

HISTORY Access Course



Aim

This course focuses upon political, social and economic development in Britain from 1900. You study three units that are assessed through a combination of examination, essay and project report. Together, we will endeavour to assess and evaluate the key moments in Britain's relatively recent past in order for you to develop the higher-order thinking and writing skills that are essential for university study.

Course Content

You will take three units of study:

- **Unit 1: Britain 1900-1918** This three credit module will examine and explain the causal factors and significance of key events within Britain during this period
- **Unit 2: Britain 1918-1951** This six credit unit will examine key events and evaluate the causal factors of key events, using a wide range of historical sources. You will also learn to recognise bias and relevance of sources, understanding the significance of the circumstances in which they were produced in order to gauge their contribution to historical knowledge
- **Unit 3: Britain 1940-1979** This six credit unit will give you the opportunity to research a relevant historical topic in more depth, using a range of sources and developing the ability to recognise different interpretations of the topic

Approaches to Study

We concentrate on close study of historical sources and the often very different ideas put forward by historians. You will be required to undertake reading and additional research outside of lessons and at home. You will also develop your knowledge of research methods and how to evaluate a source critically eg make a decision on how much a source can be 'trusted' and why.

Assessment

The assessment for the course is carried out across all three units, although Unit 1 is ungraded, and so is awarded a Pass on successful completion. Units 2 and 3 can be awarded Pass, Merit or Distinction, and you will be given guidance on what criteria you need to meet for these various grades.

Recommended Reading and Preparation

Any books on twentieth century British political and social history will be useful as both foundation knowledge and a way of becoming familiar with writing about history. You will be given more specific reading once you start the course.

Qualification Requirements in English and Maths

If you are aiming at progressing into higher education you will need to have English and Maths GCSEs at 4 – 9 for university entrance. If you do not already have these you will be enrolled as a part-time student on the Access course and you can take these alongside your Access course at no extra charge. You may take these in either the first or second year of your Access course. You may decide to take them both from your first year, so that you have a chance to re-take them if you do not achieve the required grades.

Hours:

The course is available either full-time (approx. 12 hours per week over three days for one year) or part-time (approx. 6 hours per week over one day for two years).

Examination Board

Laser Learning Awards

Qualifications

You will need a Level 4 in English and Maths or be willing to gain these on the Access course; or Level 2 Functional skills in English and Maths

When to Apply

You can apply at any time. Interviews are held from October to June and the course begins in September. At Interview we check that the course will suit your needs.

Subjects

You can find out more about Access subject options by visiting our website at www.stvincent.ac.uk under 'Higher Education' and 'Access to University'.

Child Care

There is a nursery at St Vincent College for babies and young children up to four years old, run by YMCA Fairthorne Manor. This is free for those on benefits.

Financial Support

Some support for your studies (eg books, stationery, travel) is available for most students on benefits.

Advice and Guidance

You will be able to consult our Careers and Higher Education Manager for impartial advice about university or careers.

For start dates and further information, contact:

St Vincent College, Mill Lane, Gosport PO12 4QA

Tel: 023 9258 8311

e-mail: info@stvincent.ac.uk

Web: www.stvincent.ac.uk