

Dear A-level Historians,

Congratulations on picking History as one of your A-level subjects.

Everything happening around us today has been influenced by and is a result of what has happened in the past. History can help us predict what could happen in the future.

History is one of the Russell Group universities' 'facilitating' subjects — so called because choosing them at A-level allows a wide range of options for degree study. One of the most flexible of qualifications, History provides an excellent pathway to degrees such as History, Law, English and Philosophy, and beyond that to a range of interesting careers including the civil service, teaching, librarianship, banking and commerce, the law, publishing, museums and art galleries and a wide variety of social work.

You will have 4 hours of history lessons a week, whilst at HGSS, taught by two teachers who are very passionate about the subject. History lessons at HGSS are a blend of written, evaluative and discussion-based learning.

In advance of your start to Sixth Form, please complete the list of bridging work found on the second page of this introduction pack.

Sincerely,

**Miss B Labonte**  
Head of History

## A-Level Overview

At Key Stage 5 A-level Historians study the OCR A-level specification.

In Year 12 students' study Y106 The Early Tudors 1485 - 1558 (Paper 1) and Y319 Civil Rights in the USA 1865–1992 (Paper 3)

In Year 13 students' study Y223 The Cold War in Europe 1941–1995 (Paper 2) and complete their individual Non-Examined Assessment, coursework essay.

## Course textbooks:

### **Early Tudors (Y12)**

OCR A Level History: England 1485– 1603 by Nicholas Fellows and Mary Dicken ISBN -10: 147183669X OCR A Level

The Early Tudors: England 1485- 1558 (SHP Advanced History Core Texts) by Hudson, Rogerson, Ellsmore

### **Civil Rights in the USA (Y12)**

OCR A Level History A: Civil Rights in the USA 1865-1992 - ISBN-10 : 0435312669

### **The Cold War in Europe (Y13)**

Access to History: The Cold War 1941-95 by David G Williamson ISBN: 978-1-4718-3866-8

OCR A Level History: The Cold War in Asia 1945-1993 and the Cold War in Europe 1941-1995 by Macfarlane, Fellows, Holland, and Wells: ISBN 978-1-5104-1653-6

## Optional/recommended texts:

- Access to History: Civil Rights in the USA 1865–1992 for OCR Second Edition
- My Revision Notes: OCR AS/Alevel History: England 1485- 1558: The Early Tudors by Nicholas Fellows
- My Revision Notes: OCR AS/A-level History: The Cold War in Europe 1941–1995 by Nicholas Fellows, Mike Wells
- My Revision Notes: OCR A-level History: Civil Rights in the USA 1865-1992 by Mike Wells, Nicholas Fellows

## To get ahead:

- Follow Historians / Historical Associations on Twitter.
- Listen to Historical Podcasts (*please contact Miss Labonte for suggestions*). Watch relevant documentaries.
- Read a variety of historical literature / online articles. V
- Visit relevant museums over the summer break.

## Expectations of your first lesson

- You are expected to arrive at this lesson with a copy of the **two Early Tudors textbooks listed above**, and your **Civil Rights in the USA textbook**.
- Please purchase and bring **two lever arch folders**, as we work on paper in History, and you will have two different teachers and thus need a folder for each.
- You may also wish to obtain some plastic wallets / file dividers to assist you with your organisation.
- You are also **expected to bring a handwritten or typed completed copy of the Bridging Work tasks** that have been emailed to you.
- If you have any questions about the work please contact Miss Labonte at [labontee@holmer.org.uk](mailto:labontee@holmer.org.uk)

## **Bridging work:**

- Your bridging work can be typed or handwritten.
- Please remember to answer all tasks in full sentences.
- Your A-level teacher will use your bridging work to judge your suitability for the course; this is your chance to work hard and make a good first impression.
- You will be assigned an assessment at the end of the second week back to school to assess your understanding of this work.

## **Early Tudors:**

Please complete the 5 Tasks outlined in the 'Early Tudors Bridging Work' pack.

Please note that for Task 5 you must access the 'Winter King Video' PDF. Print it off and complete the tasks within it as you watch the video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-5FsriGn300>

## **Civil Rights in the USA:**

Please complete the 3 Tasks outlined on the Y319 Civil Rights in the USA Bridging Work Document. These notes can be done by hand or on a word document however all must be printed off and in your folder for your first lesson in September.