

A Level - History

Tsarist and Communist Russia 1855-1964

- This unit looks at the old regime under the Tsars, what life was like for peasants and workers, opposition movements and the revolutions of 1905 and 1917.
- It then looks at how the communist system was established under Lenin and then Stalin with a focus on continuity and changes over from Tsarist times.
- It will be examined by a 2.5 hour exam at the end of your course and there is a focus on **historical interpretations**.



Year 11 Transition Tasks

The making of modern Britain 1951 – 2007

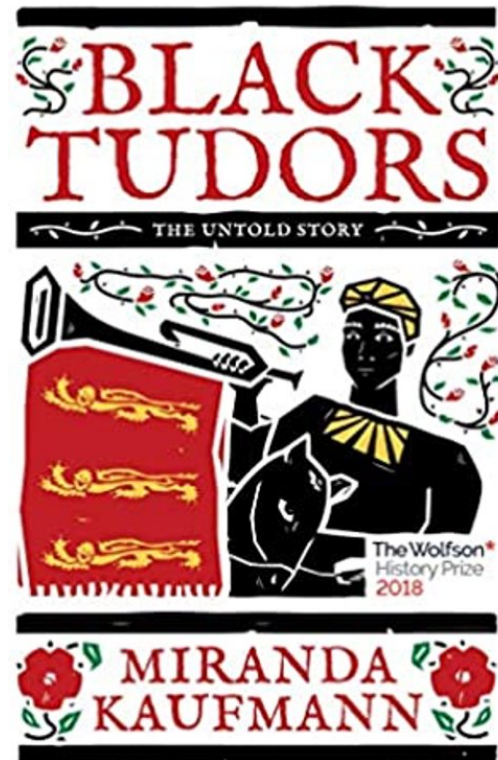
- This unit looks at how modern British society has been shaped since WW2. We look at the impact that successive governments, Labour and Conservative, have had on political and economic policy but we also examine **social history** - changes in the lives of women, the growth of youth culture, and how Britain became a multicultural society.
- There is a focus on working with **historical sources** contemporary to the period.



Year 11 Transition Tasks

Non Examined Assessment

- For this you choose your own topic and independently research and write a 4500 word essay that looks at the significance of a topic or the development of an issue over a roughly 100 year period.
- You cannot overlap with the content or chronology of the other units so this is a good opportunity to do some work on aspects of ancient, medieval or early modern history than interests you.
- You look at both interpretations and sources as part of your coursework, which you will submit just after Xmas in the second year.
- Any further questions, get in touch tom.whittaker@cityofbristol.ac.uk



Year 11 Transition Tasks



Further reading

- Also included in this transition pack are 3 pieces of further reading from the website and journal History Today.
- One covers the 100th anniversary of the 1917 Russian Revolution and its significance; another Margaret Thatcher's impact on modern British society; and the last one asks some questions about what is history as a topic.
- You will find probably find them challenging – as they are aimed towards both a general adult readership and second year A level students - however, give them a go and if you wish use them to guide your own research using websites like BBC Bitesize, which is more accessible and with which I'm sure that you are familiar.

Further reading

31/05/2020

What is History for? | History Today

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What is History for?

Peter Mandler argues that academic historians have a crucial contribution to make to the nation's cultural life.

Peter Mandler | Published in History Today Volume 52 Issue 7 July 2002

Almost a century ago, in a celebrated essay, 'Clio: A Muse', G.M. Trevelyan appealed to British historians to resist the rising tide of 'scientific', highly professionalised history that he saw arriving on his shores from Germany. He sketched out an alternative programme stressing the educational benefits of history, not just for a professional elite, but for the whole of the population. It was capable of making them better citizens of Britain and the world, with a richer imaginative life, as well as the better reasoners aimed at by scientific history. Yet it cannot be said that the profession heeded his call. For most of the twentieth century, scholarly historians became more dependent on a captive academic audience, more specialised, more 'scientific'. And, sometimes for good reasons – resisting political control or crude utilitarianism, for example – they stood aloof from efforts to justify history on any ground but their own professional turf.

Today the popularity of history amongst the general public is dramatically on the increase and scholarly historians are becoming more welcoming of the lay audience. But this tentative rapprochement makes urgent the need for professional historians to clarify in their own minds what history can do – and what it can't.

<https://www.historytoday.com/archive/clio-what-history>

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Goodbye Lenin? A Centenary Perspective | History Today

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Statue of Lenin outside the Luzhnik Olympic Stadium, Moscow.

FEATURE

Goodbye Lenin? A Centenary Perspective

The Russian Revolution should not be confined to 1917. The legacy of its leader and chief ideologue lives on in all its terrible contradictions.

James Ryan | Published in History Today Volume 68 Issue 6 June 2018

<https://www.historytoday.com/archive/statue/goodbye-lenin-centenary-perspective>

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FEATURE

Thatcher Breaks Consensus

Assessing Margaret Thatcher's premiership: a radical decade and a divisive legacy.

Ben Williams | Published in History Today Volume 69 Issue 7 July 2019



Margaret Thatcher and Conservative Party Chairman Cecil Parkinson, celebrating the Conservative election victory, 9 June 1983 © Getty Images

<https://www.historytoday.com/archive/statue/thatcher-breaks-consensus>

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