

How to prepare for your History A Level:

The key to any good historian is being nose-y. Reading around the subject gathering different opinions is really important and is what is expected of all subjects at university.

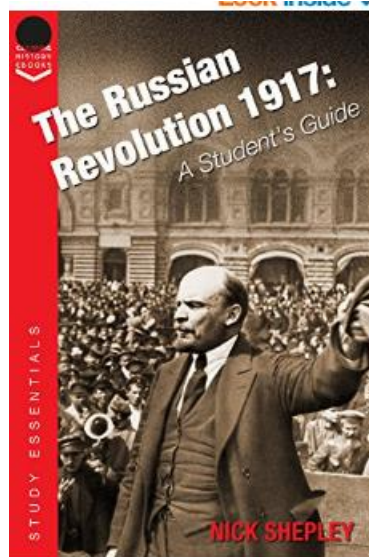


Russia 1917-91: from Lenin to Yeltsin

We will be looking at the following key themes: government, policies their social impact and how they controlled the people over the next year. These will be covering the leadership of Lenin, Stalin, Khrushchev, Brezhnev, Andropov, Chernenko, Gorbachev, Yeltsin

Key reading:

- The Russian Revolution 1917: A Student's Guide. Nick Shepley (A kindle book) £2.99 (THE FREE SAMPLE GIVES GOOD BACKGROUND ABOUT RUSSIA IN 1917)



Alpha History:

<http://alphahistory.com/coldwar/communist-russia/> - how Russia was governed.

Orlando Figes: (Top Russian historian) <http://www.revolutionaryrussia.com/>

British Library website: <https://www.bl.uk/russian-revolution>

Fiction: (not compulsory)

- Dr Zhivago Boris Pasternak
- Animal Farm George Orwell

TV programmes you can watch: (not compulsory)

Ten Minute History: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZZ55ZvBe07U>

The Last of the Czars – They are 50 minutes in length

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mYo8SEvnsrM&list=PL3H6z037pboFwKREwWrf4ELNDdiTLyhAN>

(From this you can see the play list down the side)

Russian revolutions of 1917 (revolutions in red) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gf3vdUR1R4Y>
(23 minutes long)

The German Democratic republic, 1949-1990:

We will be looking at the following key themes: establishing a Communist state, developing a communist state, relations with the west, life in East Germany (social) and how it collapsed.



Key reading:

Alpha History:

<http://alphahistory.com/coldwar/post-war-germany/> - how East Germany was formed.

http://resource.download.wjec.co.uk.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/vtc/2017-18/17-18_2-25/PDF/edugas-revised-germany-5.pdf - a good summary chapter from a textbook.

BBC History website - <http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/worldwars/coldwar/> - Series of articles on the Cold War.

The National Archives Website - <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/education/coldwar/> - a specialist section on the Cold War.

Non fiction: (not compulsory)

- Stasiland: Stories from behind the Berlin Wall. Anna Funder

TV programmes/films you can watch: (not compulsory)

Deutschland 83 – caution there is swearing and adult themes of living in a Communist State but it mainly focusses on the political aspects of a soldier in East Germany who is in West Germany as a spy. This is fiction but gives a flavour of life and the social issues in 1980s East and West Germany whilst showing the poor relations between the two. This is available on amazon prime and netflix for free viewing.

Goodbye Lenin – Film where a young man is trying to protect his mother who has been in a coma from learning that East Germany has now disappeared. Certificate 15.