

Programme Title: MA History



Programme Specification

Awarding Body/Institution	Queen Mary University of London
Teaching Institution	Queen Mary University of London
Name of Final Award and Programme Title	MA History
Name of Interim Award(s)	PG Dip, PG Cert
Duration of Study / Period of Registration	1 calendar year (full time) or 2 calendar years (part time)
QM Programme Code / UCAS Code(s)	V1Q5, V1Q6
QAA Benchmark Group	
FHEQ Level of Award	Level 7
Programme Accredited by	Queen Mary University of London
Date Programme Specification Approved	30 Aug 2017
Responsible School / Institute	School of History

Schools which will also be involved in teaching part of the programme

School of English & Drama

School of Languages, Linguistics & Film

Institution(s) other than Queen Mary that will provide some teaching for the programme

Programme Outline

The MA in History is taught by world-renowned academics in a vibrant, collaborative atmosphere. The degree is wide ranging and can be tailored to suit a wide range of interests. The programme is particularly strong in the areas of Cultural, Medieval and Renaissance, American and Middle Eastern history. The varied range of modules covers everything from the history of emotions to modern British history.

Aims of the Programme

The programme aims to provide a flexible by intellectually coherent and rigorous course of study in History from the Middle Ages to the present day. Specifically it aims:

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- To introduce students, in the core course, to the main themes and approaches in twentieth-century historiography, from the Annales school to the present
- To introduce students, through the different pathways, to thematically and topically focused areas of history
- To encourage the transfer of approaches and concepts from the core course to the other areas of history they study
- To enable students to select optional core modules which provide specialist training relevant to study within particular historical periods
- To enhance advanced analytical and critical thinking
- To stimulate students to develop critical approaches to a number of areas of history
- To develop comparative perspectives on their work
- To provide a methodological and conceptual framework for more specialised research in the dissertation

What Will You Be Expected to Achieve?

In completing the programme, students will be able to demonstrate:

Academic Content:

A 1	A broad understanding of the ways in which history has been researched and written over the last century
A 2	An ability to write coherently and clearly about key historical topics in a way which is informed by current historical scholarship
A 3	Specialised knowledge of different historical periods and topics

Disciplinary Skills - able to:

B 1	Evaluate the use of different methodologies relying on various types of primary material
B 2	Assess the challenge posed by recent historiographical developments in historiography
B 3	Research and write a dissertation based on primary sources and a historiographical awareness in such a way as to make a contribution to historical understanding

Attributes:

C 1	Mastery of a substantive historiography from a comparative perspective
C 2	Ability to confidently interrogate and make use of a wide range of historical sources
C 3	Ability to approach contemporary debates through the lens of historical study

How Will You Learn?

● Teaching:

Teaching will normally be provided in weekly seminars, which will be led by staff members with original research qualifications and interests in the area. Seminars will be based on specified set texts, which may include primary and secondary materials, and which will usually be provided within a course pack or online via QMplus. Students will be encouraged to discuss key issues,

including theoretical approached and interpretative procedures, and to assume an active role in shaping the direction and scope of the discussion. Participation will also be encouraged through seminar presentations, and by the creation of a supportive, attentive, and considerate environment conducive to the exchange of ideas. Seminars will be supplemented by consultations with advisers, with option course leaders, and with dissertation supervisors, which will include opportunities for one-to-one discussions of course content and plans for written work. Students will be expected to engage in private study in preparation for the seminars and in the production of essays and the dissertation. Each course is supported by a detailed reading list a substantial part of which will be available online via QMplus.

The dissertation supervisor will be allocated in the light of the student's outline topic proposal, which is formulated during the Spring Semester in consultation with the adviser (with input as needed from option course teachers). The supervisor will have expertise in the area of the student's proposed topic, and will help the student refine and develop his or her plans. Supervision may include discussion of methodology, research resources, the scope of appropriate reading, the conduct and structure of the argument, the quality of submitted drafts and bibliographical procedures. Supervision will be provided in an initial, individual planning meeting, followed by a minimum of three one-to-one meetings.

