

# HISTORY

What is History?

History is the study of the story of human behaviour in the past, including political, economic, social and cultural events that have had a significant impact on humanity.

Why study History?

The study of History enables us to understand how past human action affects the present and influences our future, and it allows us to evaluate these effects. So, history is about learning how to think about the past, which affects the present, in a disciplined way.

History is a process of enquiry. Therefore, it is about asking questions about the past: What happened? When did it happen? Why did it happen then? What were the short-term and long-term results? It involves thinking critically about the stories people tell us about the past, as well as the stories that we tell ourselves.

**Is History a subject for you?**  
**Consider the following questions:**



- ✓ Do you want to learn how to use a variety of primary and secondary historical sources to learn about the past?
- ✓ Are you prepared to learn how to write source-based essays in order to answer complex questions about the past?
- ✓ Are you willing to engage in a convincing argument when writing a discursive essay in which you evaluate a pertinent issue about the past?
- ✓ Are you able to recall information about the stories of the past?
- ✓ Are you interested in reading and researching past events in order to complete a Historical Investigation on a question devised by yourself?

## OVERVIEW OF HISTORY TOPICS COVERED IN GRADES 10, 11 & 12

The following themes are prescribed by the National Curriculum Statement (CAPS).

At St Dominic's we might add other themes in order to explore a historical theme that is being celebrated nationally or internationally.

GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
The world around 1600AD. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• China;</li> <li>• Shanghai;</li> <li>• India;</li> <li>• European societies.</li> </ul>	Communism in Russia: 1900-1940. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Russian Revolution;</li> <li>• Lenin;</li> <li>• Stalin.</li> </ul>	The Cold War <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Origins</li> <li>• Crises</li> <li>• China or Vietnam</li> </ul>
Expansion and conquest during the 15 <sup>th</sup> to 18 <sup>th</sup> centuries. Case studies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spanish conquest of America;</li> <li>• Portugal and the destruction of the Indian Ocean Trade;</li> <li>• Dutch East India Company.</li> </ul>	Capitalism in the USA: 1900-1940. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Economic Boom of 1920s;</li> <li>• The Great Depression;</li> <li>• The New Deal.</li> </ul>	Independent Africa. Case Studies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Congo;</li> <li>• Tanzania;</li> <li>• Angola</li> </ul>
The French Revolution <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Causes &amp; course of the Revolution;</li> <li>• Napoleon;</li> <li>• Spreading of revolutionary aspirations;</li> <li>• Legacy of the French Revolution.</li> </ul>	Ideas of race in the late 19 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> centuries. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Theories &amp; Practice</li> </ul> Case Studies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Australia;</li> <li>• Nazi Germany.</li> </ul>	Civil Society Protests: 1950s to 1970s <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Civil Rights Movement</li> <li>• Black Power Movement</li> <li>• Women's Movement</li> <li>• Peace Movements</li> </ul>
Transformations in southern Africa after 1750. Political changes from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1750 – 1820;</li> <li>• 1820 – 1835.</li> </ul>	Nationalisms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South Africa</li> <li>• Middle East</li> <li>• Africa</li> </ul>	Civil Resistance in 1970s and 1980s South Africa. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Black Consciousness;</li> <li>• Crisis of Apartheid during 1980s.</li> </ul>
Colonial Expansion after 1750. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transformation of SA</li> <li>• Britain takes control of the Cape;</li> <li>• The Zulu Kingdom and the colony of Natal;</li> <li>• Co-operation and conflict on the Highveld.</li> </ul>	Apartheid in South Africa: 1940s to 1960s. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Segregation;</li> <li>• South Africa and the Second World War;</li> <li>• The 1948 General Election;</li> <li>• Policy of Apartheid;</li> <li>• Separate Development</li> <li>• Resistance against Apartheid;</li> <li>• Armed Struggle against Apartheid.</li> </ul>	The coming of democracy in South Africa. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Negotiated Settlement;</li> <li>• Government of National Unity.</li> </ul>
The South African War		TRC
The establishment of the Union of South Africa		The end of the Cold War. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gorbachev's reforms;</li> <li>• Collapse of Communism in Eastern Europe;</li> <li>• Disintegration of the USSR.</li> </ul>
		The New World Order. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Globalisation.</li> </ul>
Each Grade will experience an outing of historical relevance at least once a year.		