

# History Year 10 Curriculum Overview 2025-26



## **Year 10 Overview**

Students will begin their GCSE journey by starting with the MAIN causes of the First World War (Paper 1 Section A), they will analyse the chronological and thematic events and significant individuals involved in the Great War and discuss how they all play an important part in the domino-effect of the buildup to international war. Students will be introduced to exam technique almost immediately, exploring the opinions of historians of the main cause of war, to the main reason for German defeat where students will be encouraged to apply their knowledge to complete extended writing questions. This unit also emphasises the significance of source analysis, and the value of sources as historical evidence in most lessons.

Students will then move onto the political whirlwind of Germany 1890-1945, Democracy to Dictatorship (Paper 1 Section B), they will initially draw on some similar content links between the two units, before moving onto the events of the lasting impact of the Wall Street Crash in Weimar Germany, leading to the eventual rise of the Nazis in Germany. Students will study the societal changes in German society throughout the home, workplace, army and international status, drawing on differences and similarities throughout the studied time period. Students will focus on the analysis of interpretations to prepare them for their GCSE exam, asking how and why historical interpretations differ, and which they believe to be most convincing, drawing on their own opinions as well as their own knowledge.

Students will be introduced to the thematic study Britain: Health and the people, c.1000-present (Paper 2 Section A) by studying the first topic focusing on the Medieval period. This includes key events such as the Black Death and the role of the Church in public health. The role of individuals will play a running theme throughout the units studied in Year 10, and students will be encouraged to constantly assess significance and impact in their actions within the time periods discussed.

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Week Number	Themes/ Topics	Key Knowledge & Skills	Key Assessments
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>1-6</b> <b>(Autumn 1)</b></p>	<p><b>Conflict and Tension 1894-1918:</b> Part One: Causes of the First World War</p> <p>Part Two: Stalemate</p>	<p>Alliance Systems: The countries and formation of the Triple Alliance, Franco-Russian Alliance, and the relations between the 'Entente' powers, the crises in Morocco and the Balkans (1908-1909) and their effects on international relations.</p> <p>Anglo-German rivalry: Britain and the challenges to Splendid Isolation, Kaiser Wilhelm's aims in foreign policy, including Weltpolitik, Colonial tensions, European rearmament, including the Anglo-German naval race.</p> <p>Outbreak of war: Slav nationalism and relations between Serbia and Austria-Hungary (links to Balkans), the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand in Sarajevo and its consequences, the July Crisis, the Schlieffen Plan and Belgium, reasons for the outbreak of hostilities and the escalating war.</p> <p><i>Chronological understanding - Continuity and change – Cause and consequence – Source utility – Significance</i></p> <p>The Schlieffen Plan: The reasons for the plan, its failure, including the Battle of the Marne and its contribution to the stalemate.</p> <p>The Western Front: Military tactics and technology, including trench warfare. War of attrition, key battles and the reasons for the events and significance of those (Verdun, the Somme, Passchendaele, Gallipoli and Jutland). The U-boat campaign and convoys, the reasons why the USA joined the war.</p>	<p>16 Mark Extended Writing (MAIN – Q4) Source Analysis (Battles - Q1 &amp; Q2)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>7-13</b> <b>(Autumn 2)</b></p>	<p>Part Three: Ending the War</p>	<p>The Western Front: Military tactics and technology, including trench warfare. War of attrition, Key battles and the reasons for, the events and significance of those (Verdun, the Somme, Passchendaele, Gallipoli and Jutland). The U-boat campaign and convoys, the reasons why the USA joined the war.</p> <p><i>Chronological understanding – Cause and consequence – Source utility – Significance - Similarity vs difference</i></p> <p>Changes in the Allied Forces: Consequences of the Bolshevik Revolution and the withdrawal of Russia on Germany strategy, the reasons for and impact of the entry of the USA into the war.</p>	<p>Source Analysis (Battles - Q1 &amp; Q2) Write an Account (Germany's failure – Q3) Full Mock Exam of Unit (FWW)</p>

