

History Curriculum Overview

Why is *History* important?

Studying history helps us to better understand the world that we live in. Examining and studying past events and building our knowledge of the past helps us to understand current trends and events that are happening today. History enables us to understand how and why change occurs and provides us with an insight in the direction we may go in the future and how to avoid potential pit falls. Studying history also enables us to understand other people better by appreciating their past and being to learn that other people have different opinions of the same ideas or events. Through the study of history you will learn to be analytical, evaluative and critical in your thinking, all skills that are highly sought after by employers.

Summary of the Department

Mr. Batchelor- Curriculum Leader History

Mr. Wilson-Humanities Teacher

Mrs. Campbell- History Teacher

Mr. Sewell- Director of Learning KS4

Key Stage 3

Year 7

- **Topic 1-** *Students will briefly gain an overview of historical language and concepts such as chronology and anachronism. Students will then examine the Romans, looking at the significance of the Romans, the impact of the Romans on Britain and examine key events such as the murder of Julius Caesar.*
- **Topic 2-** *Students will examine the Anglo Saxons in Britain. They will examine who were the Anglo Saxons, what life was like in Anglo Saxon Britain, and examine key individuals like Alfred the Great.*
- **Topic 3-** *Students will examine the Norman conquest. Students will examine the reasons for the Norman conquest, the key events of the Norman conquest, and look at the Bayeux tapestry.*
- **Topic 4-** *Students will look at the way in which the Normans controlled England once taking control. Students will look at the actions of William the Conqueror in controlling*

England including the Domesday Book, the Harrying of the North, and the use of feudal system.

- **Topic 5-** *Students will take on an historical environment study into the development and eventual obsoleting of the castle as a medieval position of power. Students will look at the function, development over time and design of castles.*
- **Topic 6-** *Students will begin to examine life in Medieval England. Students will examine key ideas that affected Medieval life such as the feudal system, the role of religion in society, and poverty in Medieval England. Students will also examine key events and individuals such as King John, the Magna Carta, and the Peasants Revolt.*

Year 8

- **Topic 1-** *The Tudors: Students will briefly examine the Tudor dynasty looking into the impact the family had on Britain both socially, politically and religiously. Particular focus will be placed on why Henry VIII broke from Rome, whether Mary I deserved the title 'Bloody Mary', and what the reasons were for the failure of the Spanish Armada.*
- **Topic 2-** *The English Civil War & Interregnum: Students will examine the English Civil War and the period of the Commonwealth of the English Republic. Particular focus will be on the causes of the English Civil War, whether Oliver Cromwell deserves the title 'Hero' or 'Villain'.*
- **Topic 3-** *Restoration England: Students will examine the restoration of the English monarchy and life in England following the restoration. Students will particularly look at events such as the Great Fire of London, the Great Plague, and examine Charles II's title the 'Merry Monarch'.*
- **Topic 4-** *Britain's First Empire: Students will examine the end of the Stuart monarchy and the begin to examine Britain's role around the world. Particular focus will be on the Glorious Revolution, life in the American colonies and the reasons why a Germany became King of England.*
- **Topic 5-** *The Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade: Students will examine in depth the Trans-Atlantic slave trade. In this study students will look at the life for slaves during transportation and then on a plantation, as well as the Abolition movement, and a study of the impact of the Slave trade on Britain, with a focus on the impact on Whitehaven.*

Year 9

- **Topic 1-** *The Industrial Revolution: Students will examine the period of huge economic, political and social change known as the Industrial Revolution. Through these studies students will examine the impact of the railways, how inventions of the Victorian age changed Britain, and the significance of individuals such as Robert Owen and the New Lanark mill.*

- **Topic 2-** Britain at the start of the 20th century: Students will examine the vast social changes that happened in the period leading up to the First World War. There will be a particular focus on the women's Suffrage movement, what students can learn about Edwardian society from the tragedy of the Titanic, and the impact of poverty and laissez faire attitudes on the working class of Britain at the time.
- **Topic 3-** WW1: Students will complete a depth study of the First World War. In this depth study students will look at the LT, ST and trigger causes of the war, life in the trenches, how the government recruited soldiers, the life of women during the war, medical developments due to war, and examine whether 'Lions' were really led by 'Donkeys'.
- **Topic 4-** WW2 & the Holocaust: Students will complete a study of the Holocaust and WW2. Students will look at the road to the Holocaust and the event itself. Students will also examine key events during WW2.
- **Topic 5-** Terrorism & Northern Ireland: Students will examine terrorism as a concept and then examine terrorism in Northern Ireland. Particular focus will be on the causes of the Trouble, the key events of the Troubles, and the Good Friday Agreement.

Students will be assessed through key pieces of work including essays, exam style questions and knowledge quizzes. Students will be set according to ability and will be in sets that mirror some other subjects setting.

Key Stage 4

At Workington Academy we teach the AQA GCSE History course. There are 4 modules that you will complete over the two year course.

Paper 1: Understanding the modern world

Germany, 1890-1945

Conflict and Tension, 1918-1939

How it's assessed

- Written exam: 2 hours
- 84 marks (including 4 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar)
- 50% of GCSE

Paper 2: Shaping the nation

Britain: Health and the people: c1000 to the present day

Elizabethan England, c1568–1603

How it's assessed

- *Written exam: 2 hours*
- *84 marks (including 4 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar)*
- *50% of GCSE*

When setting is an option available, students will be set according to ability and need.

Key Stage 5

At Workington Academy we deliver an AQA A level course with two topics, The Tudors: England, 1485-1547, and France in Revolution, 1774-1815. There is also an extended essay that you will choose, research and write as part of the course.

Component 1: Breadth study- The Tudors: England, 1485–1547

What's assessed

The study of significant historical developments over a period of around 100 years and associated interpretations.

Assessed

- *written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes*
- *three questions (one compulsory)*
- *80 marks*
- *40% of A-level*

Component 2: Depth study- France in Revolution, 1774-1815

What's assessed

Component 2: Depth study- France in Revolution, 1774-1815

The study in depth of a period of major historical change or development and associated primary evidence.

Assessed

- *written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes*
- *three questions (one compulsory)*
- *80 marks*
- *40% of A-level*

Component 3: Historical investigation

What's assessed

A personal study based on a topic of student's choice. This should take the form of a question in the context of approximately 100 years. It must not duplicate the content of options chosen for Components 1 and 2.

Assessed

- *3500–4500 words*
- *40 marks*
- *20% of A-level*
- *marked by teachers*
- *moderated by AQA*

Outside the classroom

There has been a History Film Club and History Homework Club offered to students.

Trips have been organised to Beamish Living museum, talks from historians and to Workington Hall.

Future trips are planned to Hadrian's Wall and hopefully to France to do a Battlefield Tour.
