

# **International Baccalaureate**

## **Aims and objectives in History**

IB History at Gymnázium Jura Hronca is taught at both Higher and Standard Level.

### **Standard Level (3 Hours a week)**

The standard level Diploma Programme history syllabus consists of 20<sup>th</sup> century world history topics and a historical investigation. Gymnázium Jura Hronca currently teaches the following topics:

- **Causes, practices and effects of war**
- **The rise and rule of single party-states**
- **Peace and cooperation: international organisation and multiparty states**
- **The Cold War**

### **Higher Level (5 hours a week)**

The higher level Diploma Programme history students take standard level history course at three hours a week. On top of that, they study Regional European Option at two hours a week as follows:

- Post-Napoleonic Europe to 1852
- Italian and German unification
- Russian and Eastern Europe in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century
- 19<sup>th</sup> century educational, cultural and intellectual developments
- Tsarist Russia to Communist USSR

After their two years course, candidates are externally assessed. The external assessment components contribute 80% at HL and 75% at SL.

**Internal Assessment** – is an integral part of the history course and is compulsory for both higher and standard level candidates. It enables candidates to demonstrate the application of their skills and knowledge in history and to pursue their personal interests without the time constraints associated with written examinations. Internal Assessment takes a form of a written account of between 1500-2000 words. IA is internally assessed by the teacher and externally moderated.

## **NATURE OF THE SUBJECT**

The aim of history in the Diploma Programme is to explain trends and developments, continuity and change through time and through individual events. The course is concerned with individuals and societies in the widest context: political, social, economic, religious, technological and cultural.

In the two year-programme students of history are to investigate a variety of sources, some of which may be of contentious nature. Students should become aware that historical accounts involve historical judgements based on qualitative evidence and that these judgements might be revised. By studying history they are taught to understand why the work of historians differs over time and in different parts of the world, and how it is impossible for historians not to be affected, to some extent, by political and economic conditions in their own country.