DESPITE ITS WRENCHING PAIN, CANNOT BE UNLIVED, BUT IF FACED WITH COURAGE, NEED NOT BE LIVED AGAIN.

MAYA ANGELOU
What will I study?

Your A Level final grade is based on three exams taken at the end of the two year course. In addition, you will complete a historical investigation in the first term of Upper Sixth.

Unit 1 - British period study and enquiry
Britain 1930 - 1997
Enquiry Topic: Churchill 1930 - 1951
25% of final mark, 1.5 hour exam

Unit 2 - Non-British study
Italian Unification 1789 - 1896
15% of final mark in 1 hour exam

Unit 3 - Thematic Study
Civil rights in the USA 1865 - 1992
40% of final mark, 2.5 hour exam

Non-exam assessment
4500-word independent essay
Vietnam War
20% of final 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.

Student Voice

“I enjoy Carmel as it’s a great learning environment where I feel very comfortable to ask a question or speak out if I am in need of help from a teacher. I particularly enjoy History as I find the course content extremely engaging and it has something to interest everyone. For example, in light of Brexit, it’s been really enlightening to learn about the development of our democracy from the 19th century onwards.

Whilst on the History and Politics Washington trip, it was fascinating to see where all the great anti-war protests and civil rights marches had taken place. The Washington trip itself was a brilliant experience and it was great to meet other students who were passionate about American history, politics and society.

Maya Ellis
Rainhill High
Studying: History, Chemistry, 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. The department offers drop in sessions to give students an opportunity for 1-2-1 time, to consolidate understanding of content and/or to practise the required skills. Our student intranet site, Connect, provides extra support and demonstrates how to approach each skill.

The skills required for the course are consistently practised. A wide range of feedback, alongside engagement with the mark schemes, instil confidence in students for the exams.

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:

- High Achievers material available on Connect
- Exam board example answers 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 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.

The combination of the three subjects I study greatly complement each other, especially the relationship between History and Politics.

I have thoroughly enjoyed using my political knowledge to develop my historical knowledge, such as the Schlesinger debate of the ‘imperial presidency’.

Feeling comfortable with quite challenging themes has meant that I have developed my conceptual awareness in History and have begun to understand the depth of knowledge needed at university level.

Despite the demands of my A Levels, I find time to take part in enrichment activities especially playing for Carmel’s Basketball Team in highly competitive leagues with elite players. I have really enjoyed my time at Carmel and would highly recommend this college.

Nicholas McCoy
The Prescot School
Studying: History, Politics, Economics

99% of our students passed in 2021.
One of the best things about Carmel is the determination of the staff in supporting you to achieve your goals and their ability to create a welcoming environment to work in.

Carmel’s History department not only provides you with in-depth knowledge of the course, but enables you to develop your confidence and analytical skills and teaches you how to think like an historian when debating challenging topics. The enthusiasm and encouragement from the History staff to participate during lessons, has enabled me to become much more opinionated and has developed my confidence.

The variety of resources made frequently available through tutorials and Stretch and Challenge sessions, whether it be essay writing or content revision, have increased my knowledge and enabled me to acquire many skills.

Thanks to all the support from the History department, the transition from A Level to my History degree at university will be a lot easier as I’ll be able to apply all the skills I’ve obtained whilst at Carmel.

Olivia McHugh
Wade Deacon
Studying: History, French, English Literature

Washington Trip
@carmelcollege
@CarmelCollege
@carmel_college
carmelcollege1
carmelcollege

---

How successful are Carmel’s History students?

Our students are high achievers and the department is proud of its results:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No of Entries</th>
<th>A*-C</th>
<th>Overall Pass Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>99%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What are the entry requirements for this course?

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

What makes a good History student?

Someone who has an enquiring mind, keeps abreast of the news and has a strong 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, Berlin and Italy 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 The University of Liverpool. 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