

History A Level Year 13

A strong A Level History student is curious, analytical, and disciplined. They engage actively with a wide range of historical sources, questioning how factors such as context, provenance, purpose, and audience shape the way the past is presented. They can confidently use precise historical reasoning, such as causation, consequence, continuity, change, and significance, to construct and support clear arguments. Such a student is also independent, reading widely beyond the specification to deepen their understanding of different periods, themes, and historical interpretations. They critically evaluate source material, recognising bias, limitations, and differing perspectives. They are organised in their thinking and writing, producing well-structured, coherent essays that address the question directly, develop sustained arguments, and support points with accurate and relevant evidence. They show intellectual confidence by weighing interpretations, making judgements, and justifying these with carefully selected knowledge. Most importantly, they are willing to question assumptions, explore complexity, and develop their own historically grounded interpretations, always supporting their conclusions with precise evidence and reasoned analysis.

Summary of course content

The History A Level syllabus is split into four areas:

Paper/component	Assessment Objectives			Total for all Assessment Objectives
	AO1	AO2	AO3	
Paper 1: Breadth study with interpretations	20%	–	10%	30%
Paper 2: Depth study	10%	10%	–	20%
Paper 3: Themes in breadth with aspects in depth	20%	10%	–	30%
Coursework	5%	–	15%	20%
Total for this qualification	55%	20%	25%	100%

You can find the Edexcel specification here: <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/history-2015.html>

Weekly:	Completion of set work as outlined in the grid below
Fortnightly:	- Review of recent lessons, learning key terminology, producing revision resources, completion of additional reading (books from library and online sources) and listening (podcasts) from historians. Independent Study Folder (ISF): this will be checked fortnightly by your tutor and logged.
Half termly:	Personal Learning Checklists (PLCs): review your PLCs for each topic, identifying areas of strengths and weakness. Plan upcoming revision accordingly.

In addition to those provided for specific tasks by your teacher, resources include:

TEAMS: lesson resources, Personal Learning Checklists (PLCs), and revision materials.

Independent Learning Schedule – two hours directed by each of your teachers (subject to change):

Week beginning	Teacher 1 (Tudors)	Teacher 2 (coursework)
7 th September	Enrolment week	
14	Directed revision tasks - Revision resource on the challenges to Henry VII's succession, 1485-1499 - Revision resource on Henry VIII's early reign, 1509-29	Coursework reading 1 Green, 'The Mind of Adolf Hitler', <i>Manhattan School of Music</i>
21	Tudors reading 5 Ackroyd, 'A Little Neck', <i>Tudors</i>	Directed revision tasks - Russia: revision resource on communist government in the USSR, 1917-85 - China: revision resource on establishing communist rule (including the Korean War), 1949-57
28	Directed consolidation and revision task - Detailed analysis of Tudors Section A source (2025 paper) - Revision resource on parliament, 1485-1537	Coursework reading 2 McDonagh, 'The Nazi State', <i>Hitler and Nazi Germany</i>
5 th October	Tudors reading 6 Ackroyd, 'The Great Revolt', <i>Tudors</i>	Directed revision tasks - Russia: revision resource on industrial and agricultural change, 1917-85 - China: revision resource on industry and agriculture, 1958-62
12	Directed consolidation and revision task - Detailed essay plans for both Tudors Section B questions (2021 paper) - Revision resource on the religious challenges to Henry VIII, 1533-37	Coursework reading 3 Leichsburg, 'Hitlers Utopia and Gleichshaltung', <i>Journal of Undergraduate Research in Humanities</i>
19	Tudors reading 7 Paul, 'Flesh, blood and bone', <i>The House of Dudley</i>	Directed revision tasks - Russia: revision resource on control of the people, 1917-85 - China: revision resource on the Cultural Revolution and its aftermath, 1965-76
26	Half term	
2 nd November	Directed consolidation task Detailed A3 timeline of Henry VIII's reign, 1509-1547	Coursework reading 4 Horgrefe, 'Nazi aggression', <i>Universities of Goettingen and Cambridge</i>
9	Tudors reading 8 Mitchell, 'King Edward VI', <i>Unruly</i>	Directed revision tasks - Russia: revision resource on social developments, 1917-85 - China: revision resource on social and cultural changes, 1949-76
16	Directed consolidation task Detailed A3 timeline combining the reigns of Edward VI (1547-53) and Mary I (1553-58)	Independent coursework reading
23	Tudors reading 9 Castor, 'The Lady Elizabeth', <i>Elizabeth I</i>	Directed revision tasks Russia: revision source on the fall of the USSR, 1985-91

		China: detailed essay plans for both Section B questions (2023 paper)
30	Directed consolidation and revision task - Detailed source analysis and essay plan of Tudors Section A (2023 paper) - Revision resource on Kett's rebellion	Independent coursework reading
7th December	Tudors reading 10 Day et al., 'The Catholic treasons against Elizabeth I', <i>A History of Treason</i>	Directed revision tasks - Review Personal Learning Checklists (PLCs) for both Russia and China - Create a revision timetable to prepare for the History trial exams in February (8 weeks from here!)
14	Catch up on missed lessons (Tudors)	Catch up on missed lessons (coursework)
21	Christmas holidays	
28	Christmas holidays	
4 th January	Directed consolidation and revision task - Detailed essay plans for both Tudors Section B questions (2025 paper) - Revision resource on the Revolt of the Northern Earls	Directed revision tasks - Russia: detailed essay plans for both Section A questions (2025 paper) - China: detailed source analysis and essay plan for Section A (2025 paper)
11	Tudors reading 11 McGinty, 'O'Neill, O'Donnell and the Nine Years War', <i>Annual Heritage Award 2013</i>	Directed revision tasks - Russia: detailed essay plans for both Section B questions (2025 paper) - China: detailed essay plans for both Section B questions (2025 paper)
18	Directed consolidation and revision task - Detailed essay plans for both Tudors Section B questions (2022 paper) - Revision resource on the causes of Tyrone's rebellion	Directed revision tasks - Russia: detailed extract analysis and essay plan for Section C (2025 paper) - China: detailed source analysis and essay plan (2019 paper)
25	Tudors reading 12 O'Neill, 'Tyrone's Military Revolution', <i>History Weekly (Ireland)</i>	Full first draft deadline
1 st February	Independent revision	Independent revision
8	Independent revision	Independent revision
15	Half term	
22	Independent revision	Independent revision
1 st March	Independent revision	Independent revision
8	Independent revision	Independent revision
15	Independent revision	Final submission deadline
22	Directed revision task Review Personal Learning Checklists (PLCs) for <i>all three papers</i>	Independent revision
29	Easter holiday	
5 th April	Easter holidays	
12	Independent revision	Independent revision
19	Independent revision	Independent revision
26	Independent revision	Independent revision
3 rd May	Independent revision	Independent revision
10	Independent revision	Independent revision
17		
24		
31	Half term	
7 th June		

14		
21		Trial examinations
28		
5 th July		
12		
19		