

HISTORY: HIGHER

Why History?

Higher History allows you to further develop the skills of an effective historian, skills which will be vitally important in future life, regardless of your chosen pathway. The course also allows you to find out more about three fascinating areas of history. These three topics span four centuries and look at Scottish, British, European and World contexts. The topics are also broad-ranging enough to allow you to learn much more about social, economic, religious, political and military history.

Entry to the Course

You would normally be expected to have gained at least an A-C pass in National 5 History or an A-B pass at National 5 in another Social Subject. If you have not sat any Social Subjects previously, we would expect at least a B in National 5 English.

Course Outline

The topics studied are:

- Historical Study: Scottish History - The Treaty of Union, 1690-1740 – This section of the course looks at the worsening relations with England at the end of the 17th century, the arguments for and against agreeing to the Treaty of Union, the reasons for the passing of the Act of Union and the effects of the Union on Scotland between 1707 and 1740.
- Historical Study: British History - Britain, 1851-1951 – In this section we look at the growth of democracy in Britain, including the fight for votes for women, and the development of the British welfare state.
- Historical Study: European and World - Appeasement and the Road to War – This section of the course looks at the causes of and background to the Second World War, including the reasons for Fascist aggression, the reasons for the policy of appeasement of Italy and Germany, the successes and failures of British foreign policy, the tactics used by the Fascist powers and the reasons for the outbreak of war in 1939.

Assessment

There is a final exam consisting of two papers which will test essay writing and source handling skills. In addition, there is also an assignment on a topic of your choice, written in school and marked externally. This forms part of your overall mark.

Further advice and information is available from Mr MacKay or Mr Sheerin.