

The top 5 things to know about our new Edexcel GCSE (9–1) History



Our newly accredited qualification has been shaped to help all students become skilled and successful historians. We want to support great history teaching too, so:

1. We've created a single unified specification with maximum choice and flexibility.

With our new specification bringing together elements of the current Modern World and Schools History Project courses, GCSE students can explore a broader range of history than ever before. What's more, the choice is yours: there are no prohibited topic combinations, meaning you have the freedom to teach topics that will work for you and your students

2. There's a manageable approach to the new Historic Environment requirement.

With our unique approach to the Historic Environment requirement, the engaging sites we've chosen for this aspect of the course will stay the same throughout the lifetime of the qualification. That way, you can focus on bringing the history to life rather than planning and finding resources for a different site every year. Each Historic Environment site is linked to a thematic study, so what students learn in Crime, Medicine or Warfare will give them a broad context for the detailed study of their Historic Environment site.

3. Assessments that give every student the opportunity to succeed.

Our assessments encourage all students to show what they know and understand about history to the best of their ability. Our three-paper model is one teachers prefer, as it balances the content and assessment requirements so that exams are manageable for students. Our exams also have questions that are clear and ramp in demand throughout papers so students are encouraged to engage with every part of the assessments. When it comes to our mark schemes, they're proven to be straightforward and reward responses appropriately.

4. Our qualifications are designed with progression in mind.

Our GCSE course builds on Key Stage 3 topics to help students confidently develop a more nuanced understanding of history, and provides a stepping stone to further study at AS and A level. We've designed the content of our qualifications so that at A level, students can build on – but not directly repeat – what they studied at GCSE, and the mark schemes take a similar approach across the two levels, to help students see how to progress in history.

5. There's expert support every step of the way.

Our support takes many forms, all with the aim of helping you plan, teach, track and assess our new Edexcel GCSE (9–1) History with confidence. From free events and materials to paid-for published resources, much of this support is already available for you to get started with now. Your Subject Advisor, Mark Battye, is also on hand to answer your questions about the courses and keep you up to date with the latest news. Get in touch with Mark at TeachingHistory@pearson.com.

Want to teach our course?

If you like what you've seen and are planning to teach the new course or have already started doing so, visit www.edexcel.com/TeachHistory16 to let us know. That way, we can make sure you're the first to know about all the news and support that's relevant to you.

