

What do we study in A-level History?

		Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Year 12	Teacher A	<u>Britain 1930-97 - Enquiry Topic: Churchill 1930–1951</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Churchill’s view of events 1929–1940 Churchill as wartime Prime Minister Churchill and international diplomacy 1939–1951 	<u>Britain 1930-97 - British Period Study: Britain 1951–1997</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservative domination 1951–1964 Labour and Conservative governments 1964–1979 Thatcher and the end of consensus 1979–1997 	<u>Britain 1930-97 - British Period Study: Britain 1951–1997</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Britain’s position in the world 1951–1997 A-level coursework preparation
	Teacher B	<u>Russia and its Rulers 1855–1964</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alexander II Alexander III 	<u>Russia and its Rulers 1855–1964</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nicholas II The Provisional Government 	<u>Russia and its Rulers 1855–1964</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lenin Stalin
Year 13	Teacher A	<u>The French Revolution and the rule of Napoleon 1774–1815</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The causes of the French Revolution from 1774 and the events of 1789 The Revolution from October 1789 to the Directory 1795 	<u>The French Revolution and the rule of Napoleon 1774–1815</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Napoleon Bonaparte to 1807 The decline and fall of Napoleon 1807–1815 	<i>Revision and exams</i>
	Teacher B	<u>Russia and its Rulers 1855–1964</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stalin Khrushchev 	<u>Russia and its Rulers 1855–1964</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Synoptic essay writing 	

A-level History at The Coopers' Company and Coborn School

At A-level we study OCR A-level History, specification H505. Each class will have two teachers. This enables the students to benefit from increased teacher expertise and experience learning of complimentary topics in parallel throughout Years 12 and 13.

Strand A (six hours a fortnight) – Britain 1930-97 (25%), France 1774-1815 (15%), coursework (20%) = 60% of overall marks.

Strand B (four hours a fortnight) – Russia 1855-1964 (40%) = 40% of overall marks.

What do we study in A-level History (Year 12)?

In Year 12 Strand A we cover Britain 1930-97. The early part of this course covers the political career from 1930-1951 of the most famous of British prime ministers, Winston Churchill. This part of the A-level is a source-based enquiry which in the exam requires students to analyse and evaluate contemporary sources using their knowledge of the historical context.

The next part of this strand is the British Period Study – 1951-97 which looks at the major political developments in Britain of this time and also Britain's changing position in the world. This part of the exam requires students to write a period study essay demonstrating their knowledge.

Towards the end of Year 12 students begin to consider the issue which they wish to cover for their coursework and undertake preparatory tasks. A-level coursework requires students to show in depth knowledge of the chosen historical issue and expert use of contemporary sources and historical sources. As such it builds on skills taught in the Strand A work on contemporary sources on Churchill and the Strand B work on interpretations of Alexander II and The Provisional Government.

Throughout this section students build on their knowledge of 20th century history from Year 9 and the work done at GCSE on Weimar and Nazi Germany and the Cold War.

In Year 12 Strand B we start to cover Russia and its Rulers 1855-1964. This course covers Russian tsars and Soviet leaders before and after the Russian Revolution of 1917, looking at various themes over this period. We also look in depth at interpretations of Alexander II and The Provisional Government.

This section again builds upon knowledge of 20th century history from Year 9 and the work done at GCSE on the Cold War.

What do we study in A-level History (Year 13)?

In Year 13 Strand A students continue to work on the coursework element, submitting a draft and final version for assessment.

Students also undertake their study of France 1774-1815, looking first at the causes of the French Revolution and the key events of revolutionary era before going on to study the rise of Napoleon, the impact of his rule on France and Europe, and finally, his decline and fall. For this unit students are able to build on previous knowledge of 17th and 18th century developments in Britain, Europe and America as well as using their more recently acquired knowledge of political concepts which are often rooted in the events of the French Revolution.

In Year 13 Strand B students continue with their study of Russia and its Rulers 1855-1964 by looking at leaders of the Soviet Union up to 1964 and looking in depth at historical interpretations of the era of Khrushchev. Students also work extensively on how to write synoptic essay-style questions for this section of the exam. These are based on the themes of:

- 1) the nature of government
- 2) the impact of regimes on the economy and society
- 3) the impact of war and revolution on the development of the Russian Empire and the USSR
- 4) Russia and its empire, nationalities and satellite states