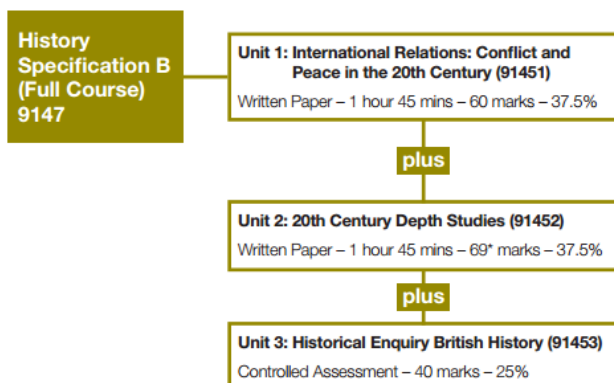


TOPICS and CONTENT

Below is how the GCSE history is broken up. This is spread across years 10 and 11.



Year 10 topics of study – Unit 1 and controlled assessment

Topic 1: The Origins of the First World War c1890–1914

Key issue: Why were there two armed camps in Europe in 1914?

- Development of the Triple Alliance; Franco-Russian Alliance, Entente Cordiale and Anglo-Russian Agreement; Britain's emergence from splendid isolation
- Kaiser Wilhelm II's aims in foreign policy: fear of encirclement in the 1890s; Weltpolitik; 'a place in the sun'; attitudes towards Great Britain; development of the Navy
- The Moroccan Crises of 1905 and 1911 and their effects on the alliances
- The Bosnian Crisis 1908–1909 and its effect on the alliances
- The arms race – military and naval: why did countries increase the size of their armies? The Anglo-German Naval Race.

Key issue: Why did war break out in 1914?

- Aims of Austria-Hungary and Serbia in the Balkans; the role of the Black Hand
- The assassination at Sarajevo: Gavrilo Princip; the response of Austria-Hungary; the ultimatum and Serbia's response
- The events leading to war; the role of the alliances in 1914
- The Schlieffen Plan and its effects on the outbreak of war; its part in bringing about Great Britain's declaration of war on Germany
- Responsibility for the outbreak of war and the escalation of the conflict.

Topic 2: Peacemaking 1918–1919 and the League of Nations

Key issue: How did the Treaty of Versailles establish peace?

- The Paris Peace Conference: the aims of Clemenceau, Lloyd George and Woodrow Wilson: the Fourteen Points
- The main terms of the Treaty of Versailles: Diktat; territorial changes; military restrictions, war guilt and reparations
- The strengths and weaknesses of the Treaty of Versailles: why Germany objected to it.

Key issue: Why did the League of Nations fail in its aim to keep peace?

- Membership 1919–1939: why and how it changed; implications for the League of Nations
- Organisation, powers and peace keeping role: the Assembly; the Council; the Permanent Court of Justice; military and economic sanctions
- The Manchurian Crisis 1931–1933: events; action taken by the League; effect on the League as a peace keeping force
- The Abyssinian Crisis 1935–1936: events; action taken by the League; effect on the League as a peacekeeping force
- The reasons for the collapse of the League.

Topic 3: Hitler's Foreign Policy and the Origins of the Second World War

Key issue: How did Hitler challenge and exploit the Treaty of Versailles 1933–March 1938?

- Hitler's aims in foreign policy
- The return of the Saar, 1935
- The beginning of rearmament in Germany: withdrawal from the Disarmament Conference 1933; Non-aggression Pact with Poland 1934; reintroduction of conscription from 1935; Anglo-German Naval Agreement 1935
- The remilitarisation of the Rhineland 1936
- The Anschluss with Austria 1938.

Key issue: Why did Chamberlain's policy of appeasement fail to prevent the outbreak of war in 1939?

- Reasons for and against appeasement
- The Sudeten Crisis and Munich Agreement, 1938
- The collapse of Czechoslovakia, March 1939
- The role of the USSR 1938–1939: the Nazi-Soviet Pact
- Poland and the outbreak of war
- Responsibility for the outbreak of war.

The controlled assessments consist of 2 questions and will require students to analysis and evaluate 10 sources in total. The topic studied will be selected from one of the themes below:

- The British People in War
- Britain at War
- Britain and the Aftermath of War
- The Changing Role and Status of Women since 1900