

# History 7262/7263

**Syllabus B** Subject number 7262  
(EUROPEAN HISTORY)

**Syllabus C** Subject number 7263  
(MODERN HISTORY)

## Aims

The aims of both Ordinary level syllabuses in History are to enable candidates to acquire a sound knowledge and understanding of developments in a particular period or aspect of History, and to provide them with an introduction to historical skills and methods.

## Objectives

The objectives of the examinations for both syllabuses are to test the candidates':

1. knowledge of the historical themes or topics outlined in the syllabuses;
2. understanding of this historical knowledge;
3. ability to employ this knowledge in response to specific questions;
4. ability to develop from this knowledge a simple and coherent historical argument based on selected facts.

These skills are regarded as being interdependent.

## Syllabus B (European History) 7262

*This subject may be taken at the May/June examination only.*

### The Examination

Questions will be set on European history from 1763 to 1989.

Candidates will take one written paper of 2½ hours.

The paper will be divided into two sections, as shown in the syllabus which follows. Each section will consist of twelve questions. One question in each section will be based on various types of source material. The other eleven questions in each section will be essay questions which will usually be *structured* i.e. divided into separately-marked sub-sections. Except where precise mark allocations are given in the right-hand margin, answers to the various sub-sections of structured questions will be given approximately equal weighting when they are marked.

Candidates will be required to answer FIVE questions, chosen from anywhere in the paper.

All questions carry equal marks.

### Syllabus Content

The syllabus will be concerned with the history of continental Europe west of the Urals. It will also deal with the colonial rivalries between the major European powers. There will be no questions on British domestic history and no specific questions on British foreign or colonial policies where these do not involve any other European power.

### *Section A European History, 1763–1870*

The main features in the relationships between the European powers in the decades after the Treaty of Paris (1763). The ideas and policies of the 'Enlightened Despots'.

The partitions of Poland.

The causes, course and consequences of the French Revolution. The rise to power of Napoleon Bonaparte; his policies within France; his impact upon Europe in the years to 1815.

The Congress of Vienna, the Congress System and international relations to 1848. The movements for independence within Greece and Belgium. The restored Bourbon monarchy in France; its overthrow; the monarchy of Louis Philippe. The early history of the states of the German Confederation and of the Italian peninsula, from 1815. The Russian Empire in the first half of the nineteenth century. The causes and events of the revolutions of 1848–1849 in France, the German Confederation, the Austro-Hungarian Empire and the Italian peninsula.

The domestic and foreign policies of Alexander II of Russia (to 1870). The causes, events and consequences of the Crimean War. The Italian Risorgimento; the role of Italian nationalists and foreign powers in the development of Italian unity to 1870. The Ausgleich within Austria-Hungary. The progress of German unity in the years to 1870. The causes and course of the Franco-Prussian War. Major cultural, scientific and philosophical developments within Europe in the years 1763–1870.

### *Section B: European History, 1870–1989*

The consequences of the Franco-Prussian War. The internal development of the German Empire under Bismarck and under Wilhelm II. The main features in the internal development of the Third French Republic during the years to 1914. The causes, events and consequences of European involvement in the Balkans in the 1870s and 1880s. Colonialism amongst the European powers in the late nineteenth century. The European alliance system in the time of Bismarck.

The internal history of the Russian Empire from 1870 to 1917; the causes and course of the Russian Revolutions of 1917. Tensions and alliances between the European powers in the early twentieth century; the causes of the outbreak of war in 1914. The main features of the First World War in Europe. The Paris Peace settlement of 1919–1920. The organisation and work within Europe of the League of Nations.

Developments in Russia 1917–1921. The internal development of the Soviet Union in the time of Lenin and Stalin. The rise to power of Mussolini and his rule in Italy. The Weimar Republic; the rise to power of Hitler; his rule in Germany. France, 1918–1939. The Spanish Civil War. The main features in European diplomacy in the 1920s and 1930s; the causes of the outbreak of war in 1939.

The main European features of the Second World War. The origins and development of the 'Cold War' in Europe. The recovery and development of economic and political life in western Europe in the years 1945–1957. The Soviet Union in the years 1945–1980.

The emergence of a communist 'bloc' within Eastern Europe after 1945 and developments there during the years to 1980. France and Germany since 1945. Decolonisation by the powers of Europe in the 1950s and 1960s. The development of movements for closer links between the countries of western Europe in the years from 1957 to 1989. Developments in eastern Europe and in the Soviet Union 1980–1989. Disarmament and arms limitation among European powers and associated powers in the twentieth century. Major scientific, social and cultural developments within Europe in the years 1870–1989.

