

## Shelley College History Curriculum

### Key Stage 5

For A-Level we follow Edexcel Route H/30. This is comprised of 4 units:

Unit 1: Britain Transformed: 1918-97

Unit 2: The USA: Boom, Bust and Recovery, 1920-55

Unit 3: Lancastrians, Yorkists and Henry VII

Unit 4: Coursework option (centre-designed)

### Y12

During the course of Y12 students study units 1 and 2 on Britain and the USA.

#### **Unit 1: Britain Transformed: 1918-97.**

This option comprises a study in breadth, in which students will learn about the extent to which Britain was transformed politically, socially, economically and culturally in the years 1918–79. They will consider responses to the challenges of war, fluctuations in the economy, technological advancement and the desire for greater social equality. The paper is comprised of two essay questions and one question on historians' interpretations of Margaret Thatcher. The paper lasts for 2 hours 15 minutes and counts for 30% of the final grade.

#### **Unit 2: The USA: Boom, Bust and Recovery, 1920-55**

This option comprises a study in depth of economic and social change in the USA from the post-war boom of the 1920s, through depression, recovery and war, to the transformation of many aspects of US society in the years immediately after 1945. Students will gain an in-depth understanding of economic change and its long-term effects, the growing demands by black Americans for social equality, and the cultural changes driven by individuals and by technological change. The paper consists of two questions on contemporary sources and one essay question. The paper lasts for 1 hour 30 minutes and counts for 20% of the final grade.

Students will complete a mock exam on the units above in the summer term.

### Y13

#### **Unit 3: Lancastrians, Yorkists and Henry VII**

This option comprises two parts: the Aspects in breadth focus on long-term changes and contextualise the Aspects in depth, which focus in detail on key episodes. The topic explores the dramatic developments in late medieval England that centred around the personalities and political skills of a series of kings, queens and their powerful subjects, and the impact of these developments on the kingdom. The focus is on the struggle for the throne in the Wars of the Roses and the emergence of the first Tudor monarch, Henry VII. The paper consists of one question on a contemporary source and two essay questions. The paper lasts for 2 hours 15 minutes and counts for 30% of the final grade.

#### **Unit 4: Coursework option (centre-designed)**

Students also work on the coursework element of the A-Level. This involves a short taught programme to introduce them to the two topics after which they will choose which question to tackle. The possible topics include:

- Catherine the Great, Empress of Russia,
- The French Revolution

Students then research the work of historians on their chosen topics, leading to the completion of a 4000 word essay.

For the A-Level the units comprise the following values:

Unit 1: 30%

Unit 2: 20%

Unit 3: 30%

Unit 4: 20%