

Course
Transition



Bridging the Gap
from School to College



Warlingham
Sixth Form College

Year 11 > Year 12 Transition
Summer Term 2021
A Level History

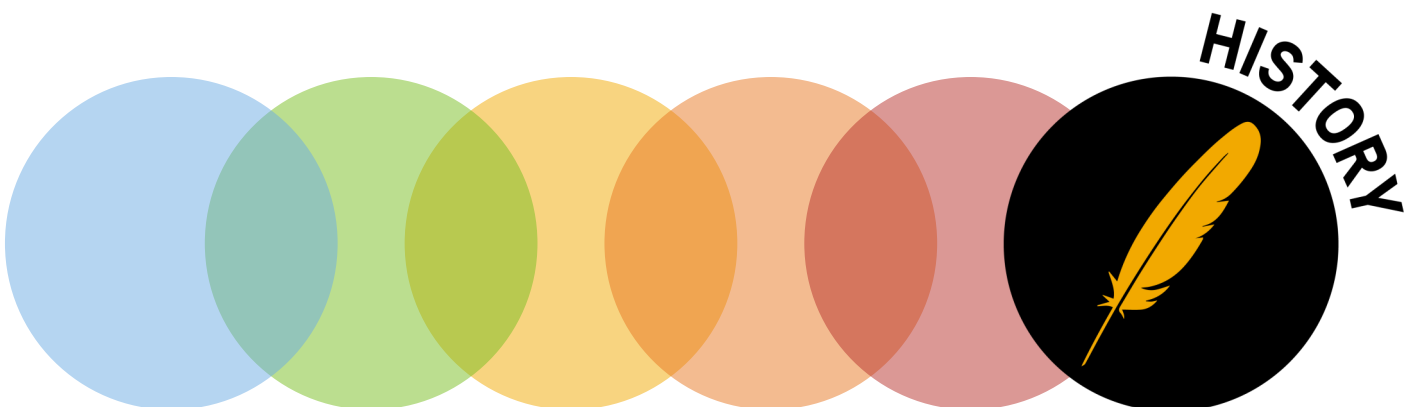











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COURSE OVERVIEW

AQA A Level History (7042)

Why should I study A Level History?

History is unique. In an era in which we have to filter all we read, watch and hear, history develops your skills in discerning reality from half-lies and untruths, known unknowns from unknown unknowns, in a real context. It helps you weigh up and decide upon the veracity of sources presented to you. You are taught to present your case for a point of view, justified by knowledge which you have moulded for your own argument. These are useful skills.

History at Warlingham is taught by genuine enthusiasts who love their subject, enjoy the duel of argument, and do their utmost to pass on their zeal for historical debate.

Course Overview

Paper One: Tsarist and Communist Russia, 1855 – 1964 (Option 1H)

In this course we examine the nature of differing Russian governments from Tsar Alexander II to Stalin and conclude with Khrushchev.

This is a fascinating course, considering how much changed during this period as well as how many things actually remained the same. Thus, you might consider why Stalin has been referred to as the "Red Tsar".



Paper Two: Depth study of the Wars of the Roses 1450 – 1499 (Option 2B)

In this option, we look at a period during which the English Monarchy suffered instability and the country was subjected to a range of political, economic and social pressures.

This period has been more prominent in recent years with the reburial of Richard III and the popular books and television series which have focused on it.





COURSE OVERVIEW

Coursework

A 4,500 word enquiry on a topic of your choosing. You will be expected to:

- find a topic that is of particular interest to you.
- create a suitable title.
- find two key historians with fundamentally different views on the topic.
- research the question using a wide range of historians.
- complete an essay of approximately 4,000 words.

Course Entry Requirements

Grade 5 or above in GCSE History, if taken. Otherwise: Grade 5 or above in any Humanities GCSE. If no Humanities GCSEs were taken: Grade 5 in GCSE English. (In exceptional circumstances, a Grade 4 will be considered.)

Assessment Format

Paper One (2hr 30mins) – worth 40% of the A Level

Paper Two (2hr 30mins) – worth 40% of the A Level

Coursework – worth 20% of the A Level

What can I do afterwards?

Degrees in History, the History of Ideas, Archaeology, Law and Politics. Careers in Civil Service, Teaching, Law and Local Government or any career needing logical, progressive thought.



OUR EXPECTATIONS

College Expectations for Academic Success

The College will work closely with all students and parents to create a purposeful, creative and stimulating environment in which students are encouraged to fully develop - both academically and personally.

