

History

What will I study and learn?

BGS offers two different History choices through the AQA course:

History 1: Medieval and Early Modern History

If you choose History 1, you will study The Age of the Crusades c1071–1204, and Religious Conflict and the Church in England 1529–1570. You will also be required to produce a historical investigation focusing on the Inca Empire and the rise of Spain, although an investigation into a different topic area may also be permitted.

History 2: Modern British and World History

If you choose to study History 2, you will look at Industrialisation and the People: Britain c1783–1885, and The American Dream: Illusion and Reality, 1945–1980. You will also produce a modern historical investigation centred on Northern Ireland in the twentieth century, although an investigation into a different topic area may be permitted.

We have a wide range of activities, guest speakers and trips on offer through both the History Department and affiliated History Society. In recent years Sixth Form History students have visited Northern Ireland, London, Spain and the USA, as well as a whole host of destinations closer to home.



History has enhanced my essay-writing skills and helped me to appreciate how our society has developed into what it is today. We have a lot of discussions and debates in the lessons, which are incredibly engaging.”

Megan, OB

Courses: History, Physical Education and Psychology

What skills should I have and what will be developed?

Studying History at A level will help you to develop a range of key skills that will be much sought after both at university and in the working world. In class you will be expected to participate in discussion and sometimes present on topics. You will learn to analyse and evaluate information and build balanced and supported arguments.

Future opportunities

History is regarded by all universities as a strong subject, and one that has retained its academic integrity. It opens doors and closes none. History graduates go on to work in a huge range of fields including law, business, the civil service, politics, journalism, and many more. History offers students the opportunity to study other people's contexts, beliefs and actions – so important in the world we inhabit today.



Want to know more?

Mr Charlie Pearson
Head of History and Politics
cpearson@bgs.bristol.sch.uk

Exam Board:
aqa.org.uk

How will I be assessed?

Historical investigation

20%

A 3,500-4,500 word independently researched project of a taught component.

Examinations 1 and 2

80%

Two equally weighted exams that are sat at the end of the Upper Sixth and contain a mixture of historical source analysis and essay writing.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

History is a literary subject, so a willingness to read, write, argue and explain is a must. It is normal to have gained a high grade in IGCSE/GCSE History, however, well-motivated students who are likely to achieve good GCSE results in other humanities subjects, especially English, will also be considered.