

# A Level History - AQA

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

- 1) Read through the following ppt and overview of the course.
- 2) Look at the reading list and choose 1 book to read through (slide 15)
- 3) Look at the website links and view the ones highlighted in blue (slide 16)
- 4) Look at slides 17-18 and try to create your own definition / diagram of left/right wing politics –  
Challenge – research for extra detail

# Three components

- Component 1: Breadth study 1C The Tudors: England, 1485–1603
- Component 3: Historical investigation (Personal study)
- Component 2: Depth study 2O Democracy and Nazism: Germany, 1918–1945

# Component 1: Breadth study = 1C The Tudors: England, 1485–1603

What's assessed:

- The study of significant historical developments over a period of around 100 years and associated interpretations:
  - written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes
  - three questions (one compulsory)
  - 80 marks
  - 40% of A-level

## Questions

2 sections

- Section A – one compulsory question linked to historical interpretations (30 marks)
- Section B – two from three essays (2 x 25 marks)

# Component 2: Depth study

## 20 Democracy and Nazism: Germany, 1918–1945

Depth Study - **period of major historical change / development:**

- written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes
- three questions (one compulsory)
- 80 marks
- 40% of A-level

- **Questions**

2 sections:

- Section A – one compulsory question linked to primary sources or sources contemporary to the period (30 marks)
- Section B – two from three essays (2 x 25 marks)

# Component 3: Historical investigation

Assessed:

- 3500–4500 words
- 40 marks
- 20% of A-level
- marked by teachers
- moderated by AQA

# Overview of Topic

## Yr12 Part 1: the Weimar Republic, 1918–1933

- Study of German Weimar (newly developed democratic form of government) gave way to a dictatorial Nazi regime.
- Political concepts such as 'right' and 'left',  
nationalism and liberalism  
ideological concepts such as racialism, anti-Semitism and Social Darwinism.
- Reflection on how governments work  
problems of democratic states  
consideration of what creates and sustains a dictatorship.

# Course Content 1) The Establishment and early years of Weimar, 1918–1924

## **a) Impact of WW1,**

political crises of October - November 1918;

the context for the establishment of the Weimar Constitution; terms, strengths and weaknesses

## **b) The Peace Settlement (T of V):**

expectations and reality; terms and problems; attitudes within Germany and abroad

## **c) Economic and social issues:**

post-war legacy and the state of the German economy and society;

reparations, inflation and hyperinflation;

the invasion of the Ruhr and its economic impact;

social welfare and the social impact of hyperinflation

## **d) Political instability and extremism;**

risings on the left and right including the Kapp Putsch;

the political impact of the invasion of the Ruhr;

the Munich Putsch;

problems of coalition government and the state of the Republic by 1924

## 2) The 'Golden Age' of the Weimar Republic, 1924–1928

- a) **Economic developments:** Stresemann; the Dawes Plan; industry, agriculture and the extent of recovery; the reparations issue and the Young Plan
- b) **Social developments:** social welfare reforms; the development of Weimar culture; art, architecture, music, theatre, literature and film; living standards and lifestyles
- c) **Political developments and the workings of democracy:** President Hindenburg; parties ; elections and attitudes to the Republic from the elites and other social groups; the position of the extremists, including the Nazis and Communists; the extent of political stability
- d) **Germany's international position;** Stresemann's foreign policy aims and achievements i.e. Locarno; the League of Nations; the Treaty of Berlin; the end of allied occupation and the pursuit of disarmament

### 3) The Collapse of Democracy, 1928–1933

- a) **The economic, social and political impact of the Depression:** elections; governments and policies
- b) **The appeal of Nazism and Communism;** the tactics and fortunes of the extremist parties, including the role of propaganda
- c) Hindenburg, Papen, Schleicher and the '**backstairs intrigue**' leading to Hitler's appointment as chancellor
- d) **Political developments:** the Reichstag Fire; parties and elections; the Enabling Act and the end of democracy; the state of Germany by March 1933

