



Queen Mary
University of London

School of History

Directory of Modules



Cover Image

Juggling on the Berlin Wall on 16 November 1989. Our image is a composite created from multiple versions.

The black, white and red graffiti banner on the wall below the juggler depicts a pair of marching hammers, an allusion to the film Pink Floyd The Wall. The text sprayed over the banner reads in full "Der Kampf gegen [d]ie Mauer geht [weiter.]" (German), which means "the fight against the wall continues".

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https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Juggling_on_the_Berlin_Wall.jpg



Dear Student,

Welcome to the School of History!

If you have a passion for the past, History at Queen Mary University of London is for you.

We offer a dazzling array of courses taught by recognised experts in very different fields of study. You may recognise subjects that you have studied before dealt with in new ways, or entire fields that are new to you. Our range is global, with modules on Africa and Asian history, for example, as well as US politics, the British empire and aspects of Islamic history. The approaches we offer are diverse and challenging: the history of political cultures, of political thought, of the operation of class and gender, of art and architecture, and of leadership.

You will be studying in a great city and drawing on its resources – not only its libraries but also its buildings, museums and archives. Visits to these sites form part of the syllabus in a number of modules. The skills-based module History in Practice, for example, takes students on a journey from London's medieval taverns and plague-pits through to the present day by way of The Great Fire, Jack the Ripper, Clement Attlee and Brick Lane novelist Monica Ali. You will also have an opportunity to study the history of one great city in comparison with others: we teach modules on the history of Paris and of New York as well as those on the history of London. .

In reading what follows, bear in mind that level four modules are primarily for first year students, level five modules primarily for those in the second year, and level six for final year students. Special Subjects are taught only to students in their final year. These provide an opportunity to study one of your interests in depth.

Enjoy browsing! And we look forward to welcoming you onto our modules in person.

Best Wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Todman'. The signature is stylized and fluid.

Professor Dan Todman, Head of the School of History

How to Use the Directory

This directory lists modules by level. Within each group, modules are arranged in reverse–chronological order; those with the most contemporary themes are listed first. If you want to find a specific module, you may find it quicker to refer to the the indices at the back of this guide.

This Directory gives an overview of the range of modules that are on offer over the course of a degree—we deliver around seventy modules to our students each academic year. It is not is not intended to be a definitive guide for current students. The set of modules on offer each year varies due to changes in staffing, timetabling, or other factors. Assessment patterns may also change from these listings as we often make changes based on student feedback. Current students should follow instructions from the School, or contact the School Office.

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First Year Modules

Students in their first year can choose from our wide range of Level Four modules. These are generally larger survey courses covering broad themes and periods of history. All students on History programmes must take the compulsory History in Practice module (HST4621).

HST4621

History in Practice

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Chloe Ward

Assessment Details

Mock Submission	5%
Essay Plan	40%
Annotated Bibliography	20%
Group Presentation	35%

History in Practice (HiP) explores the history of the East End, the fascinating and ever-changing location of Queen Mary University of London. The module progresses chronologically, beginning with the medieval origins of the East End, through its waves of immigration, financial growth and political resistance, and ending with its representations in film. In this module, you will develop your analytical skills by examining written documents, objects, photographs and oral testimonies, and your practical skills in how to write research essays and articulate ideas in presentations at university level. HiP is your introduction to studying history and the skills you need as a historian: you will reflect on what historians do, and how you can shape your own journey at Queen Mary.

