


## Phase Two Bridging Work: History

<p>Staff contact Details: Mrs Walker <a href="mailto:twalker@chippingnortonsch.org">twalker@chippingnortonsch.org</a></p> <p>Introduction to the course</p>	<p>A level subject preparation tasks</p>
<p>Attached is a power-point that provides an overview of the course we offer at Chipping Norton school. Please</p> <div data-bbox="479 662 528 722"></div> <p>A level History – an overview.pdf</p> <p>read carefully.</p> <p>The History department will provide you with text books but it is always worth buying your own. Here is a list of the text books that you will be using.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b><u>Unit 1: Britain 1930 1997</u></b>  OCR text book by Mike Wells and Nicholas Fellows (Hodder Education) ISBN 978-1-4718-3729-6</li><li>• <b><u>Unit 2: Russia 1894-1941</u></b> (Second Edition) OCR textbook by Michael Lynch (Hodder Education) ISBN 978-1-4718-3831-6</li></ul>	<p>Essential reading and tasks to do before the beginning of the course.</p> <p>Unit 1:- Please complete the following tasks. You will need to use the internet/ Wikipedia or other relevant sites to complete the following tasks.</p> <p><b>Research is an important skill to develop as it is a huge part of unit 4 that you will be starting at the end of Y12. I would like you to develop your research skills so spend time enjoying this skill.</b></p> <p><b>However, if you are finding this a challenge you could use these sites.</b></p> <p><a href="https://spartacus-educational.com/PRchurchill.htm">https://spartacus-educational.com/PRchurchill.htm</a></p> <p><a href="https://spartacus-educational.com/U3Ahistory50.htm">https://spartacus-educational.com/U3Ahistory50.htm</a></p> <p><a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Margaret_Thatcher">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Margaret_Thatcher</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2013/04/09/world/europe/former-prime-minister-margaret-thatcher-of-britain-has-died.html">https://www.nytimes.com/2013/04/09/world/europe/former-prime-minister-margaret-thatcher-of-britain-has-died.html</a></p>

- **Unit 3: The Changing Nature of Warfare 1792-1945.** OCR textbook by Nicholas Fellows and Mike Wells.  
ISBN 978-1-4718-3844-6

This is a link that takes you to the [OCR A level History specification](https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/OCR-A-level-History/specification) (if you wish to find out more)

**I would strongly recommend that you buy large A4 folders for all 4 units. You will be taught two units in Y12 and two units in Y13.**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/history/past-prime-ministers/harold-wilson>

**Each task should take should take 2-3 hours to complete (and that includes the time spent on research, reading and selecting the correct information)**

- 1. Produce a time line on all the different political parties that have led Britain since 1900. Include the name of the political party and the name of the Prime Minister. Highlight on your time line those that are Conservative, Labour and Liberal. What have you noticed about the list? Add on any key historical events that you may know  
e.g. WW2; Falklands War.**
- 2. Produce a time line of Winston Churchill's life. Highlight what you think is his greatest achievement and explain why you think this.**
- 3. Produce a detailed fact file on the following leaders**
  - Winston Churchill
  - Harold Wilson
  - Margaret Thatcher

**This should be at least half a page of A4 each**

**I do not expect you to produce an essay but I have attached an example so that you know what you will be working towards. All the assessment is essay based.**



Charles Thatcher's  
policies essay questio

**I would like you to complete all the tasks by the 12<sup>th</sup> July and bring them into school when we return in September. Enjoy**

**Unit 2: Use the [Spartacus educational website](#) to complete these tasks (you might also research other websites for relevant information for the first task). Task 3 is the largest.**

- 1. Make a fact file of the geography of Russia in approximately 1900 including:**
  - Dimensions
  - Range of landscapes/environment
  - Key geographical features
  - Natural resources
  
- 2. Make a timeline of who governed Russia 1894-1941. These are the four men to put on the timeline**
  - a) Tsar Nicholas II
  - b) Alexander Kerensky
  - c) Lenin
  - d) Stalin

**and you should add this information:**

  - How they came to be in charge.
  - How their rule came to an end.
  - What political group or ideology they represented or led.

