

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## HISTORY

**Rochdale**  
sixth form  
college

**1**

### **DO I NEED TO HAVE PREVIOUSLY STUDIED, OR KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT, THE TOPICS COVERED ON THE HISTORY COURSE?**

No, definitely not. It is assumed that you have absolutely no knowledge of any of these topics before you start the A-level course. This is very often the case. Students come to the college, after all, having studied a range of different topics at GCSE or indeed, not having studied GCSE History at all.

**2**

### **DO I NEED TO HAVE STUDIED GCSE HISTORY TO STUDY A-LEVEL HISTORY AT ROCHDALE?**

No, not at all. Our entry requirements are the same as the college's general entry requirements. If you have studied it and you enjoyed the subject, that is great. But likewise, if you have not studied it at GCSE but still have an interest in studying the past, then that works for us too.

**3**

### **WILL I BE AT A DISADVANTAGE IF I HAVE NOT STUDIED GCSE HISTORY?**

No, we do not believe that those who do not have GCSE History are at a disadvantage. What we need, from all the students, is a willingness to engage and learn new things. It is important to note though, that History is a subject that requires a great deal of both reading and writing, so students uncomfortable with these may well struggle on an A-level History course.

**4**

### **WHAT PERCENTAGE OF THE HISTORY A-LEVEL IS COURSEWORK?**

20% of the History A-level is coursework. This is one piece of written work (3,000-4,500 words).

**5**

### **HOW ARE THE NON-COURSEWORK UNITS FOR THE A-LEVEL HISTORY COURSE ASSESSED?**

There are two examined units (The Wars of the Roses and The Age of the Crusades), worth 80% of the marks in total. Each unit is worth 40% of the marks for the whole qualification and is assessed by a single exam (2hr 30mins) at the end of the two years.

**6**

### **HOW OFTEN ARE WE ASSESSED IN HISTORY?**

As per the college's assessment policy, we assess students formally every third week as a minimum. You have more major internal assessments in January and summer during your first year, and in January during your second year. Your terminal, external assessments are in summer during your second year.

7

### **WHAT CAREERS CAN I DO WITH AN A-LEVEL IN HISTORY?**

This is a frequently asked question with no single answer. It all dependent on your interests and your preferred career route once you leave Rochdale Sixth Form College.

8

### **WHAT CAREERS CAN I DO WITH AN A-LEVEL IN HISTORY?**

Far too many to mention. History is a highly respected academic subject that helps you to develop critical thinking skills and high-level analysis. Previous students have left us to pursue careers/education in the following (as well as many others): Law, Journalism, Heritage sector (Museums etc.), Teaching, Politics, Business. Please visit UCAS to see which subjects you might like to study alongside History, to support your access to the courses listed above and any others that interest you.