We will expect you to take responsibility for your own behaviour and learning. The current College Committee along with the student body have discussed and agreed that students should commit to:

- Ensuring academic success through regular attendance and punctuality at all required registrations, lessons, supervised study lessons and Inspire Periods. Attendance which drops below 95% reduces Key Stage 5 performance by at least one grade, so it is taken very seriously.
- Completing all set tasks on time to the best of your ability, making full use of study periods and homework to enable you to meet all deadlines.
- Using study time effectively by bringing all required equipment and resources with you and making full and regular use of the College study rooms and LRC, respecting the need for silent studying conditions.
- Working closely with all your teachers to develop an effective working relationship based on mutual respect and discussing your work with them on a regular basis and meeting targets set.
- Developing your skills as an independent, self-evaluative learner and work closely with your tutor in monitoring and discussing your academic progress. As an independent learner, if you miss a lesson, it is your own responsibility to find the teacher and catch up with the work missed.
- Organising your work efficiently and effectively into folders for each subject, making full use of individual subject expectations and using Cornell Notes daily to ensure work in your folders is relevant and meaningful.
- Keeping mobile phones out-of-sight in all classrooms and during assemblies so that lessons are not disturbed and/or important information is missed.
- Attending all parents' evenings and arrange appointments with your teachers to discuss your progress and work.



USING CORNELL NOTES

The Cornell Notes system is a note-taking system devised by Walter Pauk, an education professor at Cornell University. It is a proven method that establishes a more effective learning process.

It is designed to help the user think and reflect upon the notes they have made as well as making them more useful for revision purposes.

Please [click here](#) to watch a video that explains how to take Cornell Notes properly.



REVIEW / REVISE

Russia, 1855-1964

From your GCSE studies:

- Causes of the Cold War, 1917—49
- Development of the Cold War in the 1950s
- Crises of the Cold War in the 1960s
- Détente, late 1960s and 1970s

From Key Stage 3:

- The Russian Revolution
- The Second World War



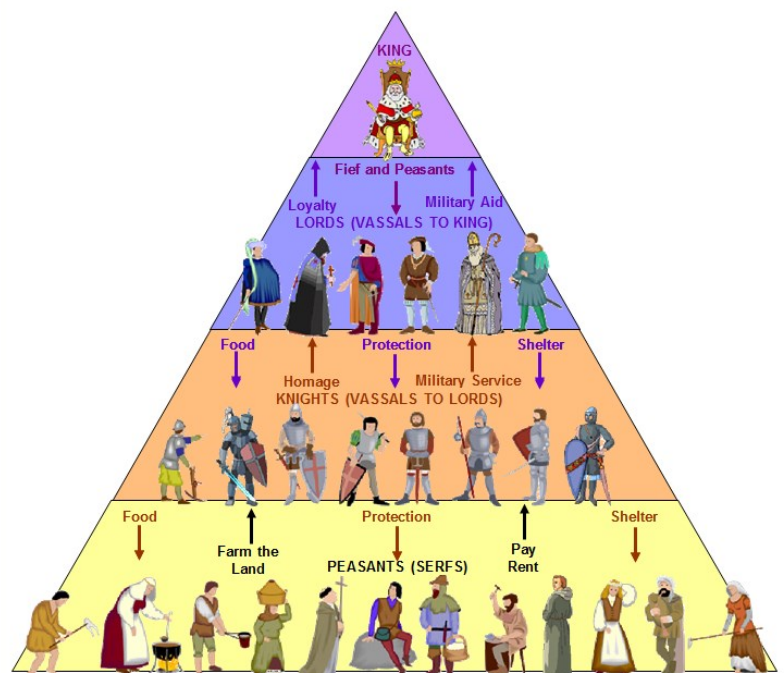
Wars of the Roses

From your GCSE studies:

- The Norman Conquest especially the Feudal System
- Power and the People - First section on Magna Carta, Simon de Montfort and Peasants' Revolt, and the Pilgrimage of Grace. This covers the challenges to Kingship in the Middle Ages

From Key Stage 3:

- Henry II and Thomas Becket
- The Tudors





WATCH

Russia, 1855-1964

War and Peace

- BBC mini series of 2016 based on the Tolstoy classic book
- This tells the story of Russia during the invasion by Napoleon in 1812-13.
- Key Questions - What is Tolstoy's main message about Tsarist Russian society?
 - Why was this book not banned under communism?

