



Bilton School Sixth Form

History – Transition Work

Course description

The study of history at A Level will develop your knowledge and understanding of the key events you will study. However, the study of history is far more than just simply knowing things!

History will encourage you to ask questions, to investigate the past in a much more detailed and analytical way than GCSE allowed you to and encourage you to question established theories/historians. Throughout the course you will be given opportunities to carry out independent investigation, work with others to develop your own interpretations and analyse evidence to support and challenge your views. All of these skills are transferrable to other areas of studies and are highly valued by employers and universities.

Course content

Component 1: Breadth Study, The Tudors 17485-1603

Component 2: Depth Study, Weimar and Nazi Germany 1918-1945

Component 3: Historical investigation, topic of your choosing

Assessment (breakdown for the full two-year course)

Assessments

Component 1: Breadth study	Component 2: Depth study	Component 3: Historical investigation
What's assessed The study of significant historical developments over a period of around 100 years and associated interpretations.	What's assessed The study in depth of a period of major historical change or development and associated primary evidence.	What's assessed A personal study based on a topic of student's choice. This should take the form of a question in the context of approximately 100 years. It must not duplicate the content of options chosen for Components 1 and 2.
Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">written exam: 2 hours 30 minutesthree questions (one compulsory)80 marks40% of A-level	Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">written exam: 2 hours 30 minutesthree questions (one compulsory)80 marks40% of A-level	Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">3,000–3,500 words40 marks20% of A-levelmarked by teachersmoderated by AQA
Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none">two sectionsSection A – one compulsory question linked to historical interpretations (30 marks)Section B – two from three essays (2 x 25 marks)	Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none">two sectionsSection A – one compulsory question linked to primary sources or sources contemporary to the period (30 marks)Section B – two from three essays (2 x 25 marks)	Personal Investigation: Topic of your choice



To prepare effectively for your A Level in History you should work through the below tasks and bring these with you for your first day at Bilton Sixth form.

Germany 1918-1945

Task 1: Historical Context: Germany before WW1.

1. Who was Otto von Bismarck?
2. Why is he important?
3. How did he change Germany?
4. What was his legacy?
5. How did Kaiser Wilhelm affect Germany?
6. How was he connected to the other royal families across Europe? How did rivalry manifest itself between the cousins? (Documentary below will be useful to answer this question)
7. What is imperialism and how did this influence Wilhelm's policy?
8. Why did World War One break out in 1914?

* <https://www.history.org.uk/podcasts/categories/438/podcast/600/bismarck-german-unification-the-rise-of-the-ger>

* http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic_figures/bismarck_otto_von.shtml

* http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic_figures/wilhelm_kaiser_ii.shtml

Germany 1918-1945

Task 2: The Political Spectrum and German Political Parties

For each of the questions below, create a mind map/list/poster/diagram.

You need to include answers to the bullet points to develop your answers to the key questions.

1. What was the Weimar Constitution?

- What was the structure?
- Include a diagram
- Outline details about the key roles/aspects e.g. President, Chancellor, Reichstag, Reichstat

<https://slideplayer.com/slide/9687989/>

2. What was decided at the Treaty of Versailles?

- What were the terms of the treaty?



- What was the impact on Germany?
- How did the German people respond to the Treaty? (include different reactions)

<https://www.johndclare.net/EA2.htm>

3. What were the different political parties in Weimar Germany? (You could do a table)

- à Spartacist League - later KPD)
- à USPD, Social Democratic Party (SPD)
- à Centre Party (ZP)
- à German Democratic Party (DDP)
- à German Nationalist People's Party (DNVP)
- à German People's Party (DVP)
- à Nazi Party (NSDAP)

- What were the parties on the left, centre and right?
- Who were the leaders and what were the views of each (
- Draw/find a diagram that shows all the parties across the political spectrum

<http://www.historyhome.co.uk/europe/weimar.htm>

<https://twitter.com/historychappy/status/950433376011542530>

Tudors 1485—1603

Task 3: What was the situation in England when Henry Tudor won the crown?

It is important to develop an understanding about the situation that was inherited by the Tudor monarchs so we can understand the context in which they ruled.

Watch the following Documentary (British History's Biggest Fibs With Lucy Worsley - Episode 1: War of the Roses) and answer the 18 questions below: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-4SsGg0c6eg>

1. What is the story of the Battle of Stubbins in the Wars of the Roses?
2. What were the 2 sides in the Wars of the Roses?
3. What happened in 1461 on the 29th March and why was it exceptional?
4. What happened at the Battle of Bosworth according to the Tudors and Shakespeare?



5. What problems did Henry VII face immediately after Bosworth?
6. How did Henry use the story of the War of the Roses to solve his problems?
7. How did Historians under Henry VII manipulate the Wars of the Roses?
8. How did Henry VIII continue the propaganda started by his father?
9. What problems did Elizabeth I have when she became queen?
10. How did she use the War of the Roses to help her?
11. How and why did Shakespeare write about the Wars of the Roses in the 1590s?
12. How did the Stuarts use the tale of the Princes in the Tower?
13. Where does the name 'Wars of the Roses' come from?
14. What is Whig History and what was its view of the Wars of the Roses?
15. How have the Wars of the Roses continued into the 20th century?
16. What is the view of 'Good King Richard'?
17. What is the link with a car park in Leicester?
18. Do you agree more with the Henry Tudor Society or the Richard III Society? Why?

Contact: if you have any queries about the subject or the tasks. Please contact; the Head of History; anderson.c@stowevalley.com