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		<p>Military developments in 1918 and their contribution to Germany's defeat: The evolution of tactics and technology, Ludendorff and the German Spring Offensive, the Allied advance during The Hundred Days.</p> <p>Germany surrenders: Impact of the blockade, abdication of the Kaiser, Armistice, the contribution of Haig and Foch to Germany's defeat.</p> <p><i>Chronological understanding - Continuity and change – Cause and consequence – Source utility – Significance</i></p>	
<p><b>14-18 (Spring 1)</b></p>	<p><b>Germany 1890-1945: Democracy to Dictatorship:</b> Part One: Germany and the growth of Democracy</p>	<p>Kaiser Wilhelm and the difficulties of ruling Germany: the growth of parliamentary government, the influence of Prussian militarism, industrialisation, social reform and the growth of socialism, the domestic importance of the Navy Laws.</p> <p>The impact of the First World War: War weariness, economic problems, defeat, the end of the monarchy, post-war problems including reparations, Post-war problems including reparations; the occupation of the Ruhr and hyperinflation, Weimar democracy; political change and unrest, 1919–1923; Spartacists; Kapp Putsch; the Munich Putsch.</p> <p>Weimar Germany, the Stresemann era: The extent of recovery during the Stresemann era (1924–1929): economic development including the new currency, the Dawes Plan and the Young Plan, the impact of international agreements on recovery, Weimar culture.</p>	<p>Interpretations (Q1, Q2 and Q3)</p>
<p><b>19-24 (Spring 2)</b></p>	<p>Part Two: Germany and the Depression</p>	<p>Weimar Germany, the Stresemann era: The extent of recovery during the Stresemann era (1924–1929): economic development including the new currency, the Dawes Plan and the Young Plan, the impact of international agreements on recovery, Weimar culture.</p> <p><i>Chronological understanding - Continuity and change – Cause and consequence – Interpretation analysis – Significance</i></p> <p>The impact of the Depression and failure of Weimar democracy: Growth in support for the Nazis and other extremist parties 1928–32, including the role of the SA; Hitler's appeal, Election results; the role of Papen and Hindenburg and Hitler's appointment as Chancellor.</p>	<p>Explain (Q4) based on taught content</p>

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	<p>Part Three: The experience of Germans under the Nazis</p>	<p>The establishment of Hitler's dictatorship: The Reichstag Fire, the Enabling Act, elimination of political opposition, trade unions, Rohm and the Night of the Long Knives; Hitler becomes Führer</p> <p><i>Chronological understanding - Continuity and change – Cause and consequence – Interpretation analysis – Significance – Similarity vs difference</i></p> <p>Economic Changes: benefits and drawbacks, employment, public works programmes, rearmament, self-sufficiency, the impact of the war on the economy and the German people, including bombing, rationing, labour shortages, refugees.</p>	
<p>25-30 (Summer 1)</p>		<p>Social Policy and Practice: Reasons for policies, practices and their impact on women, Reasons for policies, practices and their impact on young people and youth groups (and Education), reasons for policies, practices, and their control of the Churches and religion, reasons for policies, practices and their impact on racial policy and persecution, Aryan ideas, The Final Solution.</p> <p>Control: Goebbels, the use of propaganda and censorship, Nazi culture, Repression and the police state, and the roles of Himmler, the SS and Gestapo. Opposition and resistance, including White Rose group, Swing Youth, Edelweiss Pirates and July 1944 bomb plot.</p> <p><i>Chronological understanding - Continuity and change – Cause and consequence – Interpretation analysis – Significance - Similarity vs difference</i></p>	<p>Change (Q5) Assessment based on taught content More significant (Q6) assessment based on taught content</p>
<p>31-38 (Summer 2)</p>	<p><b>Health and the people, c.1000-present day</b> Part One: Medicine stands still</p>	<p>Medieval medicine: approaches including natural, supernatural, ideas of Hippocratic and Galenic methods and treatments; the medieval doctor; training, beliefs about cause of illness.</p>	<p>Full Mock Exam of Unit (Germany)</p>

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		<p>Medical progress: the contribution of Christianity to medical progress and treatment; hospitals; the nature and importance of Islamic medicine and surgery; surgery in medieval times, ideas and techniques.</p>	
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