

# The Friary Sixth Form



History Bridging Pack  
2026

# Course Expectations



Students are expected to arrive to their first lesson in September with all sections of their Bridging Pack complete, and with all of the following equipment:

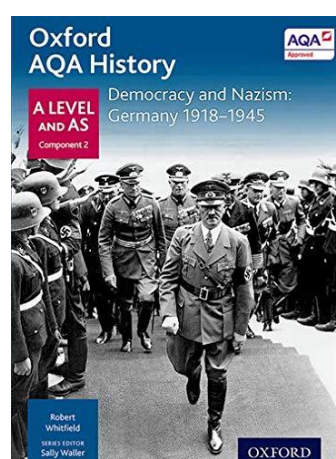
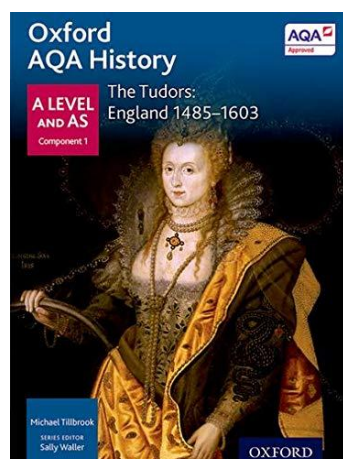
- Two lever arch folders
- Two sets of folder dividers
- A large supply of plastic wallets
- Writing equipment and highlighters
- An A4 pad for note making
- Oxford AQA History for A Level: The Tudors: England 1485-1603 (Oxford A Level History for AQA)
- Oxford AQA History for A Level: Democracy and Nazism: Germany 1918-1945 (Oxford A Level History for AQA)

The textbooks will need to be purchased – they are available at reasonable prices second hand on the internet.

Your A Level will be broken into three separate sections: The Tudors, Germany 1918-1945, and a coursework element on the British Empire.

The course will be delivered by the following teachers:

- Tudors – Mr Rivers-Boyce ([lrivers-boyce@friaryschool.co.uk](mailto:lrivers-boyce@friaryschool.co.uk)) and Miss Golder ([sgolder@friaryschool.co.uk](mailto:sgolder@friaryschool.co.uk))
- Germany – Mrs Bell ([ebell@friaryschool.co.uk](mailto:ebell@friaryschool.co.uk)) and Mr Perry ([cperry@friaryschool.co.uk](mailto:cperry@friaryschool.co.uk))



# Course Overview



The A-Level History course is broken into three sections. The first two of these are the Tudors 1485-1609 and Democracy and Nazism 1918-1945. Both of these sections are assessed at the end of Y13 with an exam. Each section is worth 40% of the overall grade. The final other 20% of the grade is a coursework piece, which is an investigation into the British Empire. We use the AQA examination board.

## **Tudors specification:**

Part one: consolidation of the Tudor Dynasty: England, 1485–1547

- Henry VII, 1485–1509
- Henry VIII, 1509–1547

Part two: England: turmoil and triumph, 1547–1603

- Instability and consolidation: 'the Mid-Tudor Crisis', 1547–1563
- The triumph of Elizabeth, 1563–1603

## **Democracy and Nazism specification:**

Part one: the Weimar Republic, 1918–1933

- The Establishment and early years of Weimar, 1918–1924
- The 'Golden Age' of the Weimar Republic, 1924–1928
- The Collapse of Democracy, 1928–1933

Part two: Nazi Germany, 1933–1945

- The Nazi Dictatorship, 1933–1939
- The Racial State, 1933–1941
- The impact of War, 1939–1945

# Tasks



## The Tudors:

**TASK 1:** Complete some research into how the Wars of the Roses started. Write three paragraphs explaining different causes, and then a conclusion as to what you believe the main reason for the Wars was. These paragraphs should be much more detailed than you would produce for GCSE – make sure you have included lots of factual detail.

**TASK 2:** Create a timeline of the Wars of the Roses between 1455 and 1487.

**TASK 3:** Produce profiles of the following key individuals from this period of instability. Include key information about their lives – at least 5 facts per person.

- Richard III – focus on why he was so controversial.
- Henry Tudor – focus on his childhood and background as well as his reign.
- Edward V – focus on why his life is shrouded in mystery.
- Lambert Simnel – focus on who he was as well as who he claimed to be.
- Perkin Warbeck – again focus on who he was pretending to be.
- Mary Queen of Scots – focus on her life before she arrived in England.

