

NORTHGATE
SIXTH FORM **IPSWICH**
CENTRE



HISTORY (MODERN)

A-LEVEL

2019-2020

History A Level

The Importance of History...

The Fascination of the Past...

The Evaluation of Evidence...

Why study history? In short form, the answers are given above, but what do they really mean? The past shapes our world and our view of it. To understand the human race, you must understand its history. This includes an investigation into the shared experiences and values of your own community – some people call it roots – but it also includes the breadth of vision to see the essential humanity of all communities. The A Level course at Northgate will reflect this dual nature of history, while examining the lives of some of the most striking individuals who have ever lived.

Reaching valid conclusions from historical evidence involves investigation and evaluation at a level which ensures that the successful student will have transferable skills of the highest order and widest possible application. You are, after all, forming conclusions about the real lives of real people.

This would be reason enough to study history, but there is more – the study of history should be enjoyable.

All this could be achieved through the study of any historical period, but choices have to be made and the Modern History course at Northgate will focus primarily on the 20th century. The course will provide students with opportunities to:

- develop a detailed understanding of the significant events and individuals that have shaped the world we live in today
- develop their own opinions and values, and to question the present by engaging with the past
- improve their enquiry skills by developing a respect for evidence and learning how to use a wide range of source material constructively
- examine the risk of Fascism in a European context.

Another good reason for this choice of course is that it builds on the periods studied at Key Stage 3 and GCSE, whilst also offering fresh challenges and new insights into key events. The History Department at Northgate is committed to developing approaches to teaching and learning that combine enjoyment and active engagement with academic rigour and meaningful content.

We will welcome enthusiastic students who have achieved a good grade (preferably 6 or better) in any History GCSE, or in a comparable subject.

The Course

The History course has a four unit structure:

Unit 1: Germany and West Germany, 1918-1989

Unit 2: The Rise and Fall of Fascism in Italy, 1911-1946

Unit 3: The British experience of War, 1790-1918

Unit 4: Coursework: Work of the Historian

Assessment

Units 1, 2 and 3 are assessed by examination; Unit 4 by coursework.

History: University Entrance and Career Opportunities

History is very useful for degrees such as Law and Politics and can also contribute to careers in archaeology, economics, local government, journalism and our thriving heritage industry.

Curriculum Leader: Miss Z Quinton

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