

## GCSE History

### Can I take both History and Geography at GCSE?

The short answer is yes! There are no restrictions on the number of Humanities subjects you can take at Jumeirah College. Many students take and enjoy both subjects.

### Do I have to achieve a certain National Curriculum Level in Year 9 to get on the course?

There are no entrance requirements for GCSE History. We welcome all students. Enthusiasm and passion for history is ultimately what leads to success.

### Is it a lot of writing?

People often think GCSE History is just straight essay writing and that there is a lot of it. This is not the case at all. Examinations are a combination of short, medium and slightly longer answers. We provide clear structural guidance for all questions so that students can make the necessary points succinctly without unnecessary and lengthy writing.

### Is it a lot of extra reading?

We do provide optional extra reading for different aspects of the course for interest and enrichment purposes. Beyond that, reading is no more or less than for any other GCSE subject at Jumeirah College.

### How many examinations are there?

#### Paper 1: Thematic study and historic environment

Section A: Medicine in Britain, c1250 - present day




Section B: The British sector of the Western Front 1914-18: injuries, treatment, and the trenches

Written examination: 1 hour and 15 minutes

30% of the qualification



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**Paper 2: Period study and British depth study**

Section A: Superpower relations and the Cold War c1941-91  
 Section B: Early Elizabethan England, c. 1558-88

Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes  
 40% of the qualification

**Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918 - 39**

Written examination: 1 hour and 20 minutes  
 30% of the qualification

**Is there any coursework?**

There is no coursework for GCSE History, something which allows more time for a closer focus on examined work.

**Do we only study modern history at GCSE?**

The GCSE is a diverse course covering a number of time periods and geographical regions of the world. Students study aspects of history from the Medieval, Renaissance, Elizabethan periods, and the 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries.

**Do I need to take GCSE History to be able to study A-Level History later on?**




No, there is no requirement to take the GCSE in order to qualify for entry into A-Level History.

**Does it matter if I didn't study the same topics in Key Stage 3 History as students at Jumeirah College?**

No not all. History is a skills-based subject where analytical and evaluative skills are practiced with a range of historical content. Key Stage Three (KS3) History provides a grounding in the skills that are developed at GCSE. There is no need to be concerned if you have not studied the same material at KS3 as students at Jumeirah College. History is as wide and diverse as it is long, so in our mind, knowledge of any history is good history.



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## Is it an academic subject?




The distinction between ‘hard’ and ‘soft’ subjects is not really a valid distinction. All subjects at GCSE are rigorous and challenging with a different analytical and theoretical focus. History is a facilitating subject for university entry in the United Kingdom and is therefore officially recognized as rigorous and academic yes, with a strong basis in analysis, evaluation and lateral thinking.

## What kind of careers do History students follow?

History is widely recognized as a subject that promotes lateral thinking, analysis, creativity and problem-solving skills. Students of history enjoy a range of professional careers from journalism, law, medicine and finance; to market research, advertising and film making.



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