

## A Level History Course Overview

|                |   |   |
|----------------|---|---|
| AS and A Level | <b>Paper 1: Breadth study with interpretations</b><br>30% A level   60% AS<br>2 hours 15 minutes<br>Students study one of eight options, e.g. Russia 1917–91: from Lenin to Yeltsin.<br><b>Assessment</b><br>Section A: one breadth essay<br>Section B: one breadth essay<br>Section C: one interpretations question  | <b>Paper 2: Depth study</b><br>20% A level   40% AS<br>1 hour 30 minutes<br>Students study one depth study, e.g. Mao's China, 1945–76, which has a thematic connection to the breadth study in Paper 1, e.g. communism. There is a choice of two depth studies for each Paper 1 topic.<br><b>Assessment</b><br>Section A: one source question<br>Section B: one depth essay |
|                | External Examination  | External Examination  |
| A Level only   | <b>Paper 3: Themes in breadth with aspects in depth</b><br>30% A level<br>2 hours 15 minutes<br>Students study one topic which covers at least 100 years, e.g. The British experience of warfare c1790–1918. The availability of options in Paper 3 is dependent on the topics studied in Papers 1 and 2 in order to meet the subject criteria requirements.<br><b>Assessment</b><br>Section A: one source question<br>Section B: one depth essay<br>Section C: one breadth essay | <b>Coursework</b><br>20% A level<br>Students complete an independently researched enquiry on historical interpretations, e.g. the origins of WW1 or origins of the Cold War.<br><b>Assessment</b><br>3000-4000 word essay   |

### Route E: Communist states in the twentieth century

| Paper 1                                | Paper 2   | Paper 3  |
|--|---|--|
| Russia, 1917–91: from Lenin to Yeltsin | <b>One of:</b><br>Mao's China, 1949–76<br><br>The German Democratic Republic, 1949–90 | <b>One of:</b><br>Lancastrians, Yorkists and Henry VII, 1399–1509<br>Rebellion and disorder under the Tudors, 1485–1603<br>The Golden Age of Spain 1474–1598<br>The witch craze in Britain, Europe and North America, c1580–1750<br>Industrialisation and social change in Britain, c1759–1928<br>Poverty, public health and the state in Britain, c1780–1939<br>Britain: losing and gaining an empire, 1763–1914<br>The British experience of warfare: c1790–1918<br>Protest, agitation and parliamentary reform in Britain, c1780–1928<br>Ireland and the Union, c1774–1923<br>The changing nature of warfare, 1859–1991<br>Germany 1871–1990: united, divided and reunited<br>The making of modern Russia, 1855–1991<br>The making of modern China, 1860–1997<br>Civil rights and race relations in the USA 1850–2009<br>Mass media and social change in Britain, 1882–2004 |

- Paper 1 builds on popular topics in the current specification, but extends to the fall of the USSR
- Paper 3 topic must be British and start in the late 18th century or earlier.

### Coursework Assessment

- \* The assignment should be 3,000-4,000 words.
- \* Teacher-marked and externally moderated.
- \* Mainly focused on AO3 (analysis and evaluation of interpretations of history). As it is an extended piece of writing, there are also some AO1 marks, but there is a single mark scheme to make it easier to use.
- \* No requirement for students to evaluate and integrate primary sources: there are no AO2 marks.