SAMPLE COURSE OUTLINE

MODERN HISTORY
ATAR YEAR 12

Unit 4 – Elective 1: The changing European world since 1945
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Sample course outline

Modern History – ATAR Year 12

Semester 2 – Unit 4 – The modern world since 1945

This outline is based on the elective: The changing European world since 1945

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Key teaching points</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td><strong>Historical Knowledge and Understanding</strong>&lt;br&gt;• the nature of the origins and early development of the Cold War to 1948&lt;br&gt;• the significant ideas of the period&lt;br&gt;• the role of significant political leaders throughout the period&lt;br&gt;<strong>Overview – The division of Europe along ideologial lines: the Iron Curtain descends</strong>&lt;br&gt;• ideological differences between capitalism, communism and democracy&lt;br&gt;• post-war conferences (Yalta and Potsdam) and conflict between leaders (Stalin, Truman and Churchill)&lt;br&gt;• ideology versus expansionism, containment versus security&lt;br&gt;• 1946 Iron Curtain speech, 1946 the Long Telegram, 1947 Truman Doctrine and 1948 Marshall Aid</td>
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<td>2–3</td>
<td><strong>Historical Knowledge and Understanding</strong>&lt;br&gt;• the evolving nature and character of the Cold War in Europe from 1948 through to détente&lt;br&gt;• the significant ideas of the period&lt;br&gt;• the role of significant political leaders throughout the period&lt;br&gt;<strong>Part A: Bi-polar Europe – Cold War divisions</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Conflict in and with the East, cooperation in the West</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Berlin Blockade&lt;br&gt;• the impact of the arms race and space race&lt;br&gt;• the threat of nuclear war (Mutually Assured Destruction)&lt;br&gt;• formation of North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) and Warsaw Pact&lt;br&gt;• the use of the Warsaw Pact (Hungary, Berlin Wall and Berlin Blockade, Prague Spring)&lt;br&gt;• beginning of trading relations between the Western European countries including the Monnet vision, the ECSC, Euratom and the EEC (European Economic Community or Common Market) and the implications in the West (including mistrust of the UK by de Gaulle and impacts on NATO)&lt;br&gt;• significance of Khrushchev (peaceful co-existence and de-Stalinisation) and Eisenhower (rollback strategy to force change) on relations between USA and USSR in Europe&lt;br&gt;• the lack of assistance from the USA in the Hungarian Uprising and negotiations between Eisenhower and Khrushchev before the U2 spy plane incident&lt;br&gt;<strong>Historical skills</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Analysis and use of sources&lt;br&gt;• Perspectives and interpretations&lt;br&gt;• Explanation and communication&lt;br&gt;<strong>Task 7: Source analysis</strong></td>
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<td>4–5</td>
<td><strong>Historical Knowledge and Understanding</strong>&lt;br&gt;• the evolving nature and character of the Cold War in Europe from 1948 through to détente&lt;br&gt;• the role of significant political leaders throughout the period&lt;br&gt;<strong>Brinkmanship and détente</strong>&lt;br&gt;• ‘Brinkmanship’ in practice: Berlin Wall 1961 and Cuban Missile Crisis 1962&lt;br&gt;• lead up to détente&lt;br&gt;• removal of Khrushchev&lt;br&gt;• Nuclear Test Ban Treaty&lt;br&gt;• Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons&lt;br&gt;• the hotline between the White House and the Kremlin</td>
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| 6–7  | **Détente: Strategic Arms Limitation Talks** (SALT) 1 1972 and SALT 2 1979, the Helsinki Accords  
**negotiating with the West, maintaining control in the East; Brezhnev Doctrine**  
**importance and role of leaders in the lead up to and during the détente period: Khrushchev, Kennedy, Brandt (ostpolitik), Brezhnev, Nixon, Carter and Ford**  
**Historical skills**  
• Chronology, terms and concepts  
• Perspectives and interpretations  
• Explanation and communication  
**Task 8: Explanation – essay**  

**Historical Knowledge and Understanding**  
• the role of significant political leaders throughout the period  
**The Second Cold War and the importance of Gorbachev**  
• the decline of détente in the late 1970s  
• the ‘Evil Empire’ and ‘Star Wars’ re-intensification of the Cold War  
• rise of Gorbachev, perestroika and glasnost  
• summits between Reagan and Gorbachev 1985–1988  
• collapse of Brezhnev Doctrine, Polish Solidarity, fall of the Berlin Wall  
**Historical skills**  
• Chronology, terms and concepts  
• Historical questions and research  
• Analysis and use of sources  
• Perspectives and interpretations  
• Explanation and communication  
**Task 9 Part A: Historical inquiry process**  
**Task 9 Part B: Validation essay** |
| 8–9  | **Historical Knowledge and Understanding**  
• the changing nature of world order in the period 1989–2001  
• the role of significant political leaders throughout the period  
**Part B: Forging a united European Community – Reunifying Europe post-1989**  
**Break-up of the Soviet Union and the reunification of Germany**  
• social, political and economic change in the Soviet Union, collapse of communism in the East  
• 1990 reunification of Germany ‘Two by Four’ Treaty 1990  
• the role of Helmut Kohl as first Chancellor of a reunified Germany and problems with reintegration  
• Western interests in the former USSR and the creation of the Russian oligarchs  
• Russian relations with USA under the leadership of Yeltsin and Clinton  
**Historical skills**  
• Chronology, terms and concepts  
• Perspectives and interpretations  
• Explanation and communication  
**Task 10: Explanation – essay** |
| 10–11| **Historical Knowledge and Understanding**  
• the development of European governance and extension of the ‘European Union’  
**The European community; the development of the European Union (EU)**  
• the EU as an extension of the EEC 1958, timeline of the development of the EU from 1945  
• growth in the 1970s with the inclusion of Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom  
• 1979 ERM  
• 1986 the ‘Single Market’  
• 1992 Maastricht Treaty, ground work for the EU  
• 1993 EU established and the ‘Four Freedoms’  
• the nature and function of the EU  
• desire for a European community with a basis of peace, security and trade |
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| 12-13 | **Historical Knowledge and Understanding**  
- the changing nature of world order in the period 1989–2001  
**Conflict in the Balkans and the changing nature of NATO in a post-Cold War Europe**  
- gradual acceptance of former Warsaw Pact countries as members  
- relations with Russia, 1997 NATO Summit, Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council  
- break-up of Yugoslavia and ethnic tensions that ensued  
- nature of the conflict and NATO’s role in the Balkans conflicts  
- NATO from Cold War Alliance to the NATO-Russia Council 2002  
**Historical skills**  
- Analysis and use of sources  
- Perspectives and interpretations  
- Explanation and communication  
**Task 11: Source analysis**  
| 14 | **Historical Knowledge and Understanding**  
- the development of European governance and extension of the ‘European Union’  
- the changing nature of world order in the period 1989–2001  
**Historical skills**  
- Perspectives and interpretations  
**The decline of the European nation-state?**  
- Eurozone 1999  
- gradual introduction of the Euro as Europe’s main currency by 2002  
- issues with centralised governance  
- movement of people through the EU and the rise of nationalistic groups in countries such as Great Britain  
- the struggle of NATO to find a role in the changed environment  
- ‘Ostalgie’, the yearning for the ‘good old days’ of communism in the East  
**Historical debate**  
- the decline of Europe in a global context (as argued by historians such as Laqueur)  
| 15 | **Task 12: Examination (Semester 2)** |