

# Transition materials for A Level History Route 2



**History**

## A LEVEL ROUTE 2 COURSE OVERVIEW

40% 2hr 30min	40% 2hr 30min	20%
<p><b>Paper 1: Breadth Study</b></p> <p><b>The Tudors: England 1485-1603</b></p> <p>Consolidation of the Tudor Dynasty, 1485-1547 Henry VII 1485-1509 Henry VIII 1509-1547 The Mid-Tudor Crisis 1547-1563 The triumph of Elizabeth, 1563-1603</p>	<p><b>Paper 2: Depth Study</b></p> <p><b>Revolution and dictatorship: Russia 1917-1953</b></p> <p>Russian Revolution 1917 Bolshevik consolidation 1918-24 Stalin's rise to power Stalin's rule: economy and society Stalinism, politics and control The Great Patriotic War 1941-45 Stalin's dictatorship 1945-53</p>	<p><b>Paper 3: Historical Investigation (4,000 word coursework unit)</b></p> <p><b>Civil Rights in the USA 1865-1965</b></p> <p>Slavery and the Civil War, Reconstruction and Jim Crow Protest, Lynching and The Great Migration The impact of WW1 and WW2 Role of American Presidents and Congress The influence of key individuals such as Martin Luther King and Malcolm X</p>

## **Introduction**

Welcome to the A Level History pack preparing you to start your A level History course.

This pack contains a step by step programme of activities and resources created to prepare you for the academic demands of A Level History study.

The reading list is not compulsory, but merely advisory. However, you may wish to read one or two of them over the summer break.

All activities are aimed to be used after you complete your GCSE exams and should be completed in stages throughout the remainder of the summer term and over the summer holidays to ensure you are ready to start your course in September.

We look forward to working with you.

Ms Howell

2 i/c of History

## Reading List

*This is just a suggested list of relevant material. You are not expected to read all of it but you may wish to select one or two to read over the summer.*

### Books – Non Fiction

#### 1. PAPER 1: TUDORS 1485-1603

- **The Tudors: A very short introduction: John Guy** – This book explores the Tudor dynasty and considers the impact and legacy of the Tudors.
- **Tudor: The family story: Leanda de Lisle** – This book gives a narrative of every Tudor monarch, from Henry VII to Elizabeth I.
- **Winter King: The dawn of Tudor England: Thomas Penn** – This book charts the turbulent times of one of the most mysterious Tudor monarchs – Henry VII.

#### 2. PAPER 2: REVOLUTION AND DICTATORSHIP - RUSSIA 1917-53

- **Russian History: A very short introduction: Geoffrey Hosking** – This book discusses all aspects of Russian history, from the struggle by the state to control society to the transformation of the nation into a multi-ethnic empire, Russia's relations with the West, and the post-Soviet era.
- **Stalin: A Biography: Robert Service** – A full assessment of Stalin from his early years in Georgia, his youthful activism, his relationship with Lenin, his family and his party members.
- **The Russian Revolution: A Very Short Introduction: S.A Smith** – This focusses on the main events and developments in Soviet Russia between 1917 – 1936.

#### 3. COURSEWORK : CIVIL RIGHTS IN THE USA, 1865 – 1965

- **Team of Rivals - The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln: Doris Kearns** - A clearly written narrative of Lincoln's presidency which helps to understand the significance of his presidency.
- **Parting the Waters: America in the King Years, 1954-63: Taylor Branch** - This book serves as both a biography on Martin Luther King, Jr. and an overview of the Civil Rights Movement during this period.
- **They Had a Dream: Civil Rights Struggle from Frederick Douglas to Marcus Garvey to Martin Luther King, Jr and Malcolm X: Jules Archer** - An overview of the Civil Rights movement in America with particular focus on some of the main leaders of the movement.
- **John F. Kennedy: An Unfinished Life 1917-63: Robert Dallek** – A classic biography of JFK's life and Presidency.

