Skills of a Historian

- The importance of finding a specific research topic through extensive background reading before beginning research.
- The importance of finding specific academic sources for research.
- Writing strong paragraphs (spontaneous and planned writing (essays and research)).
- Writing strong, active, past tense sentences in historical writing (spontaneous and planned writing (essays and research)).
- Cutting wordiness.
- Active versus passive voice in historical writing.
- Creating and using an academic outline to organize writing.
- The importance of multiple drafts and revisions in writing.
- Proper Citation to avoid inadvertent plagiarism.
- Plagiarism and academic honesty in research.
- Thinking about immediate versus short-term versus long-term causes and consequences (especially when evaluating significance).

- Evaluating sources using the OPCVL format.
- Test taking advise for Paper 1 (Source evaluation/OPCVL)
- Critiquing sources to find perspective.
- The importance of bias in source evaluation (Bias is not a limit or value alone, it’s both).
- The importance of the origin in establishing values and limitations of a source for a project.
- The importance of the purpose in establishing values and limitations of a source for a project.
- The importance of the content in establishing the values and limitations of a source for a project.
- Writing out a source evaluation for an IB exam (Paper 1).

Paper 1 (Source Evaluation and Usage): Case Studies: Richard the Lionhearted and Genghis Khan

- Genghis Khan’s
  - Rise to power
  - Uniting of rival tribes
  - Reputation as a military leader and naming as “Genghis”
  - Personal role in the success of mongol conquest.
  - Attacks on the Jin and capture of Beijing in 1215.
  - Invasion East in Asia and Iran
  - Invasion of Kwarezmia (Persian Empire broken from Abbasids) in 1219-1221
  - Stop invasion of Europe only due to Genghis’s death.
  - Political impact on
    - Administrative practices
    - Overthrow of existing ruling systems
    - Establishment of Mongol Law/Yassa
    - Move toward a more merit based society.
  - Economic impact on
    - Establishment, enhancement, and protection of trade routes.
  - Social, cultural, and religious impact
    - Population Displacement
    - Terror, Looting, and Murder
    - Raids and the destruction of settlements
    - Exchange of ideas, technology, and culture
      - Extent to which the Mongols allowed other religions

- Richard the Lionhearted’s
  - Rise to power
  - Revolts against his father Henry II
  - Reputation as a military leader and the nickname “Lionhearted”
  - Successes in defending his lands against the French (Philip II) and the Crusader territory.
  - Occupation of Sicily and Cyprus
  - Part in the Third Crusade
• Effect of his campaigns on different parts of the world (Middle East, France, Mediterranean)
• Absence from his land and the impact his absence had on John and Philip’s rebellions.
• (inadvertent) help to secure and strengthen the Kings of France
• Impact on economics and trade including his taxes for war
  • his ransoms after being captured the Duke of Austria and the Holy Roman Emperor
  • “Saladin Tax” to finance the Third Crusade
• Treatment of Jews and Muslims.

Paper 2 Topic 2: Causes and Effects of Medieval Wars
• William the Conqueror and the Battle of Hastings
  • William the Conqueror and Harold Godwinson
    • Immediate / Short-term / Long-term Dynastic Causes
    • Immediate / Short-term / Long-term Territorial Causes
  • Methods and ability to raise and organize a fighting force.
• Tactics used and logistics
  • Immediate / Short-term / Long-term Dynastic, Political, Religious, Socio-cultural, and population/demographic consequences.

Paper 3 Topic 1: Monarchies in England and France
• Establishment, characteristics and changing nature of royal government in England and France.
  • England before the Norman Invasion
    • Anglo-Saxons
    • Christianity
    • Viking Invasions and settlements
  • The impact of the Norman invasion of England
    • Changes in Government structure, administration, and laws
      • William’s establishment of Authority
        • Military power
        • Religious reorganization (feudal structure to the church in England) and its future impact.
      • Establishment of Feudal grants
      • Doomsday Book
  • Changes in Society and social structures
    • Establishment of new Norman Aristocracy
    • Connection with the continent
• Establishment of Henry II’s Angevin Dynasty
  • Establishment though marriage and inheritance
  • Squeezing out of the French Kings
• Struggles between Dukes of Normandy as English Kings and the Capetian Kings of France (causes and consequences)
  • Philip II ‘Augustus’ of France
  • Henry II of England
  • Richard I ‘Lionhearted’ of England
  • John of England
• Expansion of English Royal Authority
  • under William I
  • Henry I
  • Henry II
  • Richard I ‘Lionhearted’
  • John
  • Edward I
• Edward III

• Expansion of Royal French Authority
  • under Louis VI
  • under Louis VII
  • under Philip II ‘Augustus’
  • Philip IV
  • Philip IV
  • Louis XI ‘The Spider King’

• The Hundred Years War

• Evaluation of monarchies in England and France (and a comparison) as they became more sophisticated and powerful by substantiating their claims to increased authority, although noble power remained a key feature in both.

*Covered during Digital Learning
To be covered next year
Introduced during the regular school year and worked on during digital learning.