3. a) Make a four part knowledge organiser for Russia in about 1900 using the four headings political, economic, social and cultural (PESC).  
b) Highlight the information that you record in the organiser using the four part analysis tool of what you think are the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) for Russia at the time.

Use these specific sections of 'Issues in Russia 1860-1914' on the Spartacus educational website to complete this task.

- Russia in 1900
- Russian Government
- Russian Orthodox Church
- Russian Serfs
- Okhrana
- Trade Unions

A level History – an overview

# Course aims

## Course Aims:

**To provide a fantastic curriculum for students to ignite their passions and interests and enable them to develop high quality Historical thinking and academic study skills.**

**The coursework element enables students to explore a topic in History in which they have an interest.**

**The A Level course enable students to develop as learners and as individuals, providing an outstanding basis for progression to university and the workplace.**

# Summary of the course

- **Unit 1: British period study and enquiry**
  - Churchill 1930-1951 as an Enquiry unit / British History 1930-1997
- **Unit 2: Non-British study**
  - Russia 1894-1941. (AS & A2)
- **Unit 3: Thematic study and Historical Interpretation**
  - The Changing Nature of warfare 1792-1945
- **Unit 4: non-exam assessment**
  - Pupil choice; Independent Coursework essay 3,000-4,000 words.

# Assessment

- **Unit 1: 25% A level**
- **Unit 2: 15% A level**
- **Unit 3: 40% A level**
- **Unit 4: 20% A level**



# Course overview

- This is a linear course with all assessment taking place at the end of two years of study.
- Pupils will do all assessments at the end of the two year course. The Independent research essay will be launched in the summer term of Year 12 with a deadline for the following April.
- See above for unit titles.

# What can I do with History?

- History links with many careers and further education courses, e.g. tourism and leisure studies, media, law, archaeology, medicine, English Literature and all sciences. History is recognised by most universities as a leverage subject especially by the Russell group.
- Students studying History become independent learners, critical thinkers and decision-makers-all personal assets that can make them stand out as they progress to higher education and/or the workplace.

# Expectations

- To start A level History with us at Chipping Norton school, you will need to get a **L6 at GCSE History**.
- If this does not happen, then we will take into consideration the grade you achieved in English language and English literature

### How Successful were Thatcher's Social and Economic policies?

Thatcher's Social and Economic policies were successful in modernising the country on an international stage but had a negative effect on British society. Thatcher's policies created a greater disparity between the financially prosperous city of London and the Midlands, and the industrial and mining areas in the south-east. The policies increased competitiveness and brought an economic revolution which left many working-class people behind, as they were deemed weaker. Thatcher's policies heralded a new age of economic success over welfare and therefore may seem unsuccessful in helping society but successful in strengthening the economy.

On an international scale, Thatcher's economic policies were very successful as they increased the possibility for foreign trade. As part of Howe's policy introduced in June 1979, the government would not support industries that were facing problems. This led to many businesses failing however the stronger businesses prevailed, meaning growth rate and productivity rose. It also meant there were fewer wage demands and therefore inflation began falling in 1982. However, this could also be the result of an increase in North Sea oil production which turned Britain into a net exporter of oil by 1980. Nevertheless, Thatcher could paint this as a success of her tough policies. In October 1986, the Financial Services Act deregulated the London stock market, which allowed them to compete with foreign banking centres, leading to a boom in the stock market and revitalising the City of London's money market. This policy of deregulation was successful in ensuring that London remained at the centre of the global financial market. In 1983, Thatcher also accelerated privatisation as she believed nationalised industries were inefficient and over-manned. The process of privatisation raised revenue which could be used to fund tax cuts and boost investment and enterprise. Thatcher hoped the policy would help the hardworking thrifty families as they could have a stake in the future of the country and this was successful as in her time in office the number of private shareholders went up by over 7 million. Therefore, these economic policies were successful in raising Great Britain's place on the global stage.

