



Curriculum Overview

Curriculum Area: History Year: 10

Curriculum covered

Autumn Term 1: Paper 2 – Early Elizabethan England 1558-1588

In this unit, all pupils will then begin their Paper 2 study in which they will learn about Early Elizabethan England 1558-1588. Pupils will build upon the core knowledge in Key Stage 3 on the challenges that Elizabeth I faced both internally and externally at the start of and throughout her reign. Pupils will learn about the importance of individuals such as Sir Francis Walsingham and how he was able to prevent plots such as the Throckmorton and Babington plots from becoming a serious threat to the queen. Pupils will also learn about what life was like in Elizabethan England such as what people did for fun such as the emergence of the theatre and what attitudes were towards the poor.

Autumn Term 2: Paper 2 – Early Elizabethan England 1558-1588

In this unit, all pupils will learn about how Elizabeth dealt with the threats and plots that she faced during her reign such as religion, the Spanish and Mary, Queen of Scots. Pupils will explore aspects of Elizabethan society such as entertainment, education, employment and poverty. This unit on Early Elizabethan England should last approximately 12 weeks. The Early Elizabethan England paper is accounts for 20% of the grade awarded.

Spring Term 1: Paper 2 – The American West c1835-c1895

In this unit, all pupils will then begin their study of American West 1835-1895. Pupils will explore the features of Native American culture such as their nomadic lifestyle and dependence on the Buffalo. All pupils will then explore how the migration of settlers onto the American plains led to conflict such as the Battle of Little Bighorn.

Spring Term 2: The American West c1835-c1895

In this unit, all pupils will learn about how the west was settled in the United States. All pupils will explore how the discovery of gold led to thousands of prospectors moving west which led to the issue of lawlessness and individuals such as 'Billy the Kid.' All pupils will learn about how people attempted to settle on the plains and the problems they faced which ranged from a fear of Native American attacks to the swarms of Locusts which often destroyed crops. All pupils will learn about how the railroad changed the face of America and led to the economic upturn which would eventually promote the United States as a global power. This unit should take approximately 6 weeks to complete. The American West unit accounts for 20% of the final grade awarded.

Summer Term 1: Paper 3 – Weimar and Nazi Germany 1918-1939

In this unit, all pupils will learn about the events in Germany between 1918 and the consolidation of power of Hitler as a dictator of Germany. All pupils will learn about how the terms of the Treaty of Versailles led to major upheaval and a series of revolts against the newly established Weimar Republic. They will explore how the Nazi Party was created and was a fringe party during the 1920's. All pupils will learn about the recovery of the German economy and the subsequent global economic crash of 1929. All pupils will explore how this depression led to the rise of the Nazis as a political party and Hitler as a Chancellor in 1933 and then a dictator by 1934.

Internal Assessment

All pupils will be regularly assessed throughout each area of study. All pupils will complete practice assessment questions either during class or as part of homework.

All pupils will complete a mock exam on paper 2: Early Elizabeth England and the American West.

Pupils will also complete mini assessments that test knowledge and understanding of these topics to build confidence for the exams. As part of this, pupils will develop flashcards throughout the course as part of homework to develop their recall of the core knowledge taught.

Exam Board/Exam Paper Requirements/% Weighting

Key dates (mocks and final exams)

The History Department follows the Edexcel GCSE 9-1 History course

Paper 1: 1 hour, 15 minutes

Thematic study: Crime and Punishment between 1000 and the present day = 20%

Historic environment: Study of Whitechapel between 1870 and 1900 = 10%

Paper 2: 1 hour, 45 minutes

British depth study: Early Elizabethan England 1558-1588= 20%

Period study: American West: early settlement of the west, development of the plains and conflict and conquest 1835-1895= 20%

Paper 3: 1 hour 20 minutes

Depth study: Weimar and Nazi Germany: Study of Germany from 1918 to 1939 = 30%

Helpful resources/revision guides/websites/exam preparation

Pupils will be provided with bespoke work booklets. These will contain the knowledge that will be taught in lessons and therefore, there is no need to purchase textbooks in addition to the work that pupils will complete in class.

However, there are a range of websites that pupils can use to extend and enrich their learning of the curriculum. BBC bitesize and History Teacher on you tube offer some excellent additional support that will extend and enrich the learning of pupils. The specific details of these will be provided to pupils during their programmes of study.