Anglo Saxon and Norman England, c1060 – c1088

Revision Guide
This will form 50% of your Paper 2. It is your “Depth Study”, which will be shared with the “Period study”.

The weighting for Paper 2 overall is 40% of the GCSE and you will have 1 hour 45 minutes to complete it.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>History Paper 2</th>
<th>Period Study and British Depth Study</th>
<th>Time 1 hour and 45 minutes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Section A</td>
<td>Period Study (Spain and the New World)</td>
<td>Answer 3 Questions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section B</td>
<td>Depth Study (Anglo Saxon and Norman England)</td>
<td>Answer 3 Questions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Section B will comprise of 3 questions:**

4. (a) Describe two features of ....
   In 5 minutes, write a few lines about each feature. Keep your answer brief and try not to add more information on extra lines.
   
   (4 marks)

4. (b) Explain why ....
   In 20 minutes, explain why something happened. There will be 2 stimulus points to help, but higher marks can only be awarded by also discussing further points. Aim to give at least three explained reasons.
   
   (12 marks)

4. (c) (i) or (ii) How far do you agree ....
   This should take 30 minutes and is worth half the marks for Section B. You have a choice of statements: (i) or (ii). You will have stimulus points to do it. The statement will be about cause, significance, consequence, change, continuity, similarity or difference. You must make a judgement on how far you agree, but focusing on both sides of the argument
   
   (16 marks)
The course will be taught in 3 clear sections:

Chapter 1: Anglo-Saxon England and the Norman Conquest, 1060 - 66

Chapter 2: William I in power: securing the kingdom 1066 - 87

Chapter 3: Norman England 1066 - 88

Anglo Saxon and Norman England c1060 - 88

1. 1066. The Battle of Hastings. Duke William’s force of 7000 knights defeats a similar size army of King Harold, who is killed.

2. 1066. English Earls Edwin and Morcar submit to Norman rule at Berkhamstead. William is crowned King in London on Christmas Day.

3. 1069. A series of rebellions against the Normans led by Edgar the Atheling and supporting by a Danish invasion break out in the North. William pays the Danes to leave and defeats the rebels. The city of York is destroyed.

4. 1069 – 70. William embarks in the “Harrying of the North”, carrying out total destruction. 150,000 die in a winter famine.

5. 1070 – 71. The rebellion at Ely. After being betrayed by Danes, rebel leader Hereward the Wake is defeated by the Normans at the Isle of Ely. Hereward however manages to escape.
A Summary of the content

The first key topic is focused on the final years of Anglo-Saxon England, covering its political, social and economic make-up, as well as the dramatic events of 1066. Anglo-Saxon England was prosperous and well governed. Society was characterised by a hierarchical system of government, influenced by the Church. Whilst Edward the Confessor was pious and respected, real power in the 1060s lay with the Godwin family and in particular Earl Harold of Wessex.

Harold Godwinson became Earl of Wessex on his father’s death in 1053. In 1065 he exiled his brother Tostig, who was a rival to the throne. However, other rival claimants were William of Normandy, Harald Hardrada and Edgar. Students should understand the range of causes of Harold’s eventual defeat, including the superior generalship of Duke William of Normandy, the respective quality of the two armies and Harold’s own mistakes.

The second key topic is focused on the period after the Battle of Hastings. William faced the immense task of imposing his victory into a meaningful control over a hostile Anglo-Saxon population. Tactics included the submission of the earls, but how by 1068 rebellion had broken out in the North of England, helped by the leadership of the surviving Anglo-Saxon earls, Edwin and Morcar. Students should also cover the renewed uprising in the North in 1069, which escalated as a result of the leadership of Edgar Atheling and aid from Denmark and Scotland and in 1070–71 the gathering of English rebels in the marshes of Ely to make what turned out to be a last stand. Students should appreciate how and why William defeated the uprisings: he militarised England with a programme of castle building; power was delegated to trusted men and a group of compact earldoms along the Welsh border; he was prepared to unleash total violence, as the population of Yorkshire discovered in the Harrying of the North; and he took steps to ensure that very few Anglo-Saxons continued to enjoy positions of wealth or power. Students should consider why, while the will of the English had been broken by the close of 1071, in 1075 a trio of William’s own earls attempted, unsuccessfully, to oust him from power. This was the last challenge William would face in England.