However, these economic policies seem very unsuccessful from a social policy as they ignored the working-class people of Britain, only serving to broaden the gap between industrial sectors and the high earning financial sectors. Howe's policy to decrease government support for failing businesses led to unemployment doubling between 1979 and 1983 to 3 million and many of the people affected blamed this policy of decreased government expenditure for such high rates of unemployment. In addition, high interest rates made it difficult for people to pay back loans, which often affects the working-class more who are more likely to take out loans. These problems were brought to Thatcher's attention through a series of riots in major cities and especially places of high unemployment, poverty and racial tension however she did not accept that her policies were to blame. The deregulation of London's financial markets also served to create a selfish "get-rich-quick" attitude which allowed the rich to become even richer whilst nothing was done about the depressed areas of traditional industry and mining. It created a competitive atmosphere that would not help the unemployed and disadvantaged in society who would not have that same opportunity to get rich. Furthermore, Thatcher's policy of privatisation was unsuccessful in giving the people of Britain a stake in its future as the government undervalued many of the assets of each industry, leading to them being quickly sold onto bigger financial operations. This meant that the industries were run for the profit of big shareholders rather than the interests of the consumers as Thatcher had intended. Overall, the success of the economy came at a great social cost, worsening the lives of much of the working-class population.

The social policies introduced by Thatcher were very controversial at the time however many of these policies are still in use today so must have been successful. The government reformed the NHS, by then one of the biggest employers of the state, by applying business principles to its administration since it took up a considerable proportion of government spending. Hospitals could become self-governing NHS trusts with their own budgets. NHS services were also expected to compete with each other to provide the most efficient and costly service to GPs who had become fund holders with their own budgets to manage. This policy was particularly criticised as it seemed to focus on spending over welfare, putting the economy over health. Many critics also worried it may become a first step towards privatising the NHS however that did not happen and rather the policy injected financial discipline into the service so, today, it does seem like a successful policy as none of the critical expectations came to be true. Thatcher also reformed education through the introduction of GCSE's. This system was a much more comprehensive system than the previous which split

up able and less able students to take either O Levels or CSE's. Alongside this new exam system, came a national curriculum which included regular national testing of pupils however this curriculum was criticised for not being academically rigorous enough as well as being too restrictive and the tests being too frequent. The reforms also gave state schools the right to out of local education authority and become grant-maintained schools with complete controls over their budgets which then led to accusation that Thatcher was being inconsistent as this policy implied greater freedom whilst the national curriculum implied less. Once more this policy is still in place today suggesting it was successful however many of the criticisms also have lasted since the curriculum is not right for every student. Lastly, Thatcher introduced a policy which allowed long-term council tenants the option to buy their council house. She also introduced a tax relief on their mortgages to encourage the buying of houses as she intended to create a property-owning democracy which she believed would give people a stake in their communities and well as reduce the appeal of socialism. This was a very successful policy as during her time in office property ownership increased by 12%. Overall, the government's social policies were quite successful as well as long-lasting.

In conclusion, many of Thatcher's policies were successful in achieving what she set out for, however they often ignored or hurt the working-class families who would have been subject to the high unemployment rates, high interest rates and growing disparity between the financial sector and traditional industrial areas. Even her social policies, many of which are still around today, did little to help the working-class families of Britain instead focusing on the families Thatcher supported- those who could afford to buy houses or shares in industries. To this day, Thatcher receives criticism for these policies as she left behind the working-class however it is difficult to say whether this makes them unsuccessful as it seems Thatcher did not care enough about this area of Britain's population to factor them into her own judgement of the policies. Therefore, they were successful in achieving what Thatcher set out to achieve - bringing down inflation, increasing private ownership and improving Britain's global performance - but were unsuccessful in the sense that they hindered the development of the working-class areas of society.