**TASK 4:** Create a timeline of the changes in monarch throughout the 1485-1603. Add the following events onto this timeline

- Any foreign wars that England were engaged in (include who won these wars).
- Any religious changes that occurred.
- The Spanish Armada
- The Throckmorton Plot
- The Babington Plot
- The Ridolfi Plot
- Rebellion of the Northern Earls
- Dissolution of the Monasteries under Henry VIII
- Kett's Rebellion
- Wyatt's Rebellion
- The Lincolnshire Rising and Pilgrimage of Grace

For each of these, add a description of what these events were.

**TASK 5:** Explain what the 'Break with Rome' was under Henry VIII

Analyse three different reasons behind the 'Break with Rome'. Explain them in three separate paragraphs, and come to a judgement about what the main cause was. Again, these should be more detailed than GCSE style paragraphs. Paragraphs:

- Religion and Power – issues with the Catholic Church and the power struggle between Henry VIII and the Pope.
- Financial issues.
- The role of Anne Boleyn

Having written these three paragraphs, reach a judgement about which view you find the most convincing.

**TASK 6:** Purchase the book 'Oxford AQA History, The Tudors: England 1485-1603'.

Also please make sure you have a A4 lever arch folder, with file dividers and plastic wallets, in preparation for your first lesson in September.

### **Democracy and Nazism 1918-1945**

**Task 1:** Create fact files on the following individuals. The fact files should include information on background, roles/responsibilities/titles, political beliefs and what they are known for e.g., Hindenburg is known for being President of Germany from 1925-34.

- Kaiser Wilhelm II
- Friedrich Ebert
- Gustav Stresemann
- Paul von Hindenburg
- Adolf Hitler
- Josef Goebbels
- Heinrich Himmler

**Task 2 (part A):** Identify at least three different reasons why Germany surrendered and asked for a ceasefire. Explain these reasons fully. You can use the following websites/articles to help you, but you may want to do your own research.

British Library- <https://www.bl.uk/world-war-one/articles/how-the-first-world-war-ended>

National Archives- <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/pathways/firstworldwar/spotlights/blockade.htm>

HISTORY.com- <https://www.history.com/topics/world-war-i/kaiser-wilhelm-ii#:~:text=In%20late%201918%2C%20popular%20unrest,had%20actually%20consented%20to%20it.>

**Task 2 (part B):** Out of the reasons you have chosen, explain which one was the most important in causing Germany to surrender. You should justify your opinion using evidence, you may want to counter-argue and explain why the other reasons are less important.

**Task 3:** Create a timeline giving an overview of the years 1918-1933. You should include the events below with a brief description of what they were/involved.

- Germany signs the armistice
- Kaiser abdicates
- Germany signs the Treaty of Versailles
- Spartacist Uprising
- Kapp Putsch
- Hyperinflation
- French occupation of the Ruhr
- Munich Putsch
- Dawes Plan
- Hindenburg elected as President
- Germany accepted into the League of Nations
- Young Plan
- Wall Street Crash

- Hitler becomes Chancellor
- Reichstag Fire
- Enabling Act

**EXT:** Colour code your timeline depending on whether the events are political or economic or social.

**Task 4:** Create a timeline giving an overview of the years 1933-1945. You should include the events below with a brief description of what they were/involved.

- Night of the Long Knives
- Death of Hindenburg
- Nuremberg Laws
- German troops enter the Rhineland
- Olympic Games held in Berlin
- Anschluss
- Annexation of the Sudetenland
- Occupation of Czechoslovakia
- Nazi-Soviet Pact
- Invasion of Poland
- WWII starts
- France is defeated by Germany
- Invasion of the USSR
- Mass deportations begin
- End of WWII

**EXT:** Colour code your timeline depending on whether the events are political or economic or social.

**Task 5:** 'The invasion of the USSR was turning point for the Nazis during WWII.' To what extent do you agree with this?

Conduct your own research to find out more about the impact of the invasion on Germany's war effort.

You should structure your answer as follows...

1. Agree with the statement- explain why the invasion of the USSR was a turning point for Germany.
2. Disagree with the statement- explain other factors that were a turning point in Germany's war effort (e.g., the Holocaust, invasion of Poland, failure of the Battle of Britain, USA's entry to the war).
3. Conclusion- your opinion with justification.