## **Books – Fiction**

- **Wolf Hall: Hilary Mantel** – A fictionalised biography of the rise Thomas Cromwell, advisor to King Henry VIII. From the son of a blacksmith to one of England's most famous figures, this story shows the intrigues of the Tudor court under Henry VIII.
- **Bringing up the bodies: Hilary Mantel** - Sequel to Wolf Hall, chronicling the story of the downfall of Anne Boleyn.
- **Dissolution (The Shardlake Series) C J Sansom**: - A Tudor murder mystery series set during the aftermath of the Dissolution of the Monasteries.
- **The Road of Bones: Fine, Anne** - Based on life in Russia under Stalin, it is a fable about the nature of totalitarianism. It reveals how power corrupts and how quickly the oppressed can become the oppressors.
- **Natasha's Will: Joan Lingard** - A dangerous journey into exile during the Russian Revolution. When Natasha's grandfather is arrested in St Petersburg in 1917, her aristocratic family are forced to flee for their lives.
- **Animal Farm: A Fairy Story: George Orwell** – A well- known classic story detailing the events leading up to the Russian Revolution of 1917.
- **Invisible Man: Ralph Ellison** - A great story about an African American man who lives during the 1920s and 30s. Picks up on key themes of the era- Harlem Renaissance and discrimination.
- **Uncle Tom's Cabin: Harriet Beecher-Stowe** – The book that arguably kicked off the whole Civil Rights movement. A definite read to understand the early treatment of black Americans in 19<sup>th</sup> century.

## **Films**

- **Wolf Hall**: - Celebrated BBC dramatization of Hilary Mantel's novels, starring Mark Rylance and Damian Lewis.
- **The Other Boleyn Girl** - Hollywood blockbuster starring Natalie Portman and Scarlett Johansson as the two Boleyn sisters. A dramatization of the novel by Philippa Gregory.
- **The White Queen**: BBC adaptation of the 'cousins' wars' series of books by Philippa Gregory. Sets the scene of the Wars of the Roses, and the early Tudors.
- **Elizabeth**: Hollywood blockbuster starring Cate Blanchett followed by the sequel **Elizabeth: the Golden Age**. A fictionalised dramatization of the reign of 'Good Queen Bess.'
- **The Romanovs – An Imperial Family** – A Russian film with subtitles, set in 1917 focussing on the last days of Tsar Nicholas II and the rest of the Romanov family.
- **Enemy at the Gates** – Set in 1942, in the Battle of Stalingrad, the main character, Vasily Zaytsev (played by Jude Law), becomes the poster boy for the Red Army due to his sniper skills.
- **Bridge of Spies** – Featuring Tom Hanks, an American lawyer is recruited to defend an arrested Soviet spy in court, and organise an exchange of the spy for a captured American pilot.
- **Goodbye Lenin** – Although not set within the time parameter of the topic, this comedy focusses on a young man who has to protect his fragile Mother who has come out of a long coma from a fatal shock that Communism has ended.

- **The Butler** - Loosely based on the real life of Eugene Allen, an African-American who is a witness of notable political and social events of the 20th century during his 34-year tenure serving as a White House butler.
- **Selma** - A recent blockbuster that depicts the marches of the Civil Rights Movement under Martin Luther King. Jr.
- **12 Years a Slave** - Another recent blockbuster that gives a helpful insight in to the lives of African Americans pre 1865.
- **Mississippi Burning** - A film loosely based on an FBI investigation into the murder of 3 civil rights campaigners.

## **Transition Tasks**

These tasks will take around 15 hours to complete. Please do not leave them until the last minute, otherwise you will not manage to get it all done. All of this work should be presented to your teachers on the first lesson back in September. If you have any questions about the work please contact: [maggie.howell@astrea-longsands.org](mailto:maggie.howell@astrea-longsands.org)

### **1. PAPER 1: TUDORS 1485-1603**

**Task 1:** Watch the following Documentary (British History's Biggest Fibs With Lucy Worsley - Episode 1: War of the Roses) and answer the 18 questions:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b08bqdzl/british-historys-biggest-fibs-with-lucy-worsley-series-1-1-the-wars-of-the-roses> (Time 1.5 hours)

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 29<sup>th</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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 II Society? Why?

