

Name _____

AQA A Level History 2020-22

1C: The Tudors 1485-1603



This unit makes up 40% of the total A level grade.

Welcome to A-Level History!

We hope that you enjoy this course as much as we enjoy teaching it. Mr Comben, Mr Strong or Miss Marsden will teach you the Tudor section of the course, which will take up half of your lessons, and is worth 40% of the whole A-Level.

Hopefully this booklet will answer some of your questions about the course, but please do contact us if you have further questions.

What will we study in this section?

For this unit you will study two sections at Year 12 and two at Year 13.

Year 12: A Consolidation of the Tudor Dynasty

Section 1: Henry VII 1485-1509

- The consolidation of power
- Henry VII's government
- England's relations with Scotland and other foreign powers
- English society
- Economic development
- Religion, humanism, arts and learning

Section 2: Henry VIII 1509-47

- The character and aims of Henry VIII
- Government and parliament
- Foreign relations and securing the succession
- English society
- Economic development
- Religion, ideas and reform.

Year 13: England: Turmoil and Triumph, 1547-1603

Section 3: Instability and Consolidation: The Mid Tudor Crisis

- Edward VI, Somerset and Northumberland
- The social impact of religious and economic change
- Mary I and her ministers
- Elizabeth I: Character and aims

Section 4: The Triumph of Elizabeth, 1563-1603

- Elizabethan government
- Foreign Affairs
- Society in Elizabethan England
- Economic development
- Religious development and the 'Golden Age' of Elizabethan culture
- The last years of Elizabeth

How will your work be examined?

Year 12 Assessment (Internal) (1485-1547)

At the end of your first year you will take an internal AS paper on the topics you have learnt so far. This paper will not count towards your final A-Level grade and will be used as a way to formally measure your progress after the first year.

A-Level Assessment (1485-1603)

At the end of two years you will take your A-Level paper, which will cover all the work you have completed over the entire course.

The A Level exam
Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes
Three questions (one compulsory)
80 marks
40% of A-Level

1. **Compulsory question using secondary sources**

Sample question – *Using your understanding of the historical context, assess how convincing the arguments in these extracts are in relation to threats to Henry VII's positions in the year 1485-1509.*

Mark Scheme

AO3 Analyse and evaluate, in relation to the historical context, different ways in which aspects of the past have been interpreted. Answers will display a good understanding of the interpretations given in the extracts. They will evaluate the extracts in order to provide a well substantiated judgement.

2. **Essay Questions – Completing 2 from a choice of 3**

Sample question – *The consolidation of royal authority, in the years 1487-1509, was due to Henry VIII's control over the nobility. Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.*

Mark Scheme

AO1 Demonstrate, organise and communicate knowledge and understanding to analyse and evaluate the key features related to the periods studied, making substantiated judgements and exploring concepts, as relevant, of cause, consequence, change, continuity, similarity, difference and significance.

Answers will display a good understanding of the demands of the question. They will be well-organised and effectively communicated. There will be a range of clear and specific supporting information showing a good understanding of key features and issues, together with some conceptual awareness. The answer will be analytical in style with a range of direct comment leading to substantiated judgement.

Expectations

A-Levels can be a daunting and difficult challenge if you do not approach them in the correct way. The key to success is to work regularly throughout the year both in and outside of lessons and set homework. The standard expectation is to see all of you in all lessons, working hard, getting involved and thinking critically about the information. You must also be organised, with a well-kept folder of work. We also expect you to re-read or read around areas of weaker understanding, lessons can move quickly so you must be ready to spend your study time checking your understanding of each topic. If you work hard throughout the year and plan ahead to the exams with revision as you progress you will find yourself much happier and more comfortable as time goes on.

Independent work

While you will have regular homework, reading and essays you will be expected to structure your study time effectively. Below is a list of main points, though it is not exhaustive.

When not in class you should be:

- Re-reading/re-writing any notes you feel are inadequate or topics you felt unsure of at the end of the lesson.
- Creating revision notes/flashcards/mind-maps of each topic as we finish them (this saves you trying to complete all of these at the end of each year)
- Completing wider reading. There are many books in the library or A block History rooms. There are also many fantastic documentaries by Historians such as Lucy Worsley for the Tudors.
- Some TV programmes can also be excellent such as *Wolf Hall* for the Tudors or films such as *Lincoln* for the American Civil War.
- Planning or writing essay questions or past papers. Or re-writing any marked work to focus on areas for improvement. These will be available for you.
- There are also collections of articles on the Civil War on the shared drive

Your reports

During the year you will receive Sixth Form reports as to your progress. Our commitment grades in History are based on the following guidelines.

Outstanding (O) – You show consistent effort and engagement both in and outside the classroom. You complete all work required to a high standard and ensure that you are doing a wide range of independent tasks without prompting.

Good (G) – You show consistent effort and engagement both in the and outside the classroom. Your work shows detail and care. You also complete the expected amount of independent work though not as proactively as you could.

Requires Improvement (R) – You show some effort in and outside the classroom and are able to complete homework set. However, there is little evidence of further independent work being completed. You may also have had to have been chased for any missing work or shown poor attendance.

Inadequate (I) – You are showing little to no effort both in and outside the classroom. Homework is often incomplete or of poor quality. No independent work is being completed and you will have unexplained absences.

Resources

You will have access to a number of books to help you study this course and these are available for you to borrow from the History classrooms. When you come to lessons in September we will be recommending a textbook for you to purchase. This book is produced by the exam board and contains all the information you will need for the two years of the course.

Most importantly we recommend that you read about the Tudors; as much as you can! Whilst Wikipedia will provide you with outline information, real depth of knowledge can only be gained by reading books! There are many biographies of Henry VIII, some better than others. The library and Mr Comben/Mr Strong have a selection of books to help you. There are also lots of great TV series about the Tudors. Be careful with their historical accuracy, but they are a good place to start. The recent series Wolf Hall, for example, is excellent for the Henry VIII part of the course.

As this is a fairly new course the exam board have not produced many past papers, but all the information you might need, including the full exam specification, can be found in the link below. We have also come up with many past paper questions ourselves so they will also be used during the two years.

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/history/as-and-a-level/history-7041-7042>

Further Reading

- Oxford AQA History for A Level: The Tudors: England 1485-1603 Revision Guide by Margaret Haynes
- Tudors: A very short introduction by John Guy
- Edward VI and Mary: A Mid-Tudor Crisis? 1540-1558 by Roger Turvey and Nigel Heard
- Tudor Rebellions by Anthony Fletcher and Diarmaid MacCulloch
- The Tudor Monarchies 1485-1603 by John McGurk
- Henry VIII to Mary I: Government and religion, 1509-58 by Roger Turvey and Keith Randell
- The Early Tudors: England, 1485-1558 by David Rogerson

Contact

We will contact you by email. Please read them regularly – we can send PowerPoints or notes of lessons you have missed, let you know if we will be absent and are setting work, and to remind you of homework. We also use OneDrive to share important documents regularly so become familiar with its use.

Enjoy the course, remember to attend all lessons or let us know if you cannot for some reason. We really hope you learn to love Henry VIII, Wolsey and Cromwell and all the exciting Tudor people.

Mr Comben, Mr Strong & Miss Marsden