

## Progression to A Level History at Prior Pursglove College

### Specification:

We follow the OCR specification and do the following topics: Unit 1: Tudors 1485-1558, Unit 2: Russia 1894-1941 and Unit 3: American Civil Rights, 1865-1992

### First topic studied:

The Tudors: Reign of Henry VII

### Books to read:

- *The Winter King*, by Thomas Penn
- *Reign of Henry VIII: Personality and Politics*, by David Starkey
- *1536, The year that changed Henry VIII* by Susannah Lipscomb.

### Documentaries to watch:

- *The Winter King*: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aBpSRQ6wVPU>
- *David Starkey: Mind of a tyrant (4 parts)*, first part linked here: <https://www.dailymotion.com/video/x20nxy2>
- *David Starkey: Edward and Mary (2 parts)*, first part linked here: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5mRFbmSga\\_4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5mRFbmSga_4)

Beyond the Tudor topic, there is also lots of contemporary film/documentary material on the Civil Rights topic, especially the Civil Rights of African Americans:

- The Butler- good for the AA topic especially role of the presidents
- The Help - about AA women working in the service industry during the height of the civil rights campaign
- Selma - about MLK
- Marshall- about the first AA Supreme Court Justice
- Remember the Titans - about the first integrated AA high school football team
- Forrest Gump - good overview of US History
- 13th - excellent for race relations in US
- Reversing Roe- - good for political views on abortion in US (studied in second year)
- LA 92- race riots in US
- Madge C Walker- series about the first African American women to run her own bank, it literally came out last week and has a very good cast too
- When they see us - series about institutional racism of the NYPD

- 12 Years a Slave
- Ken Burns- The West (good for Native American topic)
- Who killed Malcom X?
- Mississippi Burning.

## **Fiction books on/around the topic of Civil Rights:**

- The Help by Kathryn Stockett
- To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee
- Gone with the Wind (Civil war America) by Margaret Mitchell

## **There's also a couple of interesting research projects that they could take part in on Zooniverse:**

- Transcribing the military records of African American Soldiers in the American Civil war for the US National Archives: <https://www.zooniverse.org/projects/usct/african-american-civil-war-soldiers>
- Transcribing anti-slavery letters for the Boston Library: <https://www.antislaverymanuscripts.org/>

Both are really interesting opportunities to have access to primary source material from a key part of their History A Level course.

## **The History of Parliament Competition**

The History of Parliament will run its essay competition for Sixth Form students during the summer term. Entries are encouraged from Year 11, 12 and 13 students (or all 16-18 year olds for those outside England and Wales) and the winner will receive £100.

The prize will be awarded for the best essay on a subject of the candidate's own choice related to the parliamentary or political history of Britain and Ireland before 1997. Although candidates for essays covering the period before 1832 are encouraged to look at and use the material on the History of Parliament's website ([www.historyofparliament.org](http://www.historyofparliament.org)) it is not required that they should do so. Students may also find the History of Parliament blog to assist them (<https://thehistoryofparliament.wordpress.com/>).

Essays should be between 2000 and 4000 words and submitted by a member of school staff (not personally or by a parent or guardian).

The closing date for this competition is 31 July 2020.

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/news/essay-competition-2020-%2816-18-yo%29>