Southend High School for Girls
Sixth FORM

Course outline

Head of Department:
**Ms K H Laird**

Minimum entry requirements:
**Grade 6 in GCSE History or GCSE Classics**

# History

## What will you study in Year 12?

Students will study a unit on England: 1547-1603. This will give them the chance to explore the reigns of Edward VI, Mary and Elizabeth I, focusing on religious changes, unrest and rebellion, and the stability of the government. A particular focus is placed on the Mid-Tudor Crisis, the period from 1547 to 1558 during which England weathered numerous rebellions, coup d'états, and wars.

Students will also study International Relations: 1890-1941, which will provide an interesting contrast, enabling them to investigate the causes and events of the First World War, attempts to create a more stable world in the 1920s, the rise of Japan as a world power and the origins of the Second World War in Europe and Asia.

## What will you study in Year 13?

Students will study Russia: 1855 to 1964, focusing on the last of the Tsars, the background to the Russian Revolution of 1917, the overthrow of the monarchy during the Revolution, and communism in Russia under Lenin, Stalin, and Khrushchev.

Finally, students will produce a single piece of coursework of 4,000 words. They will be given a choice of topics from which to pick. There will be the opportunity for them to propose a topic of their own if they so wish, which will be reviewed by the teacher to ensure suitability. This will be fully researched, planned and written up in the style of an undergraduate piece of work and is therefore highly valued by universities in UCAS applications as indicating students already have an understanding of university-level work.

## How will you be assessed during the course?

Assessment during the course will focus on developing the skills needed for their final examinations and their coursework. Students will be writing essays, source work answers and evaluations of historians' arguments, that develop their evaluative and analytical skills, and their ability to communicate clearly and effectively.

**External assessment:**

The Tudors paper is 1 hour and 30 minutes and consists of one 30 mark source question and one 20 mark essay question from a choice of two. It is worth 25% of your final mark.

The International Relations paper is 1 hour and consists of one 10 mark comparison of events question and one 20 mark essay question. It is worth 15% of your final mark.

The Russia paper consists of one 30 mark question comparing historical interpretations and two 25 mark questions from a choice of three analysing a particular theme in Russian History. This is worth 40% of your final mark.

The coursework is 4000 words and makes up the remaining 20% of your final mark.

## Where will this course lead?

History is a rigorous academic subject, which is highly valued by a range of employers, and is highly regarded by university admissions tutors as a facilitating subject. Many of the skills developed through the study of History are particularly useful for those interested in law, journalism and politics, but it also complements STEM and vocational routes well.

## Additional Information

Our History Captains are actively involved in the life of the school, overseeing events such as Women's History Month and working as mentors for Year 10 and 11 History students.

We run a Year 12 reading group for those planning on studying History-related subjects at University, and a Year 13 groups for students taking the HAT and preparing for Oxbridge interviews.

https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-a-level-gce/history-a-h105-h505-from-2015/