Assessment focus: Section A Question,  
1 compulsory question linked to primary sources or sources  
contemporary to the period (30 marks)

- analyse and evaluate the views of historians (AO3).
- 2 'sources' with historical interpretations linked to a broad issue or development.
- You identify the arguments and evaluate them,  
apply knowledge and understanding of the historical context  
to these arguments and interpretations

**1 hour**

Assessment focus: Section B pick 2 out of 3 given essay questions. 25 marks

- A01 - Knowledge and Understanding

assesses historical understanding of developments and issues within a broad and coherent chronology

- The focus of these questions:

on understanding causation, change, continuity, similarity, difference and significance **over time.**

**45 mins per essay i.e. 90 mins in total**

# Textbook

## 20 Democracy and Nazism: Germany, 1918-1945

Authors: Robert Whitfield. Series editor Sally Waller

Publisher: Oxford University Press (including Nelson Thornes)

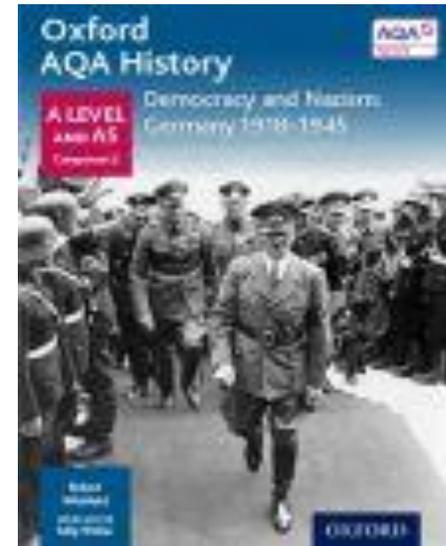
ISBN-13: [978-0-1983-5457-4](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780198354574)

Price: £24.99

Publication date: April 2015 - out now

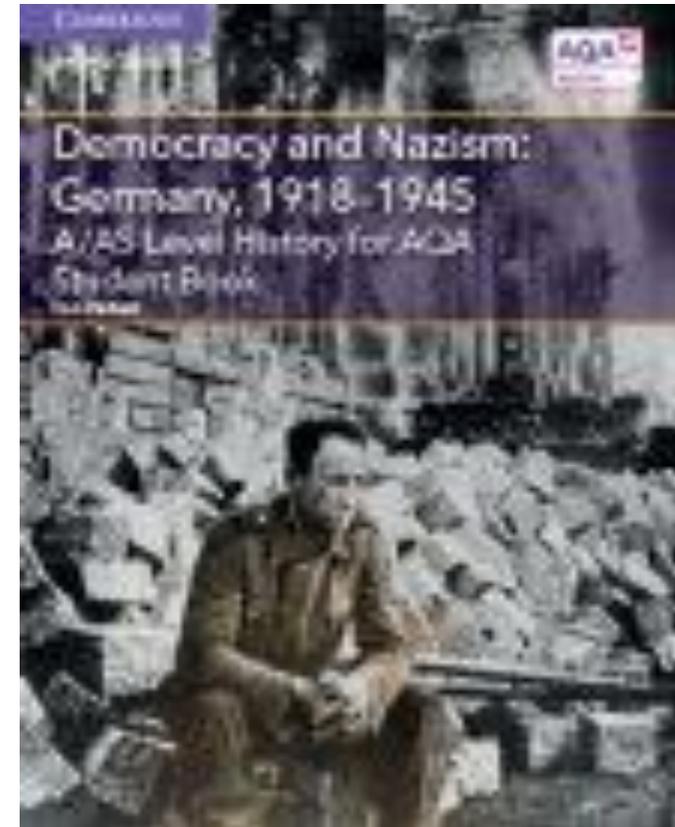
Digital version - out now; Digital ISBN: 978-0198354574

[Look inside](#) (1.4 MB)



