

**A-Level Overview Year 1: History**

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| Terms 1 & 2 | **The Tudors, 1485-1603****Course overview – the big picture****Henry VII, 1485–1509*** Henry Tudor’s consolidation of power: character and aims; establishing the Tudor dynasty
* Government: councils, parliament, justice, royal finance, domestic policies
* Relationships with Scotland and other foreign powers; securing the succession; marriage alliances
* Society: churchmen, nobles and commoners; regional division; social discontent and rebellions
* Economic development: trade, exploration, prosperity and depression
* Religion; humanism; arts and learning
 | **The Cold War, 1945-91****Course overview – the big picture****The Origins of the Cold War, c1945–1949*** - US, British and USSR relations in 1945: conflicting ideologies; tensions at Yalta; relations between Stalin, Roosevelt and Churchill; the breakdown of the Grand Alliance at Potsdam; relations between Stalin, Truman and Attlee
* - Developing tensions: the Soviet Union occupation/control of eastern and southern Europe; Kennan's Long Telegram; the Iron Curtain speech; Cominform; the Greek Civil War and the Truman Doctrine on containment
* - The USA’s involvement in Europe: policy towards Britain and Europe; the launch of the Marshall Plan; US attitudes to Germany and Berlin
* - Conflict over Germany: developments within the sectors, including Bizonia and currency reform; the Berlin blockade; the creation of East and West Germany; formation of NATO
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| Terms 3 & 4 | **Henry VIII, 1509–1547*** - Henry VIII: character and aims; addressing Henry VII’s legacy
* - Government: Crown and Parliament, ministers, domestic policies including the establishment of Royal Supremacy
* - Relationships with Scotland and other foreign powers; securing the succession
* - Society: elites and commoners; regional issues and the social impact of religious upheaval; rebellion
* - Economic development: trade, exploration, prosperity and depression
* - Religion: renaissance ideas; reform of the Church; continuity and change by 1547
 | **The Widening of the Cold War, 1949–1955*** - US containment in action in Asia: the reconstruction of Japan and US-Japanese relations; support for Jiang Jieshi and policy towards China and Taiwan; the defensive perimeter strategy; support for South Korea; NSC-68
* - The Korean War: causes, position and aims of Kim ll Sung and Syngman Rhee; attitudes and actions of the UN, USA, USSR and China; military involvement and settlement
* - Increasing Cold War tensions: McCarthyism in the USA and its influence in Britain and Europe; US dominance in the UN and role as 'world policeman'; the isolation of China
* - Alliances and shifts: FRG and NATO; the Warsaw Pact; SEATO; Eisenhower, Dulles and 'brinkmanship'; the domino theory; attitude to French struggle in Indo-China; the Geneva Conference

**The Global War, 1955–1963*** - Khrushchev and East-West relations: impact of risings in Poland and Hungary and Soviet intervention; the degree of 'peaceful coexistence', including exchange of visits and Paris summit
* - Cold War rivalries: the extension of the arms race including ICBMs; the space race; sputnik and space flight; the Berlin Crisis and the U2 affair; the significance and impact of the Berlin Wall
* - Conflict in Asia: Indo-China under Ho Chi-Minh in the North and Diem in the South; formation of NLF; Kennedy's policies towards Indo-China and Diem's assassination
* - Confrontation between the superpowers: US attitudes to Cuba and developments leading to the missile crisis; the 13 days; the significance of the crisis
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| Term 5 | Independent Enquiry researches | Independent Enquiry researches |
| Term 6 | Independent Enquiry drafting/writing | Independent Enquiry drafting/writing |



**A-Level Overview Year 2: History**

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| Terms 1 & 2 | **Instability and consolidation:****'the Mid-Tudor Crisis', 1547–1563*** - Edward VI, Somerset and Northumberland; royal authority; problems of succession; relations with foreign powers
* - The social impact of religious and economic changes under Edward VI; rebellion; intellectual developments; humanist and religious thought
* - Mary I and her ministers; royal authority; problems of succession; relations with foreign powers
* - The social impact of religious and economic changes under Mary I; rebellion; intellectual developments; humanist and religious thought
* - Elizabeth I: character and aims; consolidation of power, including the Act of Settlement and relations with foreign powers
* - The impact of economic, social and religious developments in the early years of Elizabeth's rule
 | **Confrontation and cooperation, c1963–1972*** - Confrontation in the Vietnam War: Johnson's policy in Vietnam; the Gulf of Tonkin resolution; escalation; tactics and relative strengths of the two sides; the Tet Offensive
* - Nixon's policies in Vietnam: Vietnamisation; extension into Cambodia and Laos; relations with China; the beginning of the Paris peace talks
* - Cooperation: attitudes of Khrushchev and Kennedy; Hot-line; Moscow Test Ban Treaty; nuclear non-proliferation treaty; cut back in materials for nuclear weapons
* - Pressures on USSR: the crisis in Czechoslovakia and the Brezhnev doctrine; relations with China

**The Brezhnev era, 1972–1985*** - The USA and SE Asia: Paris peace talks; Northern victory; continuing problems in Cambodia; costs of war
* - The extent of Détente up to 1979: the SALT talks; Ostpolitik and Helsinki accords; arms race; relations with China
* - The Second Cold War: the reasons for renewed hostilities and developments, including the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan; new personalities, including Reagan, Thatcher and Pope John Paul II; the crushing of Solidarity in Poland; the shooting down of KAL 007
* - Developments in Africa and the Americas: the impact of Cuban intervention in Angola and Ethiopia; the impact of US intervention in Latin America and the Caribbean including Chile, Grenada and Nicaragua
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| Terms 3 & 4 | **The triumph of Elizabeth, 1563–1603** * - Elizabethan government: court, ministers and parliament; factional rivalries
* - Foreign affairs: issues of succession; Mary, Queen of Scots; relations with Spain
* - Society: continuity and change; problems in the regions; social discontent and rebellions
* - Economic development: trade, exploration and colonisation; prosperity and depression
* - Religious developments, change and continuity; the English renaissance and ‘the Golden Age’ of art, literature and music

- The last years of Elizabeth: the state of England politically, economically, religiously and socially by 1603 | **The ending of the Cold War, 1985–1991**- Gorbachev and the ending of the Cold War: pressures on and significance of Gorbachev as Soviet leader; new thinking and practicalities: the importance of Soviet economic problems* - The summits between the USA and the USSR, including Geneva, Reykjavik, Washington and Moscow; Reagan; star wars; Bush and the US response
* - The collapse of Communism in the Eastern European soviet satellite states; the end of the Brezhnev Doctrine and significance of events of 1989
* - The ending of Cold War tensions in Asia: Afghanistan; the Americas: Cuba, Nicaragua and El Salvador; Africa: Angola and Ethiopia; the end of the Cold War: the Malta summit and its aftermath, including the reunification of Germany; the collapse of the USSR and resignation of Gorbachev
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| Term 5 | Revision and exam practice | Revision and exam practice |
| Term 6 | Final exams | Final exams |