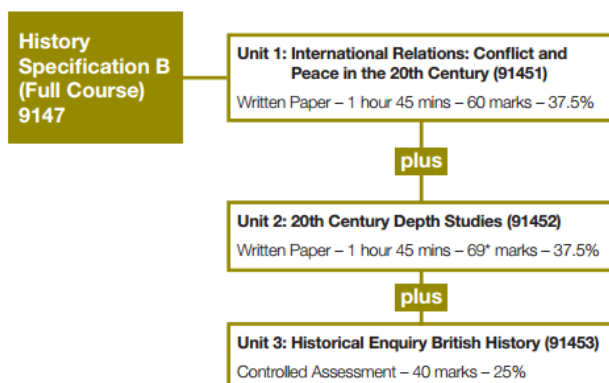


TOPICS and CONTENT

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



Year 11 topics of study – Unit 2

2. Weimar Germany, 1919–1929

Key issue: How far do the early problems of the Weimar Republic suggest that it was doomed from the start?

- The origins of the Weimar Republic; the armistice; the effects of the Treaty of Versailles
- Political problems: the constitution and its consequences for government; political instability
- Challenges to Weimar, 1919–1923: the Spartacists; attempted takeovers by the right wing: the Freikorps; Kapp Putsch; Munich Putsch
- Economic problems leading to hyperinflation; the invasion of the Ruhr.

Key issue: How far did the Weimar Republic recover under Stresemann?

- The role of Stresemann, as Chancellor and then Foreign Minister
- The recovery of the economy: new currency; the Dawes and Young Plans
- Developments in international relations: Locarno Pact, League of Nations, Kellogg-Briand Pact
- The extent of recovery – politically, economically and culturally.

Key issue: How far did the Nazi Party develop its ideas and organisation up to 1929?

- Early career of Hitler; German Workers' Party under Drexler; early development of the Nazi Party
- The Munich Putsch and its consequences; Mein Kampf
- Decline in support in the Stresemann years; consolidation of Nazi organisation in the later 1920s.

5. Hitler's Germany, 1929–1945

Key issue: How and why was Hitler able to become Chancellor in January 1933?

- The impact of the Wall Street Crash and Depression in Germany; growth in support for the Nazis and other extremist parties
- The Weimar system of government and the failure of democracy; the elections of 1930 and 1932; invitation to lead a coalition government, 1933; reactions among German people.

Key issue: How did Hitler change Germany from a democracy to a Nazi dictatorship, 1933–1934, and then reinforce this?

- The Reichstag Fire; the election of March 1933; the Enabling Act
- The elimination of political opposition: political parties, trade unions; the Night of the Long Knives; the death of Hindenburg; Hitler becomes Führer
- One party law and order: SS and Gestapo; concentration camps; propaganda; censorship; the media; control of education; youth movements; control of the churches.
- The nature of continuing opposition and resistance in the Third Reich: the White Rose Movement, the Edelweiss Pirates, the Kreisau Circle, 1939–1944, the Stauffenberg bomb plot, 1944

Key issue: To what extent did Germans benefit from Nazi rule?

- Economic policy: increased employment through public works programmes, rearmament and conscription; self-sufficiency
- Social policy: standards of living; promises to the German people; effects of Nazi policy on the lives of women; effects on culture
- Racial persecution: the Jews and other groups, e.g. gypsies; the Final Solution
- the effect of the war on the civilian population: bombing, rationing and propaganda
- the impact of the Second World War on the German economy

8. War in Vietnam, 1954–1975

Key issue: How effective were guerrilla tactics during the Vietnam War?

- The French defeat at Dien Bien Phu and its consequences
- US policy and intervention following French defeat
- The theory of guerrilla warfare
- Guerrilla tactics, 1964–1968
- The US response to guerrilla tactics: Operation Rolling Thunder; 'Hearts and Minds'; Agent Orange and napalm; Search and Destroy
- The My Lai Massacre, 1968.

Key issue: How did the coverage of the Vietnam War in the USA lead to demands for peace?

- TV and media coverage of the war, from the Gulf of Tonkin to the evacuation of Saigon
- Protest movements in the USA, 1968–1973
- The public reaction to the My Lai Massacre, the trial of Lieutenant Calley
- The Kent State University protest, 1970
- The Fulbright hearings, 1971.