● Learning:

Learning will be supported by

- An academic adviser, allocated to each student at the beginning of the session, who advises on personal, practical and academic issues, including written work, goals and progress, and the dissertation topic proposal.
- Detailed course descriptions explaining the aims, methods and structure of the course, essential reading and suggestions for independent research
- One-to-one advice on essay topics, followed by written and oral feedback on assessed work
- Supervision of the dissertation through an initial, individual planning meeting, followed by a series of one-to-one meetings as well as the possibility of communication via email.
- Library resources, including the resources of the College Library, the University of London Senate House Library, the British Library, as well as other specialist London libraries and archives introduced through the research methods course. Students have access to the holdings of all other London college libraries.
- The intellectual environment of the Department; students will be able to participate in the Department's Graduate Seminar, and in events organised by the Graduate School in the Social Sciences and Humanities and by the Institute for Historical Research.

How Will You Be Assessed?

Core and optional modules are assessed by written essays of 4000 words. Students will be able to formulate their own essay topics in consultation with the course leader (essay topics must be formally approved by week 10 of each semester). The course leader will also provide guidance on planning and development of essays in one-to-one sessions during the second part of the semester. The 15000-word dissertation will be supervised individually by a member of staff, selected by the student and in agreement with course leader. Students will be able to formulate their own dissertation topics in consultation with the course leader and the individual supervisor. Feedback on all written work (both essays and dissertations) will be provided by first and second markers and made available online via QMplus. In addition, students can get further oral feedback and guidance individually by the course leader.

There are no examinations.

How is the Programme Structured?

Please specify the full time and part time programme diets (if appropriate).

Students take a compulsory core course and optional modules within the School, plus a dissertation. Students can take up to 30 credits in another HSS School or a University of London History Department. They also take HST7608 History in Action, a compulsory (non-assessed) research methods course. Part-time students will normally take HST7608, the core course, and one other option in their first year. They will normally begin work on their dissertation in the first year of study, but will register for the dissertation, and two other options courses, in the second year.

The MA History options include the following:

- HST7317 Hollywood and the Second World War
- HST7327 Islam in Medieval and Early Modern Iberia

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HST7329 Modern Girls?
 HST7330 Selfhood and Enlightenment in the Long Eighteenth Century
 HST7331 Consumer Cultures: The United States from the 1760s to the 1960s
 HST7335 Culture and Identity in Renaissance Italy
 HST7338 Readings in Global History
 HST7342 The Politics of Irish Writing from Swift to Heaney
 HST7402 Modern Jewish History and Culture
 HST7405 Antisemitism and the Holocaust
 HST7406 The Holocaust and Beyond: War and Post-war Germany
 HST7614 Resistance and Decolonization: Empire and Global History in the 20th Century
 HST7615 The First Crusade and the Foundation of the Crusader States
 HST7403 Christians and Jews in Europe: Perceptions and Encounters 1100-1600
 HST7616 Metropolitan Matters: A material history of London from the Victorians to the present
 HST7617 The Making of Modern Paris

Academic Year of Study FT - Year 1

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
History: Approaches, Methods, Challenges	HST700	30	7	Core	1	Semester 1
History in Action	HST7608	0	7	Compulsory	1	Semesters 1 & 2
Hollywood and the Second World War	HST7317	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Islam in Medieval and Early Modern Iberia	HST7327	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Modern Girls?	HST7329	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Selfhood and Enlightenment in the Long Eighteenth Century	HST7330	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Consumer Cultures: The United States from the 1760s to the 1960s	HST7331	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Culture and Identity in Renaissance Italy	HST7335	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Readings in Global History	HST7338	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
The Politics of Irish Writing from Swift to Heaney	HST7342	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Modern Jewish History and Culture	HST7402	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1

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Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Christians and Jews in Europe: Perceptions and Encounters 1100-1600	HST7403	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Antisemitism and the Holocaust	HST7405	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
HST7406 The Holocaust and Beyond: War and Post-war Germany	HST7406	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
HST7614 Race, Resistance and Decolonization: Empire and Global History in the 20th Century	HST7614	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
The First Crusade and the Foundation of the Crusader States	HST7615	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
HST7616 Metropolitan Matters: A material history of London from the Victorians to the present	HST7616	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
The Making of Modern Paris	HST7617	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2

What Are the Entry Requirements?

first or upper second class honours degree in History or another relevant Humanities-related subject, together with two supportive academic references. A recognised equivalent from an accredited overseas institution or an equivalent professional qualification is also accepted.