Nicholas and Alexandra

- 1971 feature film
- This examines the collapse of tsardom in the period 1900—1917.
- Key Question - According to the film, on a scale of 1-10, how far was Tsar Nicholas II responsible for the revolution of 1917? Justify your score.

Enemy at the Gates

- 2001 feature film
- This looks at the Soviet Union during the Battle of Stalingrad 1942-3.
- Key Question - The Red Army was very political. Explain, with specific references to the film.

Child 44

- 2015 feature film
- This looks at the problem of investigating a serial killer in the 'socialist paradise', where officially murder does not exist!
- Key Question - What do you learn about Soviet society from this story?

Chernobyl

- 2019 mini series
- This looks at the nuclear disaster of 1986 in the Soviet Union. It contrasts the heroic actions of ordinary citizens with the incompetence of the officials who cared more about the Soviet Union's prestige than its peoples' lives.
- Key Questions - Identify similarities between 'Chernobyl' and 'Child 44'
 - Why do we need to be careful when using these two programmes?



WATCH

Wars of the Roses, 1450 - 1499

The Plantagenets (part 4)

- This episode focuses on Edward III and Richard II. What happened during the reign of these two very different monarchs in the Fourteenth Century is important in understanding the instability in England in the Fifteenth.

Britain's Bloodiest Dynasty (part 4)

- This episode gives more information about Richard II.
- Key Questions - Why was Richard II removed from power? (Usurped)
 - What does this suggest about the power of the king in the late medieval period?

Henry V

- 1989 feature film
- Many consider Henry V as our greatest king.
- Key Questions - Why is Henry V viewed as one of our greatest kings?
 - Henry V died young in 1422, leaving his son Henry VI to rule when 11 months old. Why would this be a massive problem?

The White Queen

- TV mini series
- This series is set in the mid Fifteenth Century and examines the rule of Edward IV, one of the key characters in this unit. It focuses on his wife, Elizabeth Woodville, who has been unkindly referred to as a 'medieval chav'!!
- Key Questions - Why was it difficult for Edward IV to maintain his power?
 - Why was Elizabeth Woodville generally unpopular?



LISTEN TO

The podcast '**You're Dead to Me**' which is available via the following links:

Home page - [Click here](#)

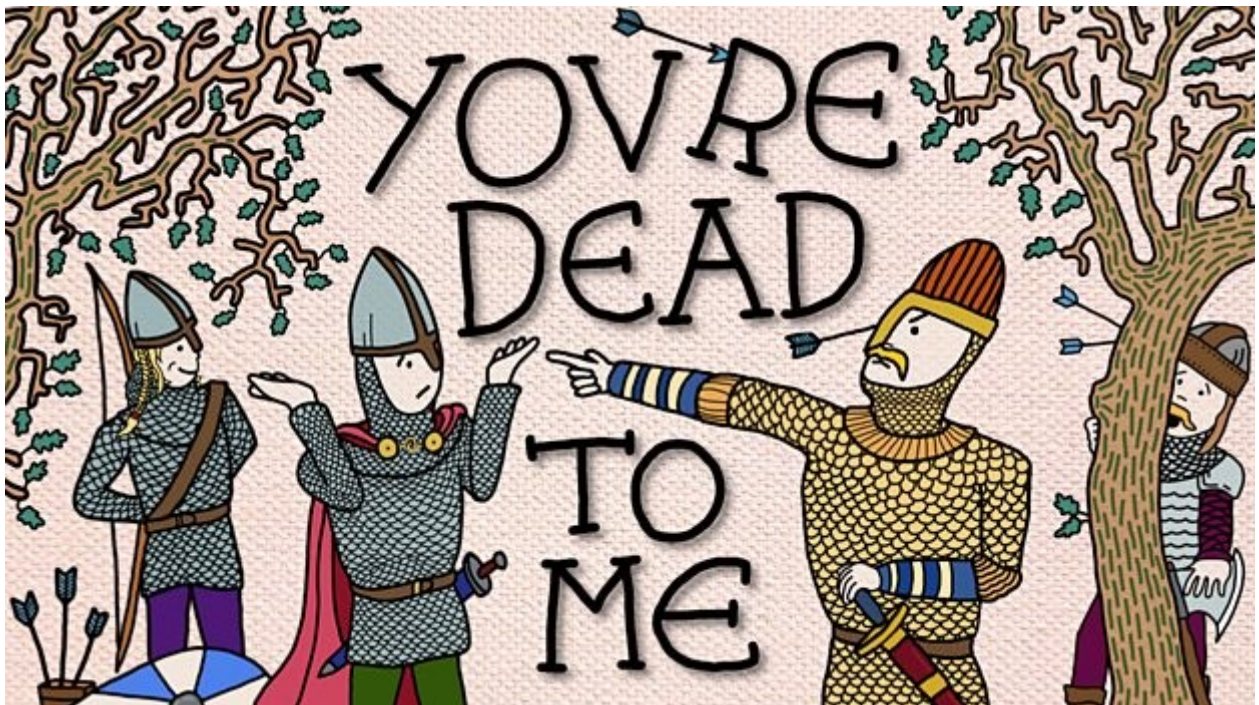
List of episodes - [Click here](#)

