



carmel
college

Inspiring minds.
Shaping futures.

HISTORY

COURSE GUIDE 2017

“The supreme purpose of history
is a better world.”

HERBERT HOOVER

History

Exam Board AQA

What will I study?

A Level (two year course):

Your A Level final grade is based on 2 exams taken at the end of the two year course, in addition to the Historical Investigation which is completed in the first term of Upper Sixth.

Component 1 (Breadth study – 100 years)

Britain, 1851-1964. Exam assessed and 40% of overall mark.

Component 2 (Depth study)

USA: Conflict at Home and Abroad, 1945-1980 (US Civil Rights, 1945-76 & America and Vietnam, 1945-1975). Exam assessed and 40% of overall mark.

Component 3 (Historical investigation)

You will complete a historical investigation which will cover Liverpool and the Atlantic Slave Trade 1700-1807. Assessed 3,500 word coursework essay and 20% of overall mark.

Where does this course lead?

History is a very versatile subject. Of course you can, and we hope you will, progress to a History or a History related degree (for example Politics, Archaeology or American Studies). Such a degree can lead to career opportunities that are broader than you may think; for example, law, television, research, politics, journalism, publishing, business and management... the list is endless!

However, for many students their final career may not be directly related to their degree (this goes for most subjects) and what will matter is the quality of your degree and the fact that History is a highly valued and respected subject because of the skills it develops.

Regardless of your future career, an interest in History demonstrates to a future employer that you are open-minded, can make decisions based on evidence, and are interested in the world around you. You will also develop transferable skills such as analysis, evaluation, organisation and presentation of information orally and in written form.



History trip to London

Our students say...

Carmel helps you to develop and grow as a person through all the help that is available and incomparable teaching that you will not be able to find elsewhere.

In the History Department you will be encouraged to question history itself, study the interpretations and challenge some of the ones you may have previously been taught. The teachers teach you in depth, far beyond the exam criteria. You are also encouraged to debate lively in class and to challenge each other's views and opinions. With History, you are given countless opportunities, including a trip to Belgium and a visit to Washington or New York. Before Carmel I never even considered applying to an Oxbridge university until my History teacher encouraged me to apply for events such as taster days and shadow schemes to give me the best possible chance at success. Carmel encourages you to be independent but aids this by offering unlimited support and help whenever you need it. There is a unanimous desire to do well amongst everyone in the college giving it a really positive learning atmosphere. After Carmel I hope to use the skills developed in History of research, debate, analysis and inference to study Law at a prestigious university to then become a barrister.



Grace Hill
St Cuthbert's

Studying:
History, English Literature & Language, Maths

What support will I receive?

Throughout your course you will be supported fully by the department both in and out of the classroom.

Lessons will be varied to suit different learning styles and there will always be opportunities for questioning, reinforcement and individual help. If individual problems with content or skills are identified, then individual or group tutorials will be available on a weekly basis or you may ask for help at a different time. You will be given your own "minimum expected grade" very early on and this will enable you to see if you are progressing to the best of your ability and set targets.

All work is marked thoroughly showing clearly what you should do to improve your grade. Poor scoring work can be resubmitted.

Stretch & Challenge

Whilst we aim to stretch and challenge all of our students, the History Department offers a programme to ensure that our top students are challenged as much by the subject as our less able students. This includes:

- Gifted and Talented material available on Connect, specifically colour coded
- A* exemplar materials used as part of the assessment feedback process
- 'Go Further' tasks integral to lesson planning and home learning
- Tutorials/ seminars targeted at potential A* candidates
- Links with former History students who are studying / have studied at Russell Group universities – those students are invited in at the end of Lower Sixth, after the exams, to talk to History students.

What is the History Department like?

History students study in the West Park building which provides a modern and spacious, state-of-the-art learning environment. Facilities include two well resourced classrooms equipped with interactive white boards, multi-media projectors and wireless internet connection. The department's resources include access to a computer suite, in addition to a wide range of DVDs and software resources specifically related to the course contents.