The language requirement for students whose first language is not English is a 7.0 IELTS score or equivalent.

How Do We Listen and Act on Your Feedback?

The Staff-Student Liaison Committee provides a formal means of communication and discussion between schools/institutes and its students. The committee consists of student representatives from each year in the school/institute together with appropriate representation from staff within the school/institute. It is designed to respond to the needs of students, as well as act as a forum for discussing programme and module developments. Staff-Student Liaison Committees meet regularly throughout the year. Each school/institute operates a Learning and Teaching Committee, or equivalent, which advises the School/Institute Director of Taught Programmes on all matters relating to the delivery of taught programmes at school level including monitoring the application of relevant QM policies and reviewing all proposals for module and programme approval and amendment before submission to Taught Programmes Board. Student views are incorporated in the committee's work in a number of ways, such as through student membership, or consideration of student surveys.

All schools/institutes operate an Annual Programme Review of their taught undergraduate and postgraduate provision. APR is a continuous process of reflection and action planning which is owned by those responsible for programme delivery; the main document of reference for this process is the Taught Programmes Action Plan (TPAP) which is the summary of the school/institute's work throughout the year to monitor academic standards and to improve the student experience. Students' views are considered in this process through analysis of the PTES and module evaluations.

Academic Support

- Induction: Students will be inducted by the course leader at the beginning of the academic year, in addition to a general induction by key staff in the School of History responsible for the various components of the MA, including the Director of MA Programmes, the Student Experience Manager, and the E-Learning Manager, as well staff not specific to the School, including Advice and Counselling Services, Language Centre, Careers, and Library Services.
- Advisors: Students will be assigned to an advisor at induction (usually the course leader). At the beginning of each semester students will meet the advisor to discuss practical and academic issues, to set goals etc. Other meetings will be arranged to discuss essay and or dissertation plans and, at the end of the semester, to review progress. In addition advisers will keep a specified MA Office Hour each week, at which they will be available to discuss issues with advisees or course members.
- Course Teachers: All MA teachers will provide support, not only within the classes, but in one-to-one advice sessions to discuss progress and essay plans, or to provide feedback on presentations or assessed work.
- Dissertation Supervisors: Students will write their dissertation with the close support of a designated dissertation supervisor, who will provide guidance and advice through regular meetings over the summer months and via emails.

Programme-specific Rules and Facts

N/A

Specific Support for Disabled Students

Queen Mary has a central Disability and Dyslexia Service (DDS) that offers support for all students with disabilities, specific learning difficulties and mental health issues. The DDS supports all Queen Mary students: full-time, part-time, undergraduate, postgraduate, UK and international at all campuses and all sites.

Students can access advice, guidance and support in the following areas:

- Finding out if you have a specific learning difficulty like dyslexia
- Applying for funding through the Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA)
- Arranging DSA assessments of need
- Special arrangements in examinations
- Accessing loaned equipment (e.g. digital recorders)
- Specialist one-to-one "study skills" tuition
- Ensuring access to course materials in alternative formats (e.g. Braille)
- Providing educational support workers (e.g. note-takers, readers, library assistants)
- Mentoring support for students with mental health issues and conditions on the autistic spectrum.

Links With Employers, Placement Opportunities and Transferable Skills

Students on the MA in History will take the non-assessed module History in Action (HST7608), which provides PG training in the basic skills required of historians in compliance with the QMUL graduate attributes. Topics covered include essay writing, presentation, managing research, visual sources, oral history, digital resources, publishing history and journalism, exhibiting history, history and policy, and broadcasting history. The module will thus enable MA students, as far as is possible, to make the most of their degrees both within and outside academia.

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Programme Specification Approval

Person completing Programme Specification

Person responsible for management of programme

**Date Programme Specification produced/amended
by School Learning and Teaching Committee**

**Date Programme Specification approved by
Taught Programmes Board**

30 Aug 2017