I would particularly recommend the episode on **Eleanor of Aquitaine** as a starting point as it is very relevant to your War of the Roses course. [Click here](#).

This is a great podcast that takes a really light hearted but also informative approach to a range of topics within history from key individuals such as Boudicca or Eleanor of Aquitaine to events like the history of football and general elections.

Each episode sees the presenter Greg Jenner discuss the topic with an expert historian in that field along with a comedian who provides some welcome entertainment to the topic of discussion.

Choose any episode(s) that interest(s) you and make some notes afterwards to summarise what you have learned on that topic.





READ

Russia, 1855-1964

Russia by Martin Sixsmith – An accessible overview of the History of Russia

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Russia-000-Year-Chronicle-Wild-East/dp/1849900736/ref=sr_1_1?crid=3LTRFZYD3PDC2&dchild=1&keywords=russia+martin+sixsmith&qid=1588340768&srefix=russia+by+martin+si%2Caps%2C499&sr=8-1

Access to History books also give succinct introductions to different aspects of the course e.g. Revolution and Dictatorship: Russia 1917-53 by Michael Lynch

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Access-History-Revolution-dictatorship-1917-1953/dp/1510459340/ref=sr_1_17?crid=2LSLGCZBD01V0&dchild=1&keywords=a+level+history+russia&qid=1588340873&srefix=a-level+russia+hist%2Caps%2C211&sr=8-17

Wars of the Roses, 1450-1499

- Best book you can buy on this topic is 'A Short History of the Wars of the Roses' by David Grummitt. ISBN 978-1-84885-875-6
- Also recommended is 'The Wars of the Roses, Peace and Conflict in Fifteenth Century England' by John Gillingham.



RESEARCH

Coursework

You will be required to complete a 4,500 word study on a topic of your choice. **It is never too early to start thinking/researching.**

By the end of Year 12 you will need to have done the following:

- Decided on a topic that you find interesting. (by Christmas)
- Devised a title that fits the criteria laid down by the exam board. (by Easter)
- Found at least two historians with differing views on your topic. (by Easter)
- Found at least three key sources that you will evaluate during your study. (by July)

There will be a little lesson time allocated to this in Year 12 and more in Year 13, however, **the majority of the work will be carried out independently by you.**

Key Characters for First Term, Year 12

Research these key characters and organisations, making sure you understand why they played key roles in the two units we study.

Russia

- Tsar Alexander II; Serfdom;
- Tsar Alexander III; Sergei Witte; Valentin Pobedonostsev.
- Populism; Marxism.

Wars of the Roses

- The Hundred Years War; King Henry VI; Jack Cade Revolt; Queen Margaret of Anjou;
- William de la Pole, Duke of Suffolk; Edmund Beaufort, Duke of Somerset.
- Richard Plantagenet, Duke of York; Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick;



COMPLETE

Course on 'England in the time of Richard III' from the University of Leicester

By completing this course, you will explore 15th century England through archaeology, history and literature as well as learn more about Richard III's discovery and reburial. [Click here](#) to start the course, which will also cover the following topics:

- Medieval battles and the Wars of the Roses
- Peasants and farmers
- Medieval towns, villages and houses
- Books, literacy and printing
- Death and commemoration
- Food and cooking in the 15th century
- The discovery and reburial of King Richard III



Course on 'The Tudors' from the University of Roehampton

By completing this course, you will go back in time to learn about the dramatic rule of the Tudor monarchs and religious change of the sixteenth century reformation. You can complete this course by clicking [here](#). The course will also cover the following topics:

- Overview of British history from 1485 to 1603
- Introduction to the Tudor monarchy
- Overview of political dynasties in Tudor England
- Explore aspects of social history from 1485 and 1603
- Introduction to the legacy of the Tudor dynasty

