



Subject: History

Term 1

Overarching Topic: From Autocracy to Dictatorship – Germany & Russia

<p>Why is this topic being studied at this time?</p> <p>How does it fit into the wider subject curriculum?</p>	<p>The story of the twentieth-century is one of the struggle of antithetical ideologies – democracy versus fascism; capitalism versus communism. This year we will chart this theme through case studies of Germany and Russia as we ask ourselves how ideologies can lead to dictatorship and what we need to do to safeguard our democracy for the future. We will adopt a comparative approach in order to allow students the opportunity to demonstrate original insight and throw light on the different dictatorships, their natures, characters and structures.</p>
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	Critical	Core	Pinnacle
<p>The Big Questions (What questions will students be able to answer upon mastery of the topic?)</p>	<p>What do we mean by the German-speaking lands?</p> <p>Why were there tensions between Prussia and surrounding countries?</p> <p>Who was Kaiser Wilhelm II and who was Otto von Bismarck?</p> <p>Who was living in the Russian Empire?</p> <p>Who was Tsar Nicholas II?</p> <p>What happened during WWI and at the end of WWI?</p> <p>What key events happened in Germany and Russia in the 1920s?</p> <p>Who were the Nazis?</p> <p>Who opposed the Nazis and why?</p>	<p>Why did Germany unify in 1871?</p> <p>What were the constitutional arrangements for the new Germany?</p> <p>What was German society like under Kaiser Wilhelm?</p> <p>Why was Russia difficult to rule in the nineteenth- and early twentieth-centuries?</p> <p>What happened in the 1905 Revolution?</p> <p>What were Germany and Russia like before WWI?</p> <p>How did WWI impact on Germany – the November Revolution and the Weimar State</p> <p>How did WWI impact Russia?</p> <p>What was the Weimar Republic?</p> <p>What challenges were there to the Weimar Republic?</p> <p>What challenges were there to Leninist Russia?</p> <p>To what extent did Weimar recover after 1923?</p> <p>Did the NEP in Russia really bring about a communist state?</p> <p>What happened during Germany’s ‘golden age’?</p> <p>How did Hitler become Chancellor?</p> <p>How did Hitler eliminate opposition?</p> <p>Were the Germans better off under Hitler?</p>	<p>Was the unification of 1871 a nationalist event?</p> <p>How similar were the Russian and German autocracies?</p> <p>Were the outcomes of 1905 a failure of Liberalism?</p> <p>What comparisons can be made between the effects of WWI on Germany and Russia?</p> <p>To what extent did the experience of ordinary Germans in the 1920s differ from ordinary Russians?</p> <p>What similarities and differences can be drawn between Stalinist Russia and Hitler’s Germany?</p>

The Key Skills/ Techniques	The sophistication and application of skills will become more advanced as students' progress through the critical, core and pinnacle knowledge.		
	Skill/Technique	How will this skill be developed?	
	Interpretations analyses and evaluations Assessing the relative utility of sources and interpretations	Studying a range of historical interpretations and developing approaches to effective analysis and evaluation of their utility and reliability Practising comparative evaluations of the usefulness of different sources and cross-referencing these evaluations with interpretations	