

# AH History – ESSENTIAL INFORMATION



## For Parents and Carers



### Which topics are covered at AH?

#### Japan: the modernisation of a Nation.

The basis of the course is looking at how Japan accelerated itself from being a small country who had isolated itself on the world stage into a global power in under a century.

We look at the foundations upon which modern Japan are built and what changes happened from a social, economic and political perspective.

- **Japan in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century; the social structure, religious beliefs, economic conditions and the structure of government.**
- **Forces for change: economic troubles, nationalism and the pressures of foreign governments.**
- **Revolution: the downfall of the class system, the restoration of monarchy and the military and naval reforms which turned Japan into a world power.**
- **Japan emerging as a world power; changing relationships and status on the global stage, war with both China and Russia.**

### Are there important dates of which I should I be aware?

**November** – Core Assessment 1

**February** – Core Assessment 2

**March** – Final Dissertation Due.

May 2026 – Final SQA Exam

### Where do I find more information about the course? [AHCourseSpecHistory.pdf \(sqa.org.uk\)](#)

### Where can I find more information about the writing exam and dissertation?

The SQA Understanding Standards provides exemplars of pupil exam scripts, dissertations and grades awarded.

### [SQA - Understanding Standards: Advanced Higher Resources to support learning.](#)

#### External

#### SQA Past papers

### [Advanced Higher History - Course overview and resources - SQA](#)

#### Internal

Advanced Higher History has its own TEAMS page and own class notebook with each resource available for the entire course on this platform. In Mr Hagart's room we have our internal library of over 30 books all on our period of History which are useful for dissertation writing.

### How is the course assessed?

COMPONENT	DETAILS	LENGTH	MARKS	%
<b>FINAL EXAM:</b> Question paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 essays from a choice of 5 questions (50 marks)</li> <li>• 3x Source questions (40 marks) → Evaluate the Usefulness → How Fully → How Much</li> </ul>	3 hours	90	64%
<b>Dissertation</b>	5000 word dissertation (+10%) on a pre-approved SQA topic.	Pupils begin this in June 2023 and have until March 2024 to complete this. They have access to Edinburgh University library to complete this.	50	36%

**Practical strategies for parents/carers to support learners.**

- Practise papers for the final exam done under timed conditions. Informal feedback from our 2024 cohort was that timing in the final exam was an issue which hampered learners.
- Consistent and long term approach to the dissertation is key to success. The learners have been utilising Edinburgh University and we should ensure we continue to do this.
- Engagement with the understanding standards website and how learners should answer each question.
- Ask your child to tell you what they have learned in history over the week to practise retrieval of information.
- Encourage your child to create a revision timetable to help them study effectively.
- Quiz your child about topics related to the course..
- They could use sites such as Kahoot or Blooket to challenge themselves or create their own quizzes to aid revision.