Useful websites:

<https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/invasion-of-the-soviet-union-june-1941>

<https://www.iwm.org.uk/history/operation-barbarossa-and-germanys-failure-in-the-soviet-union>

<https://www.britannica.com/event/Operation-Barbarossa>

# Glossary



| Tudor Term             | Definition |
|------------------------|------------|
| Act of Attainder       |            |
| Parliamentary Sanction |            |
| Tonnage and Poundage   |            |
| Mercenaries            |            |
| Household Government   |            |
| Plantagenet            |            |
| Dynasty                |            |
| Claimant               |            |
| Pageantry              |            |
| Usurper                |            |

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
|                         |  |
| Gentry                  |  |
| Bonds of Good Behaviour |  |
| Treason                 |  |

| Germany Term | Definition |
|--------------|------------|
| Anschluss    |            |
| Autarky      |            |
| Chancellor   |            |
| Communist    |            |
| Conservative |            |
| Constitution |            |
| Freikorps    |            |
| Ghetto       |            |



|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Gleichschaltung             |  |
| Kaiser                      |  |
| League of Nations           |  |
| Lebensraum                  |  |
| Plebiscite                  |  |
| Pogrom                      |  |
| Propaganda                  |  |
| Proportional representation |  |
| Putsch                      |  |
| Reichstag                   |  |
| Republic                    |  |
| Volksgemeinschaft           |  |

# Additional Reading



## Tudors 1485-1603

### Suggested Reading – accessible online:

- <https://www.history.co.uk/articles/henry-vii-v-henry-viii-never-the-twain-shall-meet>
- <https://www.theguardian.com/books/2014/dec/17/henry-viii-the-quest-for-fame-john-guy-review>
- <https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/learn/story-of-england/tudors/>

### Further Reading:

- C Lee, *Britain, 1483-1529*, Nelson Thornes, 2008
- D Murphy (ed), *England 1485-1603*, Collins, 1999
- I Dawson, *The Tudor Century*, Nelson Thornes, 1993
- N Fellows, *Disorder and Rebellion in Tudor England*, Hodder, 2009
- R Lockyer & D O'Sullivan, *Tudor Britain 1485-1603*, Longman, 1993
- K Randall, *Henry VIII and the Government of England*, Hodder, 2001
- K Randall, *Henry VIII and the Reformation in England*, Hodder, 2001
- J Warren, *Elizabeth I: Meeting the Challenge*, Hodder, 2008

## Democracy and Nazism

### Suggested Reading – accessible online:

- <https://www.history.co.uk/shows/project-nazi/articles/how-the-nazis-branded-themselves>
- <https://scholarworks.harding.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1202&context=tenor>
- [https://eprints.whiterose.ac.uk/82403/7/Ziemann\\_Weimar%20was%20Weimar.pdf](https://eprints.whiterose.ac.uk/82403/7/Ziemann_Weimar%20was%20Weimar.pdf)

### Further Reading:

- R Evans, *The Coming of the Third Reich*, Penguin, 2004
- B Hett, *The Death of Democracy: Hitler's Rise to power and the downfall of the Weimar Republic*, Henry Holt & Company, 2018
- A McElligott (ed), *Weimar Germany*, OUP Oxford, 2009
- M Neilberg, *The Treaty of Versailles: A Concise History*, OUP USA, 2017
- W Shirer, *The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich*, Simon & Schuster, 1960
- J Spielvogel, *Hitler and Nazi Germany: A History*, Routledge, 2013
- M Stibbe, *Germany, 1914-1933: politics, society and culture*, Pearson, 2010
- E Weitz, *Weimar Germany: Promise and Tragedy*, Princeton, 2018

# Supporting Resources



## **Tudors suggested films/documentaries to watch:**

- o Elizabeth: The Golden Age
- o The Other Boleyn Girl
- o Elizabeth
- o Mary Queen of Scots
- o The Last Days of Anne Boleyn (BBC iPlayer)
- o Wolf Hall
- o Elizabeth's Secret Agents

## **Germany suggested documentaries/films/lectures:**

- o Hitler: The Rise of Evil (2003)- available on YouTube
- o Lecture by Sir Richard Evans, The Weimar Republic: Germany's First Democracy-  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xwl6o2npqOY>
- o Lecture by Eric Weitz, 'The Promise and Tragedy of a Constitution: Weimar Germany, 1918=1933'-  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cOKnkQWs1-o>