**Task 2:** 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. (Time 2 hours)

**1. What was the system of government in Tudor England?**

- What powers had Parliament achieved by 1500?
- What changed under the Tudors?

**2. How powerful was England compared to other countries in Europe?**

- What were the powerful countries in Europe at this time?
- Who was a friend of England? Who was an enemy?
- What was the Auld Alliance?

**3. What was the religion of Tudor England?**

- Why was Medieval religion like?
- What did monasteries do?
- What was the Reformation?

**Task 3:** Create fact files of the key events in the reign of each of the Tudor monarchs: (3 hours)

- Henry VII
- Henry VIII
- Edward
- Mary I
- Elizabeth I

Make sure you consider a range of key events - political, foreign policy, wars, socio-economic and religious. <https://www.britroyals.com/tudortree.asp> - if you click on each monarch you will get a fact file to help you.

**2. PAPER 2: REVOLUTION AND DICTATORSHIP - RUSSIA 1917-53**

**Task 1: Russian Map work** – Print off an A4 map from google of Russia in 1900. Locate and mark the following places:

- St Petersburg
- Moscow
- Tsaritsyn (renamed Stalingrad in 1925)
- Vladivostock
- Ekaterinburg
- Odessa
- Kronstadt
- Siberia
- Ural Mountains (30 minutes)

**Task 2:** Create fact files about the following individuals who we will be studying. Have a separate sheet for each individual. Try to go beyond just key facts. Use the following questions to help you

really think about these individuals (you do not need to answer all these questions, they are just there to give you some ideas of the things to think about when researching). Time 3 hours

- What would be included on a simple timeline of key events in their life?
- Which big ideas influenced them?
- What or who influenced them?
- Did anyone write an obituary? What did it say? Do you think this sounds truthful?
- Which present day/historical figures do you think they are similar to?
- What impact did they have?
- What does their life reveal about Russia?

Individuals:

Tsar Nicholas II

Rasputin

Sergei Witte

Stolypin

Lenin

Trotsky

**Task 3: Listen to the following podcast. Write a side of A4 taking notes on Rasputin, who he was, what happened, and the consequences.** Time: 1 hour

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/search?q=The+Forum+rasputin&suggid=urn%3Abbc%3Aprogrammes%3Ab01d15g&page=1>

**Task 4:** Watch the following lecture by eminent Russian historian Dominic Lieven. Please make at least 10 bullet point notes, thinking about who led the revolution, did the Tsar cause his own downfall, and what were the consequences for Russia.

<https://www.gresham.ac.uk/lectures-and-events/the-february-revolution-in-russia> (Time: 1 hour)

**Task 5:** Read/dip into a book or a novel about the Russian Revolution so that you begin to get 'a feel' for the period.

- Revolutionary Russia, Orlando Figes
- Natasha's Dance, Orlando Figes
- Animal Farm, George Orwell
- Sashenka, Simon Sebag Montefiore (an excellent novel to read over the summer about the Revolution)
- The Russian Revolution: History in an hour, Rupert Colley

### **3. COURSEWORK : CIVIL RIGHTS IN THE USA, 1865 – 1965**

**Task 1:** Create a timeline of the following presidents of the USA from 1863 -1968:

- Abraham Lincoln
- Andrew Johnson
- Ulysses Grant
- Theodore Roosevelt
- Woodrow Wilson
- Franklin Roosevelt
- Harry Truman
- Dwight Eisenhower
- John F Kennedy
- Lyndon Johnson

Include the following details:

- Political party
- Highlights of presidency
- Civil rights action and attitude towards African Americans

Time – 3 hours.