The final key topic is focused on the nature of Norman England and the implications of William’s death. Students should consider changes to the nature of landownership as William laid claim to the whole of England, granting it out under strict conditions in a process historians have termed
feudalism. In the Church, students should understand that Anglo-Saxon influence was squeezed out, while Lanfranc, William’s carefully chosen Archbishop of Canterbury to replace Stigand, embarked on a process of modernisation and church building. In the realm of government, students should appreciate that Anglo-Saxon practices such as writs continued while others such as the use of earls and sheriffs were modified. The growth in royal power should be covered, demonstrated by the ambitious Domesday survey, the hated royal forests and the unrestrained greed of Bishop Odo of Bayeux, William’s half-brother. They might note that in the economy, the single currency continued but slavery steadily declined.

Students should cover William’s death in 1087 due to battle wounds and the result of his decision to divide his realm between his three sons: Robert Curthose’s attempt in 1088 to oust the middle son, William Rufus, from the English throne.

**Timeline**

1064 Harold’s disputed visit to Normandy

1065 The Northumbrians’ revolt against Earl Tostig

January 1066 Death of King Edward Harold’s coronation

Mid-September 1066 Tostig and Harald Hardrada, King of Norway, sail into the Humber

20 September 1066 Battle of Gate Fulford

25 September 1066 Battle of Stamford Bridge

28–29 September 1066 William crosses the Channel, landing at Pevensey

14 October 1066 The Battle of Hastings

October–December 1066 William subdues South East England and is crowned king on Christmas Day Summer
1068 William defeats the first rebellion in the North

1069 The Normans face multiple uprisings in the North, South West and Welsh borders

December 1069 William holds Christmas amid the burnt-out ruins of York

1069–1070 The Harrying of the North

1070 Lanfranc is appointed as Archbishop of Canterbury

1070–71 Hereward the Wake leads an uprising in East Anglia

1075 The revolt of the Norman earls

1077–80 The revolt of Robert Curthose

1082 Bishop Odo of Bayeux is arrested

Christmas 1085 William orders the Domesday survey

9 September 1087 The death of William the Conqueror. Robert Curthose becomes Duke of Normandy and William Rufus inherits the throne

King of England 1088 Bishop Odo leads an attempted uprising against William Rufus
The following knowledge must be researched and clear notes made:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key topic 1.1 Anglo-Saxon society</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>● Monarchy and government. The power of the English monarchy. Earldoms, local government and the legal system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● The economy and social system. Towns and villages. The influence of the Church.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Key terminology**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Anglo Saxon</th>
<th>Hides</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anointed</td>
<td>Housecarls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aristocracy</td>
<td>Hundreds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blood Feuds</td>
<td>Oath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danelaw</td>
<td>Shire Reeve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earls</td>
<td>Thegns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fyrd</td>
<td>Tithings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geld Tax</td>
<td>Witan</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key topic 1.2 The last years of Edward the Confessor and the succession crisis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>● Harold Godwinson’s embassy to Normandy. The rising against Tostig and his exile. The death of Edward the Confessor.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Key terminology**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hostages</th>
<th>Succession (to the throne)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>House of Godwin</td>
<td>Tostig</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King Cnut</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key topic 1.3 The rival claimants for the throne</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>● The motives and claims of William of Normandy, Harald Hardrada and Edgar.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● The Witan and the coronation and reign of Harold Godwinson.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Reasons for, and significance of, the outcome of the battles of Gate Fulford and Stamford Bridge.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Key terminology**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Battle of Fulford</th>
<th>Edgar the Atheling</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Battle of Stamford Bridge</td>
<td>Harald Hardrada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beacon Signals</td>
<td>Shield Wall</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Key topic 1.4 The Norman invasion
- The Battle of Hastings.
- Reasons for William’s victory, including the leadership skills of Harold and William, Norman and English troops and tactics.

