

WJEC GCSE History Newsletter, Autumn 2024

Welcome back everyone. We hope you have all enjoyed a refreshing summer break. This newsletter outlines some key information and resources to support a smooth start to the upcoming academic year. As many of you are aware the Draft Specification for the new Made for Wales GCSE History was released in July. You will find further details on key dates and professional learning opportunities for the new qualification below.

Unit 1 Studies in Depth - Wales and the wider perspective 1hr	Friday 16th May 2025 (morning)
Unit 2 Studies in Depth - History with a European/world focus 1hr	Thursday 5th June 2025 (morning)
Unit 3 Thematic Studies from a broad historical perspective 1hr 15m	Tuesday 10th June 2025 (afternoon)

Summer Examinations 2025

Unit 4: Working as an Historian/NEA Submissions

A reminder that **new proposals** need to be submitted for the period **2025-2027**, the proposal form must be submitted **electronically** to the WJEC subject support officer at least **six weeks before** the centre intends to begin the NEA unit. A reminder that the NEA must be from a content area **not studied** in the rest of the specification.

Autumn Term Professional Learning opportunities

Our new Assessment Feedback Package for 2024-25 is an opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of how assessments are marked or moderated. This integrated suite of resources and training brings together free access to Principal Examiner reports, marked scripts, and online assessment feedback sessions, as well as a range of optional paid face-to-face Professional Learning events. Learn more about how you and your learners can benefit from our Assessment Feedback Package here: [Assessment Feedback Package 2024-25 \(wjec.co.uk\)](https://www.wjec.co.uk/assessment-feedback-package-2024-25). You can download the most recent Principal Examiner Report and register for FREE, online feedback events on your qualification page.

Upcoming Courses

- Feedback on summer assessments (English session) FREE. Online 5th November 2024.
- Feedback on summer assessments (Welsh session) FREE. Online 6th November 2024.

Please register here [GCSE History \(wjec.co.uk\)](https://www.wjec.co.uk/gcse-history)

GCSE Resources

Please do visit the [Digital Resources Website](https://www.wjec.co.uk/digital-resources-website) to access a range of resources that can be used to support both learning and teaching of History GCSE in the classroom or as part of a blended/flipped learning programme.

New Made for Wales GCSE History

We are excited to launch the new specification for GCSE History. Here are some key dates for your diaries including information on some upcoming professional learning opportunities.

- Approved Specifications Published: 30th September 2024
- Publication of Sample Assessment Materials: 19th December 2024
- Guidance for Teaching Published: 31st January 2025

Professional Learning Events and Materials

PL Type	Aims	Format and Notes
<p>Your Guide to the new specification module</p> <p>Available from end of September 2024</p>	<p><i>To support your understanding of the specification document.</i></p>	<p><i>This asynchronous module will be on the "training on demand" tab of your qualification page on the WJEC website. You will need to register to access a link to view.</i></p>
<p>Parent / Options evening flyers</p> <p>Available from end of September 2024</p>	<p><i>To support you to provide information to parents and learners before start of study.</i></p>	<p>This PDF will be published on your qualification's home page.</p>
<p>Live Online Qualification Briefing & Q&A</p> <p>Available 2nd half autumn term 2024.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11th November 2024 English Medium • 12th November 2024 Welsh Medium <p>Events are open for registration.</p> <p>Visit the Training tab on your new qualification's webpage to view dates and register.</p>	<p><i>To support your understanding of the new qualification, its content and assessment structure. The live event will also refer to resources and upcoming PL and offer an opportunity to put questions to our Subject Teams and specification experts.</i></p>	<p><i>These live online events will be advertised on the WJEC website, and you will be required to register via a link. They will be hosted on Teams Live (Townhall).</i></p> <p><i>The events will be presented by WJEC Subject Advisors with Q&A support from WJEC Subject Officers. There will be English medium and Welsh medium events (except for English and Welsh qualifications).</i></p>
<p>* Preparing to Teach (face-to-face)</p> <p>Available from 14/02/25 to 07/04/25</p> <p>Registrations for the Pan Wales INSET days will be collected via your head teacher. No registrations through WJEC's website.</p>	<p><i>To support teaching the new specification. There will be a focus on understanding the assessments, assessment objectives, content and teaching approaches based on the specification, sample assessment materials and guidance for teaching.</i></p>	<p><i>These days take place on designated regional INSET days - there are 12 days in this series held across Wales, including 2 Welsh medium days and 1 bilingual day.</i></p> <p><i>These events will be led by WJEC Subject Advisors and our expert presenting teams.</i></p>
<p>Exam and NEA Walk-throughs</p> <p>Available summer Term 2025</p> <p>Access via the WJEC Portal secure website</p>	<p><i>To support you and your learners to understand the structure of question papers/NEA briefs, question types, assessment objectives and marking methods.</i></p>	<p><i>These pre-recorded PPT will initially be published on the WJEC Portal secure website only.</i></p>

* Your designated regional WJEC face-to-face INSET date (Preparing to Teach) can be found here: [Made-for-Wales GCSEs \(wjec.co.uk\)](https://www.wjec.co.uk/made-for-wales-gcse)

Entry Pathways – Humanities

Entry Pathways Humanities is a qualification that allows learners to achieve credit for their work across units drawn from **History**, Geography and Religious Studies, with assessment criteria designed to complement the WJEC GCSE qualifications in these subjects. Centres can select units that are drawn from one or more of these subjects to allow candidates who may not be able to display a successful outcome at GCSE to achieve an Award, Certificate or Diploma in Humanities at Entry Level 2 or Entry Level 3. Further information about the Entry Pathway Humanities qualification can be found [here](#).

Good luck with the Autumn term, please do get in touch if we can assist you in any way.

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