HST4321

Unravelling Britain: British History Since 1801

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Rob Waters

Assessment Details

Source Analysis	40%
Essay	60%

Over the last two centuries, Britain has changed beyond recognition. From the industrial revolution to the sexual revolution, new forces have transformed the lives of ordinary men and women. The rise and fall of the British Empire, a series of global wars and migration to and from Britain challenged what it meant to be British, while political institutions became increasingly democratic. In the sciences, the theory of evolution, the invention of television and the coming of the atom bomb offered exciting and sometimes terrifying possibilities, with far-reaching effects on British society. New forms of leisure emerged, while attitudes towards homosexuality, race, religion and the rights of women have been

redrawn. This module provides a rich introduction to modern British history, from 1801 to the present day. If you have not previously studied the period, it will give you the foundation for specialist modules in subsequent years. If you have some prior knowledge, it will challenge you with new interpretations from the cutting edge of historical research. The module introduces you to new critical approaches to the subject and draws extensively on primary sources such as film, pop music and visual imagery. It has a strong global dimension, showing how crises in India, Asia and Africa shaped the 'British World'. By the end of the module, you will have developed new skills in source analysis while challenging your preconceptions about modern Britain. Above all, we hope to enthuse you with the richness and diversity of British history, and the possibilities it offers for further study.

HST4622

Global Encounters: Conquest and Culture in World History

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Reuben Loffman

Assessment Details

Learning Log	40%
Essay	60%

This module offers an introduction to encounters between civilizations, cultures and societies in world history, based on examples drawn from the medieval, early modern and modern periods. It seeks to develop understanding of patterns in world history and an introduction to approaches within the field of global history. It will introduce specific case-studies, from the Arab conquest of the Muslim Spain and Chinese exploration of the Indian Ocean, through colonial encounters in Africa, America and India, to the Balfour Declaration in 1917. You'll discuss the meeting of civilizations, cultures, and societies in world history, covering examples from the medieval period up to the modern day. You'll develop a global perspective, form professional and informed attitudes, and consider the methodology of global history. All students complete a learning log, in which you will discuss the process of absorbing new ideas, approaches, and perspectives, and articulate the ways in which the lectures, seminars, and readings have changed your view of world history.

HST4322

Europe in a Global Context Since 1800

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Joseph Cronin

Assessment Details

Source Analysis	40%
Essay	60%

In the period covered by this module, Europe rose to global dominance and then entered a gradual process of relative decline, which is still underway. Any history of Europe in the period must also therefore take account of Europe's interactions - military, economic and intellectual - with the wider world. During the period of expansion, Europeans envisaged themselves as embodying a superior civilisation, which exemplified ideals of modernity and progress. But

these ideals also had darker side which resulted in Europeans perpetrating acts of the most extraordinary violence, upon each other and on others. In the nineteenth century, nationalist ideas were associated with progress, emancipation and liberalism but in the twentieth century they became vectors of exclusion, authoritarianism and even genocide. If there has been no general war in Europe since 1945, as ideas of a united Europe have taken root, Cold War, local wars and inter-ethnic conflicts have mutated and endured. These are some of the themes and contradictions that this module will seek to explore. Students consider key trends and discontinuities in the international and global history of Europe since 1800. They discuss and evaluate the interpretations which have been put forward to explain this historical period, and construct their own interpretations which draw upon them.

HST4221

Reformation to Revolution: Europe and the World, 1500–1800

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Liesbeth Corens

Assessment Details

Source Analysis	35%
Essay	65%

Understanding the early modern period (c.1500-1800) is crucial to understanding the formation of the modern world. In the course of three centuries, Protestant and Catholic Reformations reshaped the religious landscape in Europe, Asia and the Americas; new scientific theories led to the foundation of modern disciplines; rulers centralised their power through bureaucracy and warfare; overseas exploration forged global trade empires; and revolutions rocked the world order. This module examines changes and continuities in European cultural, social, religious, political and economic life. It accesses the histories of famous and ordinary people, and introduces students to the approaches and conceptual frameworks needed to understand early modern history.

HST4121

Europe, 1000–1500: The Middle Ages and their Legacy

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Prof. Miri Rubin

Assessment Details

Source Analysis	25%
Essay	75%

Medieval institutions, ideas and practices still greatly influence the shape of modern Europe. Europe's languages, rituals, religious beliefs, political institutions, urban infrastructure and universities are deeply marked by their medieval origins. This module offers an introduction to Europe's medieval past in its full diversity and complexity. It will introduce men and women, laypeople and priests, warriors, traders and farmers, offering learners information and insights into the

continent's formative past. Students will gain an insight into poorly-documented historical pasts, and will explore the techniques and approaches employed by medieval historians.