**Key terminology**
- Bayeux Tapestry
- Bishop Odo
- Shield Wall

### Key topic 2.1 Establishing control
- The submission of the earls, 1066.
- Rewarding followers and establishing control on the borderlands through the use of earls. The Marcher earldoms.
- Reasons for the building of castles; their key features and importance.

**Key terminology**
- Motte & Bailey
- Earl Edwin
- Earl Morcar
- Marchlands

### Key topic 2.2 The causes and outcomes of Anglo Saxon resistance, 1068–71
- The revolt of Earls Edwin and Morcar in 1068.
- Edgar the Aethling and the rebellions in the North, 1069.
- Hereward the Wake and rebellion at Ely, 1070–71.

**Key terminology**
- Castellan
- Guerrilla War
- Hereward the Wake
- The Ely Fens

### Key topic 2.3 The legacy of resistance to 1087
- The reasons for and features of Harrying of the North, 1069–70. Its immediate and longterm impact, 1069–87.
- Changes in landownership from Anglo-Saxon to Norman, 1066–87.
- How William I maintained royal power.

**Key terminology**
- Genocide
- Harrying of the North
- Forfeiture
- Tenants-in-Chief
- Tenure
- Vassal
Key topic 2.4 Revolt of the Earls, 1075

- Reasons for and features of the revolt.
- The defeat of the revolt and its effects.

**Key terminology**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excommunication</td>
<td>Ralph de Gael</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reconciliation</td>
<td>Reconciliation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magnate</td>
<td>Waltheof, Earl of Northumbria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roger de Breteuil</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Key topic 3.1 The feudal system and the Church

- The feudal hierarchy. The role and importance of tenants-in-chief and knights. The nature of feudalism (landholding, homage, knight service, labour service); forfeiture.
- The Church in England: its role in society and relationship to government, including the roles of Stigand and Lanfranc. The Normanisation and reform of the Church in the reign of William I.
- The extent of change to Anglo Saxon society and economy.

**Key terminology**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barony</td>
<td>Homage</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bishop Lafranc</td>
<td>Hierarchy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feudal</td>
<td>Knight Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fief</td>
<td>Regent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Key topic 3.2 Norman government

- Changes to government after the Conquest. Centralised power and the limited use of earls under William I. The role of regents.
- The office of sheriff and the demesne. Introduction and significance of the ‘forest’.
- Domesday Book and its significance for Norman government and finance.

**Key terminology**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Demesne</td>
<td>Forest Laws</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domesday Book</td>
<td>Sheriff</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Key topic 3.3 The Norman aristocracy

- The culture and language of the Norman aristocracy.
- The career and significance of Bishop Odo
Key topic 3.4 William I and his sons

- William’s death and the disputed succession. William Rufus and the defeat of Robert and Odo.

Key terminology

Logistics

Robert Curthose

William Rufus

Resource Details

Edexcel GCSE History (9-1) Anglo Saxon and Norman England, c1060–88 (Pearson, 2016)

Hodder GCSE History for Edexcel: Anglo-Saxon and Norman England, c1060–88 (Hodder, 2016)


Peter Marren, 1066: The Battles of York, Stamford Bridge and Hastings (Penn and Sword, 2004)

Robert Bartlett, The Normans (BBC DVD, 2010)

Dan and Peter Snow, Battlefield Britain (BBC DVD, 2006)

David Starkey, Monarchy Series 1 (Channel 4 DVD, 2007)

Bayeux Tapestry Online Reading Museum www.bayeuxtapestry.org.uk/

The National Archives Online www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/domesday/discover-domesday/