

Group 3

History: Individuals and Societies

Course Description

History is a dynamic, contested, and evidence-based discipline that involves an exciting engagement with the past. It is a rigorous intellectual discipline, focused around key historical concepts such as change, causation and significance. It is also an interpretive discipline, allowing an opportunity for engagement with multiple perspectives and a plurality of opinions. It involves the study of a variety of types of history, including political, economic, social and cultural, and provides a balance of structure and flexibility. It focuses on developing critical thinking skills and on developing an understanding of multiple interpretations of history. Studying history leads to a deeper understanding of the world today.

5 important skills you will need to develop in this class:

1. Source analysis - Students need to be able to evaluate sources as historical evidence, recognising their value and limitations
2. Historical argumentation - Students need to be able to formulate clear and coherent arguments.
3. Understanding different perspectives - Students need to evaluate different perspectives on historical issues and events.
4. Students need to reflect on the methods used by, and challenges facing, the historian
5. Essay writing - Students need to structure and develop focused essays that respond effectively to the demands of a question

What is the difference between HL and SL?

The skills needed in HL and SL History are the same. Students at standard level (SL) and higher level (HL) are presented with the same curriculum that consists of one prescribed subject and two topics in World History.

While many of the skills of studying history are common to both SL and HL,

the difference in recommended teaching hours at SL and HL are a clear distinction between the demands made on students.

Also in the HL level, students are required to write an extra essay based paper requiring them to undertake an in-depth study of three sections from one of the HL regional options, The Americas, Europe, Asia & Oceania, or Africa and the Middle East. We are covering the Americas.