Each student will have access to online course text books. Furthermore, students will be directed to a wide range of useful websites, specialist articles and an extensive range of books in the Library.

// Student Voice 2016 //

"The teachers have great subject knowledge and clearly have a passion for the subject."

"It is a fantastic course with fantastic teachers who structure the lessons brilliantly. I love the subject and all the aspects of the course and the department!"

"I like the support given by my tutor with homework and extra stretch and challenge links on Connect to read about at my own leisure."

"I enjoy that I am constantly learning throughout all of my lessons and I feel as though I can approach my tutor for help. LESSONS ARE ENGAGING!"

"There are very good resources on Connect to help with additional work and it is good to be taught information which is outside of the textbooks. Tutors' knowledge is very good which really helps us."

"The tutors are very approachable and if I had any problem I could go and ask them for advice."

"When we do mock exams and practice the essay type questions, it helps us and we get feedback which we can later improve on for the next essay."

"Approachability of teachers and resources are useful."

Our students say...

Carmel has a friendly atmosphere in which students can perform to the best of their ability.

The support from staff is excellent and allows each student to challenge themselves whilst engaging in a fun and interesting curriculum. I would recommend History, due to its excellent staff and the variety of lessons in which every student can participate and thrive. Lessons are well planned, engaging and teach me skills of research, analysis and debate that I know I will use later in life.

What has impressed me most about Carmel is the variety and scope of resources, which are available to students at any time. After Carmel I hope to study at university and go on to become an investment banker.



Anthony Ventre
Lord Derby Academy

Studying:

History, Maths, Further Maths, Economics

Students visit parts of the Berlin Wall



Our students say...

Studying at Carmel allows me to be a more independent student in a modern learning environment with tutors that push me to improve my grades and get involved in extra projects.

I chose to study History to learn more about previous eras that I had already enjoyed at GCSE. My lessons enable me to be involved in the subject and provide me with various skills of analysis and research that I use in both every-day life and my other subjects. Another benefit of the course is definitely the enrichment activities and the trips, for example the opportunity to fly to Berlin and visit several historical monuments; something that I would not have done outside of college. Studying History at Carmel has definitely convinced me to consider applying to further this subject at university and possibly make a career out of it, something that I was unsure of before I came to Carmel.



Beth Eldridge
Wade Deacon

Studying:

History, English Literature,
Government and Politics, Maths



Carmel College
Prescot Road
St Helens
Merseyside WA10 3AG

www.carmel.ac.uk

@CarmelCollege

carmelcollege

How successful are Carmel's History students?

		No of Entries	A*-C	Overall Pass Rate
2013	A2	65	91%	100%
2014	A2	65	90%	100%
2015	A2	113	84%	100%
2016	A2	104	86%	99%

Frequently Asked Questions

What makes a good History student?

An enquiring mind, an ability to see many sides of an issue and an enjoyment of reading.

How can I enrich my History studies?

Lectures by specialist historians are available on a variety of topics and these will be booked either for the whole group or just for those who are interested. Local and foreign visits will also be offered to enhance your understanding of the modules, in particular, trips to London, America and Berlin may be offered as well as the battlefields of Belgium and France. All visits will be subject to sufficient interest and availability.

Links have been made with Liverpool University. Cinema visits are also arranged whenever historically relevant films are released as are local trips of historical interest.

What other skills will History give me?

We aim to produce students who are fully aware of the transferable skills they are developing through the study of History. These skills, which will be invaluable in the work place, include:

1. Communication and interpersonal skills
2. Problem solving skills
3. Use of initiative and the engendering of self-motivation
4. Ability to work under pressure and to meet deadlines
5. Organisational skills
6. Team working
7. Resilience – the ability to learn and to adapt
8. Numeracy
9. Valuing of diversity and difference
10. Negotiation skills

What are the entry requirements for this course?

You will need **GCSE grade B in History or Humanities** (if studied) and **grade 5 in English Language**.

Meet the Tutors

Louisa Owen
Head of Department

Karl Reid
History Tutor

Laurence Delahunty
History Tutor

More Information

For details of the course specification visit: www.aqa.org.uk