# Textbook: 20 Democracy and Nazism: Germany, 1918-1945

Authors: Nick Pinfield  
Publisher: Cambridge University Press  
ISBN-13: [9781107573161](https://doi.org/10.1017/9781107573161)  
Price: £24.99  
Publication date: December 2015 - out now  
Digital version - out now



# Resources

Key texts for classroom and individual study

- R Whitfield, *Democracy and Nazism: Germany 1918-1945*, Oxford University Press, 2015
- M Collier, P Pedley, *Heinemann Advanced History: Germany 1919-45*, Heinemann, 2000
- Gillingham C Rowe, *AQA AS History Anti-Semitism, Hitler and the German People, 1919-1945*, Nelson Thornes, 2009
- J Hiden, *The Weimar Republic (Seminar Studies In History)*, Routledge, 1996
- Hinton J Hite, *Weimar and Nazi Germany (SHP Advanced History Core Texts)*, Hodder Education, 2000
- G Layton, *Access to History: From Kaiser to Fuhrer: Germany 1900-1945*, Hodder Education, 2009
- F McDonough, *Hitler and Nazi Germany (Cambridge Perspectives in History)*, Cambridge University Press, 1999 R Whitfield, *AQA History AS Unit 2 Life in Nazi Germany, 1933-1945*, Nelson Thornes, 2009

# Reading list: useful books for students

- M Burleigh, *The Third Reich: A New History*, Pan, 2001
- Sir I Kershaw, *The 'Hitler Myth': Image and Reality in the Third Reich*, Oxford Paperbacks, 2001
- F McDonough, *Opposition and Resistance in Nazi Germany (Cambridge Perspectives in History)*, Cambridge University Press, 2001
- • A McElligott, *Weimar Germany (Short Oxford History of Germany)*, OUP, 2009
- L Rees, *Auschwitz : The Nazis & The 'Final Solution'*, BBC Books, 2005
- • L Rees, *The Nazis: A Warning From History*, BBC Books, 2006
- A Weale, *The SS: A New History*, Abacus, 2012

# Visual sources and websites

- Auschwitz - The Nazis And The Final Solution, [DVD]
- Downfall (1 Disc Edition), [DVD]
- Hitler: The Rise of Evil, (2003), [DVD]
- Schindler's List - 20th Anniversary Edition, [DVD], [1993]
- The Nazis - A Warning From History, [DVD] • The Relief Of Belsen, [DVD]
- <http://holocaustlearning.org/survivors>
- <http://spartacus-educational.com/GERweimar.htm>
- <http://weimarandnazigermany.co.uk/5-top-sites-find-primary-documents-weimargermany/#.U2vWs5FOWM8>
- [http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/weimar\\_germany.htm](http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/weimar_germany.htm)
- <http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/Nazi%20Germany.htm>
- <http://www.ushmm.org/research/research-in-collections/search-thecollections/bibliography/primary-sources>
- <http://www.calvin.edu/academic/cas/gpa/>
- <http://lagrange.campusguides.com/content.php?pid=375607&sid=3076488>
- <http://www.besthistorysites.net/index.php/modern-history/>

# Introduction to the topic:

Political concepts 'right' and 'left' wing politics

Political scientists' general consensus is that:

"**left wing**" includes liberals, progressives, socialists and communists,

"**right wing**" includes conservatives, traditionalists, reactionaries and fascists

**LO:** To explain the political spectrum in Germany

# The Political Spectrum



Communism

Socialism

Liberalism

Conservatism



Nationalism/  
Fascism



**LEFT  
WING**

**CENTRE**

**RIGHT WING**

# Overview of topics: what can you remember from your GCSE about the good and bad of Weimar?

Topic	Impact
1) The Establishment and early years of Weimar, 1918–1924	-
2) The 'Golden Age' of the Weimar Republic, 1924–1928	+
3) The Collapse of Democracy, 1928–1933	-