

Your guide to the changes for 2021

Following an [Ofqual consultation](#) in July 2020, we made changes to a number of our qualifications.

These changes would have applied to the summer 2021 examinations, had they gone ahead. After a further consultation, Ofqual confirmed the changes will now apply to the autumn 2021 examinations.

Please [use the specification on our website](#) alongside the information below, which explains how this qualification will differ in autumn 2021.

Overview of changes for GCSE (9–1) History A (Explaining the Modern World)

Ofqual have confirmed that students taking GCSE (9–1) History A (Explaining the Modern World) in Autumn 2021 **will not have to study and will not be assessed on all the content of the full course:**

- **All** students will be required to study and will be assessed on the **Period study (International Relations)**.
- Students will study and be assessed on **two** out of the three remaining studies: the **Non-British Depth Study**, the **Thematic Study**, and the **British Depth Study and Study of a Historic Environment**. Centres are free to choose which two of these studies they enter their students for.
- Each study will be assessed separately with its own exam paper in its own timetabled slot.

GCSE(9–1) History A (Explaining the Modern World) for academic year 2020/21

Students must complete the **Period Study (International Relations)** and **two** other studies from a choice of three to be awarded OCR's GCSE (9–1) History A in **Autumn 2021**.

Content Overview	Assessment Overview	
<p>Period Study</p> <p>J410/14 International Relations: the changing international order 1918–c.1975</p>	<p>Compulsory</p> <p>50 Marks + 10 marks for SPaG</p> <p>1 hour 15 minutes written exam</p>	<p>33.3% of total GCSE (9–1)</p>
<p>Non-British Depth study</p> <p>One from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> J410/01 China 1950–1981: The People and the State J410/02 Germany 1925–1955: The People and the State J410/05 South Africa 1960–1994: The People and the State J410/06 The USA 1919–1948: The People and the State J410/07 The USA 1945–1974: The People and the State 	<p>Optional</p> <p>50 marks</p> <p>1 hour written exam</p>	<p>33.3% of total GCSE (9–1)</p>
<p>Thematic Study</p> <p>One from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> J410/08 Migration to Britain c.1000 to c.2010 J410/09 Power: Monarchy and Democracy in Britain c.1000 to 2014 J410/10 War and British Society c.790 to c.2010 	<p>Optional</p> <p>50 marks</p> <p>1 hour written exam</p>	<p>33.3% of total GCSE (9–1)</p>
<p>British Depth study and a study of a historic environment</p> <p>One from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> J410/11 The Impact of Empire on Britain 1688–c.1730 with Urban Environments: Patterns of Migration J410/12 The English Reformation c.1520–c.1550 with Castles: Form and Function c.1000–1750 J410/13 Personal Rule to Restoration 1629–1660 with Castles: Form and Function c.1000–1750 	<p>Optional</p> <p>50 marks</p> <p>1 hour 15 minutes written exam</p>	<p>33.3% of total GCSE (9–1)</p>

- All of the 2021 question papers will be equally weighted in terms of historical content, before the addition of SPaG marks. The percentages shown above do not take in the ten marks for SPaG on the compulsory **Period Study (International Relations)**.
- We have removed 10 marks from the **Period Study (International Relations)**. Question 4 will be worth 10 marks, not 20. The requirements of the question will remain the same - see the revised specimen assessment materials.
- We have added an extra 10 mark question to the **Non-British Depth Study**, with similar requirements to Question 6. See the revised specimen assessment materials.

What has changed?

