



Introduction

Ever wondered how the Cowboys beat the Indians? Or how we found out that germs cause disease? Or what it was like to live during the industrial revolution? You will if you opt to study History at GCSE.

How is the course structured?

The course involves three units, two of which are examined and the other is assessed via a controlled assessment.



The controlled assessment units:

History Around Us. For this unit, we will be getting to know BOA's home city – Birmingham. What was it like to live here over one hundred years ago? Was life during Victorian times so different to yours?



The examined units are:

A Depth Study – The American West. Before the white man arrived, Indians roamed the plains as part of the natural world. But then came the cowboys, and the homesteaders and the gold-diggers, and the resulting conflict led to the death of the Indian way of life. How did it happen? Could the Indians have won? What can we learn about human relationships by studying the battle for the plains?

A Development Study – Medicine Through Time. Got a headache? Prehistoric man would have drilled a hole in your head to let the spirits out. Wounded in battle? How about an amputation with no anaesthetic? Medicine hasn't always been as advanced as it is today. Find out about some odd ideas of what caused illness and some even odder ideas about how to cure it!



How will I be assessed?

In History you will be expected to develop the skills you have used throughout Key Stage 3 – analysis of evidence, reaching conclusions, constructing a logical argument. These skills, along with good basic literacy skills will help you to be successful at GCSE in History.



1 ½ hour exam and 2 hour exam – both June 2017.

OCR History Specification A (Code: J415)