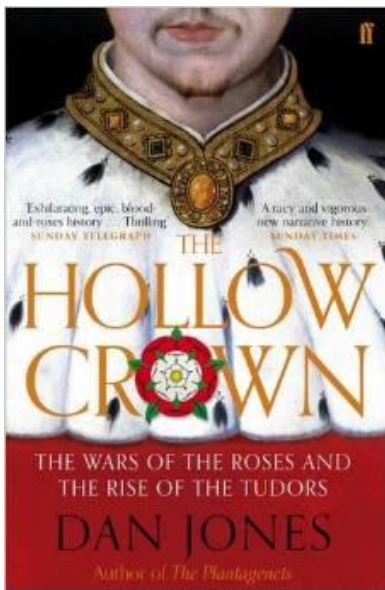


YEAR 12 HISTORY TRANSITIONAL WORK  
Unit 2: Depth Study  
2B The Wars of the Roses, 1450–1499

In September you will be starting two papers: Unit 1 and Unit 2. You'll be examined in both of them in their entirety in the summer of Year 13, and the first half of each at the end of Year 12. This forms part of the brand new A-level in History.

If you are serious about doing History A Level, then in order to prepare yourself for this, you will need to do some reading over the summer and familiarise yourself with the periods.

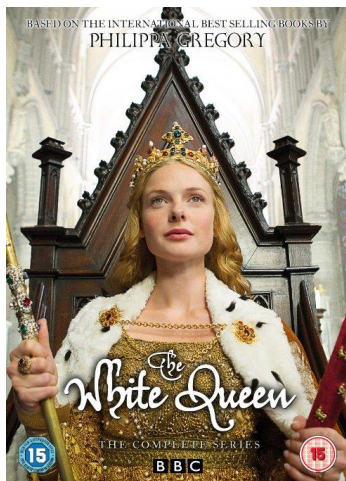


### BACKGROUND READING

The best possible introduction to the period is this very recent book. It's an excellent read and I advise you to buy a copy. Indeed, it's SO good it played a large part in choosing this paper to offer at KSHSSA. It costs only £6.99 from Amazon:

Jones, D., *The Hollow Crown* (Faber, London 2014)

You could also read his earlier book, *The Plantagenets*, which will help you understand how the circumstances of the fifteenth-century Wars of the Roses came about through longer-term causes.



### VIDEO and NOVEL

I also recommend that you try and read the books by Philippa Gregory called *The White Queen* or order the video series. They are not expensive. The video series is only £5.99:

Overleaf you'll find the structure of the Year 12 course. Study it, and use the Internet to find out about the key individuals. In September you will be better equipped to follow what happened and the issues as a result.

Mrs E Constantine  
History Department, KSHS

## 2B The Wars of the Roses, 1450–1499

### YEAR 12

#### Part One: The Fall of the House of Lancaster, 1450–1471

##### TERM 1-2: The Origins of Conflict, 1450–1459

- An over-view of English history from the reign of Richard II (1377-99) to the death of Henry V in 1422 and the accession of the infant Henry VI
- English society and politics in 1450: the weakness of Henry VI's rule; baronial factions; Cade's rebellion; the loss of Normandy
- The impact on English politics of the emerging power and influence of Richard, Duke of York
- The outbreak of war: the first Battle of St Albans and the balance of military power in 1455
- The uneasy peace: the influence of Henry's queen, Margaret of Anjou; factional rivalries and their impact on English society

##### TERM 2-4: The War of the Barons, 1459–1461

- The renewal of war: York's flight into exile; the emergence of Warwick 'the Kingmaker'; the capture of Henry VI at Northampton
- Filling the political vacuum: the rule of Richard of York as Protector of England
- Shifting loyalties and the Lancastrian revival: Wakefield; the second Battle of St Albans; the death of York and the restoration of Henry VI
- Proclamation of Edward IV as King; Yorkist victory at Towton; the strengths and weaknesses of the Yorkists by 1461

##### TERM 4-6: The Triumph of the Yorkists, 1461–1471

- The personal rule of Edward IV and the political impact of his marriage to Elizabeth Woodville
- Factional rivalries: Warwick 'the Kingmaker'; attempts to restore Henry VI; Margaret of Anjou; Edward, Prince of Wales
- The crushing of the Lancastrian cause: Barnet and Tewkesbury; the destruction of the Lancastrian nobility
- The impact of the baronial wars on English society by 1471: the weakening of the aristocracy; the impact on trade and the economy

