



GCSE History Specification (Issue 6) – minor erratum in Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918–39

When updating the GCSE History specification for **Issue 6** (first teaching September 2024, first assessment June 2026), a small error was made which has now been corrected (15 August 2024).

The error can be found on page 45 of the specification, in **Option 31 Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918–39**, key topic 3.

The third bullet point in sub-topic 3 was moved from sub-topic 2, was also reworded to provide greater focus and simplify teaching, but this rewording was missed when Issue 6 was first released in June 2024.

The original wording was:

- Nazi policies towards the Catholic and Protestant Churches, including the Reich Church and the Concordat.

The correct wording is:

- Nazi attempts to control the Catholic and Protestant Churches: the Concordat and the Reich Church.

The specification has now been updated (15 August 2024).

This correct wording was already provided in the [topic guidance zipped file](#), where the rationale for the change is also given.

Key topic 3: Nazi control and dictatorship, 1933–39	
1 The creation of a dictatorship, 1933–34	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Reichstag Fire. The Enabling Act and the banning of other parties and trade unions.• The threat from Röhm and the SA. The Night of the Long Knives, and the The death of von Hindenburg, Hitler becomes Führer, and the army and-oath of allegiance.
2 The police state	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The role of the Gestapo, the SS, the SD and concentration camps.• Nazi control of the legal system, judges and law courts.• Nazi policies towards the Catholic and Protestant Churches, including the Reich Church and the Concordat.
3 Controlling and influencing attitudes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Goebbels and the Ministry of Propaganda: censorship, Nazi use of media, rallies and sport, including the Berlin Olympics (1936).• Nazi control of culture and the arts, including art, architecture, literature and film.• Nazi attempts to control the Catholic and Protestant Churches: the Concordat and the Reich Church.
4 Opposition, resistance and conformity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The extent of support for the Nazi regime.• Opposition from the Churches, including the role of Pastor Niemöller.• Opposition from the young, including the Swing Youth and the Edelweiss Pirates.

Subtopic 2

1. 'SD' removed from bp1 to simplify teaching.

2. 'judges and law courts' removed - this clarifies that the legal system can be looked at as a single entity rather than three separate things.

3. The churches moved from bp3 into Subtopic 3 as it fits better as an aspect of controlling/influencing attitudes.

Subtopic 3

1. As mentioned above the churches has moved here from Subtopic 2. Also, the emphasis changed from 'policies' to 'attempts to control' to provide greater focus and simplify teaching.