



O Level

History

Session: 1957
Type: Syllabus
Code: 11

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
LOCAL EXAMINATIONS SYNDICATE
GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION

SYLLABUSES
HISTORY
ECONOMIC AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
GEOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

1957

The syllabuses given in Subject Syllabus H.G.1 (1956) are unchanged for 1957 except as follows:

HISTORY

Scholarship level

The following paragraph is added to the syllabus:

In the Scholarship paper candidates will be given a wide choice of questions on general historical and cultural topics. The paper is intended to provide candidates with an opportunity of displaying their interests in the broad aspects of History, and credit will be given for evidence of reading and reflection, of powers of judgment and critical appreciation.

GEOGRAPHY

Advanced level

In and after 1956, candidates will be permitted, if they so wish, to offer Field Work instead of Paper III. Candidates who offer Field Work as well as Paper III will count the higher of the two marks obtained.

SYNDICATE BUILDINGS
CAMBRIDGE

June 1955

HISTORY

ORDINARY LEVEL

There will be a choice of papers, each of 2½ hours. Candidates will take one paper only and answer any five questions.

The questions set will be designed to test a sound knowledge of historical facts, a reasonable power to select such facts as are appropriate to the questions set, and some ability to adapt the matter so selected to the requirements of the questions.

Candidates must bear in mind that a proper understanding of the period selected for special study is impossible without some outline knowledge of developments which led up to and immediately followed it.

A. British and European History, 1066–1920

The paper will be divided into four sections, 1066–1485, 1485–1688, 1688–1815 and 1815–1920. Candidates may select questions from one section or from not more than *two* consecutive sections. Each of the first *three* sections will contain

I. *British History*: at least five questions on English political history, possibly including one question which is partly British and partly European, and one question dealing with British possessions or colonies overseas; and four questions on English social and economic history.

II. *European History*: at least five questions on European political history, possibly including one or two questions which are partly European and partly British.

III. One question requiring candidates to write shortly on three topics selected from nine set, arising from British political history (three), social and economic affairs (three), and European political history (three). The type of answer required will be either a fairly detailed explanation of a single incident, a treatment in outline of a more extensive subject, or a biographical sketch as the case may be.

The section on the period 1815–1920 will contain questions as detailed above except that (i) at least *seven* questions will be set on British political history and at least *seven* on European political history, (ii) at least *five* questions will be set on English social and economic history, (iii) *twelve* topics will be set instead of nine.

Syllabus

I. British Political and English Social and Economic History

It is recognized that there can be no clear dividing line between questions on the political and the social and economic aspects of history. Questions will be set on some of the topics indicated below. They will be grouped together in sub-section (I) of each of the four sections.

The questions on political history will be set on major political issues and may include biographical questions. Questions may be asked on foreign policy, on matters affecting England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland, and on matters affecting possessions or colonies overseas. The questions on English social and economic history may deal, over the whole period, with the structure of society and the way of life of its various sections; villages and village life, land tenure and farming; towns and town life, industry and commerce; transport and communications by land and by sea; the part played in every-day life by the medieval Church, the Church of England, and other religious bodies; the effects of the main currents of social and economic thought. Questions may be set involving a general elementary knowledge of one or more of the following in their social aspect: architecture, painting, literature, and music.

II. European History

These questions will be grouped together in sub-section (II) of each of the four sections.

The questions will be set on the major issues and the outstanding personalities of European politics, and will touch on national politics only where these are of European importance. The history of Northern, Eastern, and South-Eastern Europe, Russia, and extra-European areas will be included only so far as it is of general European importance. Only the general strategy and general tactical considerations directing the course of the more important wars need be known. Knowledge of the circumstances and outcome, rather than of the course, of diplomatic negotiations will be required.

Although credit will be given for relevant sketches and sketch-maps, they will not be specifically required.

B. British and European History, 1871–1939

The paper will contain:

- (a) Seven questions on British History;
- (b) Seven questions on European History;
- (c) One question on topics arising from British and European History.

The nature of the period renders it impossible to indicate a definite proportion of questions on the different aspects of history—political, social, economic.

C. History of the British Empire and Commonwealth

This paper will be set on the period 1558–1939. Candidates will be asked to attempt five questions out of about fifteen set. These five may be chosen from any part of the paper, but candidates should be prepared to answer questions covering at least the period 1558–1783 or the period 1740–1939. They may be required to draw sketch-maps, where necessary, to illustrate their answers. Some knowledge will be required of the internal history and development of the most important countries of the Empire and Commonwealth.

D. Alternative Papers

The following alternative papers at ordinary level, based on the advanced level syllabuses, will be set. They are intended primarily for candidates who have been following a sixth-form course:

Papers II, V, VII and VIII.

Special applications for alternatives to Papers I, IV and IX will be considered. A fee to cover the extra cost will normally be payable.
