



PROGRAMME OF STUDY - TERM 1

THE CONTAINMENT OF COMMUNISM

- The policy of containment
 - Origins and development of the containment policy
 - Key architects of the policy, including George Kennan
 - Implementation of the policy in Europe, Asia, and Latin America
- The Korean War (1950–1953)
 - Background to the Korean War
 - US involvement and objectives in Korea
 - Impact of the Korean War on US-Soviet relations and global perceptions of US containment policy
- The Cuban Missile Crisis (1962)
 - Background to the Cuban Missile Crisis
 - US response to the placement of Soviet missiles in Cuba
 - Resolution of the crisis and its impact on US-Soviet relations
- The Vietnam War (1955–1975)
 - Reasons for US involvement in Vietnam
 - Conduct of the war and US military strategy
 - Impact of the Vietnam War on US domestic politics and foreign policy
- The collapse of the Soviet Union (1989–1991)
 - Factors leading to the collapse of the Soviet Union
 - Role of US containment policy in the Soviet Union's demise
 - Legacy of the Cold War and US containment policy
- The Space Race
 - Competition between the US and the Soviet Union in space exploration
 - Key events, such as the launch of Sputnik and the moon landing
 - Impact of the Space Race on US-Soviet relations and domestic policies
- The Arms Race
 - Buildup of nuclear weapons and military capabilities by both superpowers
 - Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT) and arms control efforts
 - Impact of the Arms Race on global security and the Cold War dynamic

OBJECTIVES AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Objectives:

- · Understand the origins and development of the US policy of containment.
- Analyze the effectiveness of US containment efforts in different regions, including Europe,
 Asia, and Latin America.
- Evaluate the impact of key events such as the Korean War, Cuban Missile Crisis, and Vietnam War on US containment policy.
- Assess the role of US containment policy in the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Skills Development:

- Analytical skills: Analyzing the effectiveness of US containment policy in containing the spread of communism.
- **Communication and presentation skills:** Presenting findings and arguments in a clear and coherent manner through written assignments and presentations.
- Research skills: Conducting independent research to gather information on US containment policy and its impact.
- **Historical perspective**: Understanding the historical context of US containment policy and its significance in the Cold War era.
- Justification and Support: understanding what is needed to support a point of view
- Evaluation: understanding the difference between conclusions and evaluation

USSR'S CONTROL OVER EASTERN EUROPE

- The establishment of Soviet control in Eastern Europe
 - Sovietization policies in Eastern Europe after World War II
 - Establishment of communist governments in Eastern European countries
 - Role of the Soviet military and secret police in maintaining control
- · Challenges to Soviet control in Poland
 - Political developments and resistance movements in Poland
 - Impact of the Polish October and the rise of Solidarity
 - Soviet response to dissent in Poland
- Challenges to Soviet control in Hungary
 - The Hungarian Uprising of 1956
 - Imre Nagy and the call for Hungarian independence
 - Soviet intervention and suppression of the uprising
- Challenges to Soviet control in Czechoslovakia
 - The Prague Spring of 1968
 - Alexander Dubček's reforms and the Brezhnev Doctrine
 - Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia and the end of the Prague Spring
- The Berlin Wall
 - Construction and significance of the Berlin Wall
 - Impact of the Berlin Wall on East-West relations
 - Attempts to escape and the human cost of the Berlin Wall

- Responses to dissent in Eastern Europe
 - Soviet response to uprisings and dissent in Eastern Europe
 - Use of propaganda and censorship to maintain control
 - Impact of the Brezhnev Doctrine on Soviet control in Eastern Europe
- The impact of events in Eastern Europe on the Soviet Union
 - Economic and military implications of maintaining control over Eastern Europe
 - Role of Eastern Europe in the Soviet Union's foreign policy
 - Influence of events in Eastern Europe on the domestic politics of the Soviet Union

OBJECTIVES AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Objectives:

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- Understand the methods used by the USSR to establish and maintain control over Eastern Europe.
- Analyze the challenges and threats to Soviet control in Eastern Europe, focusing on Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and the Berlin Wall.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of Soviet responses to dissent in Eastern Europe.
- Assess the impact of events in Eastern Europe on the stability and foreign policy of the Soviet Union.
- · Evaluate their slow lose of control and its causes
- · Analyze the impact of Gorbachev's policies

Skills Development

- **Argumentation:** They will learn to construct persuasive arguments based on historical evidence, supporting their claims with relevant facts and analysis.
- **Interpretation:** Students will develop the ability to interpret historical sources and understand how different perspectives can shape our understanding of the past.
- Comparative Analysis: They will compare and contrast different historical periods, societies, and cultures, fostering a deeper appreciation for diversity and change over time.
- **Contextualization:** Students will learn to place historical events within their broader context, considering the political, social, economic, and cultural factors that influenced them.
- Problem-Solving: Studying history involves grappling with complex issues and dilemmas, helping students to develop their problem-solving skills and think creatively about solutions.
- Ethical Reasoning: By studying the actions and decisions of historical figures, students will consider ethical questions and develop their capacity for moral reasoning.