HST4323

Building the American Nation: The United States, 1756–1896

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Joanna Cohen

Assessment Details

Learning Log	40%
Essay	60%

This module explores the turbulent development of the United States from its inception in 1776 with the Declaration of Independence through to its ascendance as an industrial and imperial world power in 1896. We will explore the history of this young nation from the writing of the Constitution, through contests over democracy, slavery and the Civil War, to an era of mass immigration and industrial capitalism. Throughout the module our studies will be guided by four themes which were central to the building of an American nation and which continue to divide opinion today: citizenship, the state, the marketplace, and borders. Students will gain an understanding of different approaches to studying American history and will demonstrate an ability to marshal historical knowledge to make a convincing case in favour of their own critical interpretation of the past.

HST4623

The Foundations of Modern Thought: Introduction to Intellectual History

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Waseem Yaqoob

Assessment Details

Source Analysis	25%
Essay	75%

This is a module in the history of ideas that introduces students to important shifts in the ways in which history, society and politics have been thought about from the Renaissance to the twentieth century. The module will cover key figures in the history of political thought and philosophy, including Niccolò Machiavelli, Mary Wollstonecraft, Karl Marx, Mohandas Gandhi and Hannah Arendt, and will address influential debates about such issues as the relationship between politics and morality, the justification for violence, the nature and causes of inequality, the rise of capitalism, imperialism and the rights of women. Attention throughout will be focused on a careful scrutiny of primary sources. By the end of the module, students will have deepened their understanding of some of the critical issues that have dominated modern history.

HST4624

Screening History: Representing the Past in the Contemporary Historical Film

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Mark Glancy

Assessment Details

Source Analysis 1	10%
Source Analysis 2	40%
Essay	50%

Historical films are one of the principal means through which the public engages with history, yet they are also a continuous source of controversy. This module offers an introduction to the historical film genre by examining American, British, European and Japanese films made during the past 20 years. It considers the debates surrounding the representation of history on film, and the influence and impact that historical films have on the public imagination and understanding of history. Throughout, we will explore the aesthetic pleasures that historical films offer to audiences, as well as the wider public discussion and debate that historical films provoke among scholars, critics and journalists in print and online. Films studied may include *12 Years a Slave* (2013), *Dunkirk* (2017), *The Social Network* (2010) and *Suffragette* (2015).

HST4625

Controversies of Science and Technology in the Making of the Modern World

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Andrew Mendelsohn

Assessment Details

Essay 1	40%
Essay 2	60%

We live in a world profoundly shaped by science and technology. Yet few are equipped to analyse these aspects of the modern world, understand how they arose historically, and construct and assess arguments concerning the problems they raise. This module gives you the intellectual tools to do so — to live in and contribute to such a world as a historian and citizen. Accessible to students with no science background, each topic begins from a familiar controversy, newsworthy problem, or ‘challenge’ in today’s world. Topics are drawn from controversy over the environment, animal rights, science and religion, race in science, modern sexuality, climate change, ‘sustainability’, IQ testing, technological disaster, eugenics, automation and robotics (in the workplace, medicine, and war), human experimentation, clinical trials in Africa and Asia, scientific experts in democratic societies, population and famine, intellectual property and biopiracy, what counts as a disease. The module introduces students to history of science, technology and medicine (STM) and their reciprocal relations with society, politics, government, economy, culture.

Second Year Modules

All second year students choose from the list of Level 5 modules outlined below. HST5901 - History Research Project is compulsory on all History programmes. Students may also take up to 30 credits from modules offered in another School at Queen Mary (such as English, Drama, Politics, International Relations or Geography) or from modules offered by another college of the University of London.

