

NOTICE TO CENTRES

FAO: Exams Officer / Head of History

Date: March 2015

Subject: H505 GCE History A, first teaching in 2015

H505 GCE HISTORY A – SPECIFICATION CREATOR NOW ONLINE

Our new [on-line spec-creator tool](#) for our reformed [A Level History qualification](#), first teaching 2015, is now live and ready for use here. Thank you if your centre is the one of the hundreds that has already used it to enter their course details. If you haven't done so yet, please remember, it is **mandatory** to use spec creator to receive confirmation that your chosen combination of units is valid under the new subject criteria (you will need to use spec creator even if you have already checked your unit choices with us by phone or email).

Spec creator: the benefits for you

Spec creator is quick and easy to use. It gives you the reassurance prior to first teaching that your course overall is valid and it also helps us support you in the delivery of the new A Level. You are able to sign up to receive information about resources and training for the particular options you've decided to teach, and can opt to be put in contact with other history departments teaching the same options.

Assessing the new specification

A key feature of our new specification is the introduction of separate examination papers for each topic – again, something you've asked for in the past.

Using the information provided by spec creator, we'll be able to target our recruitment of specialist examiners giving you the confidence that your students' scripts will be marked by the most qualified history examiners. Hopefully many of you will sign up to mark for us yourselves!

So, **spec creator** is a powerful and helpful innovation. Please take a couple of minutes to use it, and help us to help you get ready for teaching the new A Level.

If you have any queries, don't hesitate to contact the history team on history@ocr.org.uk