What has changed – Specification	Detail																																										
Assessment Objective weightings for Autumn 2021	<p>The relationship between the Assessment Objectives and the components are shown in the following tables:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="619 432 1481 828"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="6">J410 History A - without Non British Depth Study</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Component</th> <th>AO1</th> <th>AO2</th> <th>AO3</th> <th>AO4</th> <th>SPAG</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Period Study (Intl Relations)</td> <td>17</td> <td>8</td> <td>0</td> <td>25</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thematic Study</td> <td>20</td> <td>30</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>British Depth Study and Historic Environment</td> <td>15</td> <td>15</td> <td>20</td> <td>0</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>52</td> <td>53</td> <td>20</td> <td>25</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>34.7%</td> <td>35.3%</td> <td>13.3%</td> <td>16.7%</td> <td>6.7%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	J410 History A - without Non British Depth Study						Component	AO1	AO2	AO3	AO4	SPAG	Period Study (Intl Relations)	17	8	0	25	10	Thematic Study	20	30	0	0		British Depth Study and Historic Environment	15	15	20	0		Total	52	53	20	25			34.7%	35.3%	13.3%	16.7%	6.7%
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What has changed – Specification	Detail		
	Entry Code	Code	Title
	J410 KC	01	China 1950-1981: The People and the State
		10	War and British Society c.790 to c.2010
		14	International Relations: the changing international order 1918-c.1975
	J410 KD	01	China 1950-1981: The People and the State
		11	The Impact of Empire on Britain 1688-c.1730 with Urban Environments: Patterns of Migration
		14	International Relations: the changing international order 1918-c.1975
	J410 KE	01	China 1950-1981: The People and the State
		12	The English Reformation c.1520-c.1550 with Castles: Form and Function c.1000-1750
		14	International Relations: the changing international order 1918-c.1975
	J410 KF	01	China 1950-1981: The People and the State
		13	Personal Rule to Restoration 1629-1660 with Castles: Form and Function c.1000-1750
		14	International Relations: the changing international order 1918-c.1975
	J410 LA	02	Germany 1925-1955: The People and the State
		08	Migration to Britain c.1000 to c.2020
		14	International Relations: the changing international order 1918-c.1975
	J410 LB	02	Germany 1925-1955: The People and the State
		09	Power: Monarchy and Democracy in Britain c.1000 to 2014
		14	International Relations: the changing international order 1918-c.1975
	J410 LC	02	Germany 1925-1955: The People and the State
		10	War and British Society c.790 to c.2010
		14	International Relations: the changing international order 1918-c.1975
	J410 LD	02	Germany 1925-1955: The People and the State
		11	The Impact of Empire on Britain 1688-c.1730 with Urban Environments: Patterns of Migration
		14	International Relations: the changing international order 1918-c.1975
	J410 LE	02	Germany 1925-1955: The People and the State
		12	The English Reformation c.1520-c.1550 with Castles: Form and Function c.1000-1750
		14	International Relations: the changing international order 1918-c.1975

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	Entry Code	Code	Title
	J410 LF	02	Germany 1925-1955: The People and the State
		13	Personal Rule to Restoration 1629-1660 with Castles: Form and Function c.1000-1750
		14	International Relations: the changing international order 1918-c.1975
	J410 MA	05	South Africa 1960-1994: The People and the State
		08	Migration to Britain c.1000 to c.2010
		14	International Relations: the changing international order 1918-c.1975
	J410 MB	05	South Africa 1960-1994: The People and the State
		09	Power: Monarchy and Democracy in Britain c.1000 to 2014
		14	International Relations: the changing international order 1918-c.1975
	J410 MC	05	South Africa 1960-1994: The People and the State
		10	War and British Society c.790 to c.2010
		14	International Relations: the changing international order 1918-c.1975
	J410 MD	05	South Africa 1960-1994: The People and the State
		11	The Impact of Empire on Britain 1688-c.1730 with Urban Environments: Patterns of Migration
		14	International Relations: the changing international order 1918-c.1975
	J410 ME	05	South Africa 1960-1994: The People and the State
		12	The English Reformation c.1520-c.1550 with Castles: Form and Function c.1000-1750
		14	International Relations: the changing international order 1918-c.1975
	J410 MF	05	South Africa 1960-1994: The People and the State
		13	Personal Rule to Restoration 1629-1660 with Castles: Form and Function c.1000-1750
		14	International Relations: the changing international order 1918-c.1975
	J410 NA	06	The USA 1919-1948: The People and the State
		08	Migration to Britain c.1000 to c.2010
		14	International Relations: the changing international order 1918-c.1975
	J410 NB	06	The USA 1919-1948: The People and the State
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What has changed – Specification	Detail		
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J410 NC	06	The USA 1919-1948: The People and the State	
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	14	International Relations: the changing international order 1918-c.1975	
J410 NE	06	The USA 1919-1948: The People and the State	
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J410 NF	06	The USA 1919-1948: The People and the State	
	13	Personal Rule to Restoration 1629-1660 with Castles: Form and Function c.1000-1750	
	14	International Relations: the changing international order 1918-c.1975	
J410 OA	07	The USA 1945-1974: The People and the State	
	08	Migration to Britain c.1000 to c.2010	
	14	International Relations: the changing international order 1918-c.1975	
J410 OB	07	The USA 1945-1974: The People and the State	
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	14	International Relations: the changing international order 1918-c.1975	
J410 OC	07	The USA 1945-1974: The People and the State	
	10	War and British Society c.790 to c.2010	
	14	International Relations: the changing international order 1918-c.1975	
J410 OD	07	The USA 1945-1974: The People and the State	
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	J410 OF	07	The USA 1945-1974: The People and the State
		13	Personal Rule to Restoration 1629-1660 with Castles: Form and Function c.1000-1750
		14	International Relations: the changing international order 1918-c.1975
Compulsory component(s) in bold			

What has changed – SAMs	Detail
Revised specimen assessment materials showing the new structure for Autumn 2021	Please refer to our updated SAMs for 2021 to see the new assessment structure.

Support

OCR's team of expert Subject Advisors has created videos, webinars, and other resources to guide you through these changes and help you prepare your students for their exams in autumn 2021.

These resources can be found [here](#).

Contact Us

If you would like to contact us, you can do so at:

✉ history@ocr.org.uk

🐦 [@OCR_History](https://twitter.com/OCR_History)

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