# Syllabus C (Modern History) 7263

*This subject may be taken at the May/June examination only.*

## The Examination

The examination will cover modern history of the world's major regions. The starting point for topics is 1919, except where otherwise indicated. The syllabus ends at the present day, though questions will not usually be set on events within the two years immediately preceding the examination.

Candidates will take one written paper of 2½ hours.

The paper will be divided into four sections, as shown in the syllabus which follows. Each section will consist of eight questions. The first question in each section will be based on various types of source material, and will be marked with an asterisk (a *starred* question). The other seven questions in each section will be essay questions which will usually be *structured* i.e. divided into separately-marked sub-sections. Except where precise mark allocations are given in the right-hand margin, answers to the various sub-sections of structured questions will be given approximately equal weighting when they are marked.

At least *one* question in each of the four sections will deal with international relations, international institutions such as the League of Nations and the United Nations Organization, or with world developments.

Candidates will be required to answer FIVE questions, chosen from any one section, or any number of sections, of the paper. Note, however, that not more than TWO starred questions may be attempted. No questions are compulsory. All questions carry equal marks.

**Candidates thus have the choice of treating the paper *either as one on Modern World History, choosing their questions from topics taken from various parts of the world, or as one on Modern Regional History, concentrating on a particular region of the world, and choosing their questions mainly or entirely from this region.***

## Syllabus Content

The starting point for topics in this syllabus is 1919, except where otherwise indicated. The syllabus ends at the present day.

### *Section A Africa, North and South of the Sahara*

The government and administration of Africa under colonialism. Mandates in Africa. Social and economic developments in colonial Africa. The beginnings of nationalism. Developments in South Africa from 1910 to 1948. Apartheid in South Africa: its establishment, development and effects. The ending of colonial rule and the establishment of independent states throughout Africa. Political, economic and social developments in African states both north and south of the Sahara. Pan-Africanism and the search for political and economic unity.

### *Section B: Asia, including the Middle East*

The internal development and external relations of China from the time of Sun Yat-Sen. The internal development and external relations of Japan. Nationalism in the Indian sub-continent. The war in Asia and the Pacific, 1941–1945. The independence of the Indian sub-continent and the later history of India and Pakistan. Nationalism and other political economic and social developments in South-East Asia. Palestine under the mandate; the history of the state of Israel and its relations with its Arab neighbours. Political, economic and social developments in the States of the Middle East – eg Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and the Gulf States – and the international significance of these developments.

### *Section C: The U.S.A. and the Americas*

The history of the United States under the various presidencies. Internal developments in the United States – political, economic and social – during the 1920s. The Wall Street Crash and the onset of the Depression. The New Deal. Isolationism after 1919 and the end of Isolationism. The international role of the United States during and after the Second World War eg the United Nations, the Cold War, the Korean and Vietnam wars. The Civil Rights movement. Other post-war social and political developments and programmes eg McCarthyism, the New Frontier, the New Society. Political, economic and social developments in Canada, the Caribbean and Central and South America.

### *Section D: Europe, including Britain and the USSR*

The Russian Revolutions of 1917; the internal development and external relations of Russia after 1917 under Lenin and Stalin. The peace settlements at the end of the First World War. The internal development and the external relations of the major states of western Europe, including Britain, 1919–1939. The Spanish Civil War. International relations in the 1930s and the causes of the outbreak of war in 1939. The Second World War in Europe and the Mediterranean, 1939–1945. Great power relations in Europe after 1945, and the emergence of an eastern ‘bloc’. Developments in the Soviet Union and eastern Europe to 1980; developments there during and since the 1980s. The post-war recovery of the major western European states and their subsequent histories. The movement towards European unity since 1945. Political, social and economic developments in Britain since 1939.

## **Edexcel Publications**

Copies of past examination papers, mark schemes and reports can be obtained from:

Edexcel International Publications  
Adamsway  
Mansfield  
Notts  
NG18 4FN  
UK

Telephone: +44 1623 450 781

Fax: +44 1623 450 481

E-mail: [intpublications@linneydirect.com](mailto:intpublications@linneydirect.com)

Syllabus details and other important documents such as mark schemes and reports are also available from our web site at [www.edexcel-international.org](http://www.edexcel-international.org) and will be updated as appropriate.

### **How to contact Edexcel International**

For further information and for all general enquiries, please contact:

Edexcel International  
190 High Holborn  
London  
WC1V 7BH  
UK

Telephone: +44 (0) 190 884 7750

Fax: +44 (0) 207 190 6700

E-mail: [www.edexcel.org.uk/ask](http://www.edexcel.org.uk/ask)

**Teachers are encouraged to check the Edexcel International website on a regular basis for any updates in information and advice, or to contact the International Customer Services with any queries.**