial aspects of the subject: historical explanation, the role of sources in historical enquiry, the role of interpretations in history, and historical significance.

- **Look** at the 'why' and 'how' of history, as well as the more traditional 'what'.
- **Develop** a coherent knowledge of the past and the way it is presented.
- **Develop** an understanding of history as a discipline, with a conceptual approach that focuses on different aspects of the subject, and that will be especially familiar to teachers of GCSE History A – Schools History Project.



Support materials and services

Our comprehensive range of support materials includes:

- Sample assessment materials
- Sample schemes of work and lesson plans
- Frequently asked questions
- Teacher's handbook
- Resource list
- Past papers
- Free GCSE Ancient History textbook covering all of the examined options can be downloaded from the OCR website
- A parent and learner guide, downloadable from www.ocr.org.uk/download/sm/ocr_41294_sm_gcse_pl_guide.pdf
- Talking History – a history update, providing useful and relevant information to our History centres and helping to support the OCR History community (www.ocr.org.uk/talkinghistory)
- Free Talk History DVD – produced in partnership with The History Squad, our Talk History DVD is a free resource for you to use in class. It's designed to bring to life key moments in history through dramatic performances. Register for your copy of the DVD at: www.ocr.org.uk/talkhistory
- OCR endorsed publisher resources from Heinemann, including print and digital resources supporting both teachers and students – all available to purchase at www.pearsonschoolsandfecolleges.co.uk/history



Our comprehensive range of support services includes:

- INSET training - view our latest training courses at www.ocreventbooker.org.uk
- The Coursework Consultancy Service – a new email-based service available for A Level History A and B, managed by our experienced consultants who can provide guidance on A Level History coursework
- The Controlled Assessment Consultancy Service – a new email-based service for GCSE History A and B, managed by our consultants who are experienced Senior Assessors able to provide guidance on the elements of controlled assessment
- An e-community (<http://community.ocr.org.uk>) where you can share knowledge, views and ideas.



Training resources

Essential CPD events for those teaching our A Level History. 'Lead the way' courses have been created especially with experienced practitioners in mind, designed to encourage creativity and innovation.

For further information visit www.ocreventbooker.org.uk

Find out more

To learn more about what our History suite of qualifications can offer you and your students, please get in touch:

Call our Customer Contact Centre on **01223 553998** or email general.qualifications@ocr.org.uk

For further information and to download your History specifications, please visit www.ocr.org.uk/history

OCR Customer Contact Centre

General qualifications
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