

The Normans - A-level study day

Teacher notes

Study day overview

Students will take part in complementary seminars at the Tower of London and the London Metropolitan Archive, with time out for lunch and travel.

Schedule:

10.30 - 12.00	London Metropolitan Archives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductory session at the London Metropolitan Archives • Examining evidence: study of contemporary documents
12.00 - 13.30	<p>We would advise eating lunch whilst travelling to allow for 45 minutes travel time to the Tower of London via tube 15 minutes to collect wristbands from the Welcome Centre and walk up to the Learning Centre.</p> <p><i>If you anticipate a late arrival please call us on 07896-275736.</i></p>
13.30 - 15.00	<p>The Tower of London</p> <p>Charting the arrival and impact of the Normans in England this session focuses on the White Tower. Students will examine both the buildings and documentary evidence to suggest what the White Tower reveals about William's post-conquest consolidation of power.</p> <p>Key themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • William I and the consolidation of power; the establishment of and challenges from a new elite. • The building of castles in Norman times (motives, techniques, effectiveness) and their impact on Norman control and royal power. • The defensive, residential, symbolic and ceremonial functions of the castle in Norman times. <p>Schedule: Your 90 minute session will consist of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 15 minute introduction to the development of the Tower during which students create a hypothesis to test; ○ 60 minute subject specific tour, engaging students through investigation of the built environment/analysis of documentary sources in their historical context; ○ 15 minute plenary during which students draw upon what they have learnt to reach their own conclusions.

Exam board links

This session has been designed to complement the study of the Norman period, and particularly the following exam boards:

- **Edexcel-2A.1:** Anglo-Saxon England and the Anglo-Norman Kingdom, c1053-1106
- **OCR- Y102:** Anglo-Saxon England and the Norman Conquest 1035-1107



Session objectives

- To explore, analyse, interpret and cross-reference different types of primary evidence (portraits/ buildings/ written evidence); evaluating the difficulties/ limitations of available evidence.
- To gain an understanding of how the Tower developed over time to support explanation of the motives, techniques and effectiveness of Norman castle building.
- To analyse and use historical sources in context to test a hypothesis on the effectiveness of Norman castle building as a method of consolidating William's power.

Meeting points – (Please see overleaf for details of how to travel between sites)

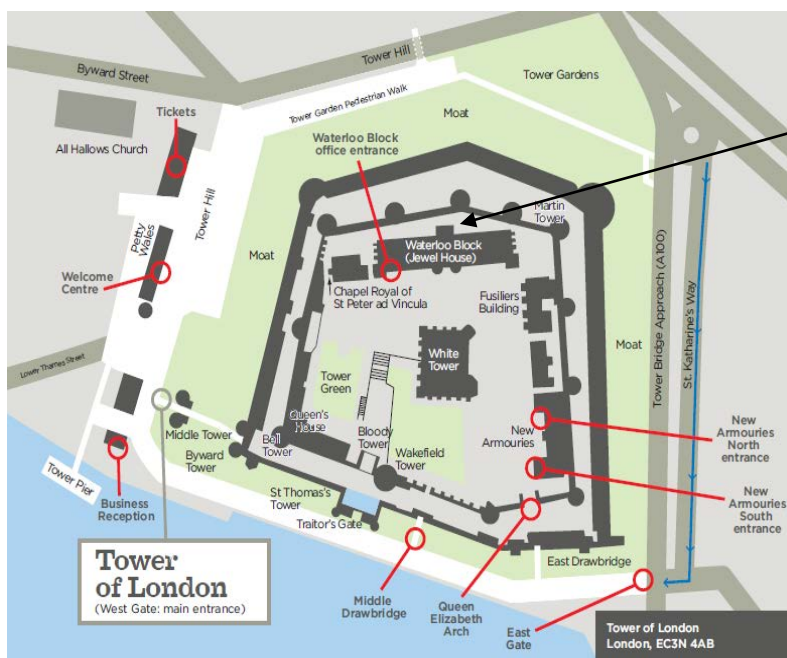
London Metropolitan Archives:

Enter by the Main Entrance in Northampton Road and report to the Security Desk. You will be directed upstairs and will be met by a member of staff.

The Tower of London:

Allow 15 minutes from the Welcome Centre to the Learning Centre.

1. Collect your admission wristbands from the [Welcome Centre](#).
2. Enter the Tower of London via [Middle Drawbridge](#) ([Groups Entrance](#)). After you have shown your wristband and had your bags checked, make your way to the Jewel House.
3. From the [Middle Drawbridge](#) turn right and walk towards then past the toilet block (on your right) and turn left through the [Queen Elizabeth Arch](#).
4. Keep walking straight ahead past the New Armouries restaurant (on your right) and the White Tower on your left towards the [Jewel House](#).
5. To access the [Learning Centre](#) you will need to go around the back of the Jewel House. Please do this using the **path between the Fusiliers Museum and the Jewel House**.
6. Once around the back of the building you will come across a **sign saying "No entry, except for booked school parties"**. Pass by this and the entrance to the [Learning Centre](#) will be on your left.
7. Your session presenter should be waiting here for you, but if not please use the buzzer on the wall to contact the [Learning Centre](#).



Please make your way to the entrance to the [Learning Centre](#) behind the [Jewel House](#)



Getting to and from the Tower and London Metropolitan Archives

The quickest and easiest way to travel between the two sites is by tube, taking the Circle line between Tower Hill and Farringdon. Approximate timings are as follows:

- Walking between Tower Hill tube and the Tower of London: 10 minutes
- Tube journey between Tower Hill and Farringdon: 10 minutes
- Walking between Farringdon tube and the London Metropolitan Archives: 20 minutes

We suggest that you **allow at least 45 minutes** for travelling between sites.

Please visit www.tfl.gov.uk for further details of tube services and prices.