HST5901

History Research Project

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Robert Saunders

Assessment Details

Project Plan	20%
Project	80%

This module builds on the skills you have developed in first year to prepare you for your final-year dissertation. You will produce a research project, involving independent research and writing, within a framework of skills workshops and peer review sessions. You will have flexibility in choosing the topic and format of your project from a selection of options reflecting the chronological, geographic, and thematic range of the School. You will also work within Writing Partner groups to read each other's work and provide feedback as your project develops.

HST5900

History Internship

Key Information

Credits	30
Duration	Year-Long
Organiser	Dr Claire Trenery

Assessment Details

Mock Internship Application	0%
Mid-Placement Reflective Report	0%
Blog Entry	15%
Placement Portfolio	60%
Internship Application	25%

This module gives students the exciting opportunity to complete an internship placement with one of our local partners in the museum, public history, archival, or education sectors. Working alongside practitioners in the field, students will be introduced to the skills employed by professional historians, such as curating exhibitions, creating digital resources, cataloguing archival materials, or participating in public outreach. The internship allows students to put into practice, in a professional environment, the skills and knowledge gained through their degree studies. Internship placements are available with several local history organisations, although students cannot be guaranteed their first-choice placement.

Internship placements are for eight hours a week over eleven weeks, plus an introductory meeting in the week before the placement starts.

The introductory session (up to two hours) is held in week seven of semester one. Students complete five weeks of placement in weeks eight to twelve of semester one, and a further six weeks of placement in weeks one to six of semester two. Students are provided with support from the School of History throughout their placement. Scheduled seminars before and after the placement period introduce students to the roles and practices of professionals working in history-related fields, and enable students to reflect on the wider impact of historical research. Assessments are directly related to a student's individual internship experience. Students will complete a reflective log throughout their placement and, upon its completion, they will compose a blog/vlog post and a final report on the work they have completed. This module is only open to students within the School of History. Places on this module are limited and students are not guaranteed a place. Where applications exceed the number of places, these will be allocated on a random basis.

HST5615

Race and the Desire for Difference

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Simon Layton

Assessment Details

Seminar Leadership	10%
Book Review	35%
Essay	55%

Race is not a biological fact. It is a social category historically made. In 1963 James Baldwin affirmed: 'I am not a negro. I am a man. But if you think I am a negro, it means you need it. And the question you must ask yourself is, why?' This module explores how race emerged and developed in history as a powerful category for differentiating peoples. It examines how empire has played a role in histories of racism and emphasises the global dimensions of racism. In doing so, we see how ideas about race and experiences of racism are locally situated and vary over time and space. The module ranges over different geographic territory with examples from Britain and Europe, South Asia, Africa, and America. We will examine the connections between race, religion, sex, class, and migration. While the module will look at how the idea of race has been used to separate people, we will also examine how people throughout history have defied and challenged the categories of racial difference in their daily life and in social and cultural movements.

HST5606

London and its Museums

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Chloe Ward

Assessment Details

Essay	25%
Exhibition Proposal	75%

This module will take students through a journey into the history of the exhibiting space as based on London's museums and galleries provision. The first session will introduce key themes on the subject, and each subsequent class will take place in a museum or gallery, allowing students to acquire factual information on the institutions in question, and to appreciate the nature and value of their collections/exhibits and to critically evaluate their personal experience of displays.

Please note that this module involves class visits to various locations in London.

HST5608

London on Film: Representing the City in British and American Cinema

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Mark Glancy

Assessment Details

Source Analysis 1	10%
Source Analysis 2	20%
Essay	70%

This module examines the representation of London in films made from the 1920s to the present. It explores the social and cultural forces that have given rise to changing views of the city over time, as well as the diversity of 'Londons' that may arise within a single time period. Through analysis of a wide range of films, the module investigates how the city has been imagined, and what meanings it has embodied, in a wide variety of genres and time periods. Students develop skills necessary to deconstruct, decode, and interpret filmic imagery, sound, dialogue, and story, and demonstrate how their knowledge and understanding of London's history in the twentieth century can be applied to film analysis with reference to both textual and contextual factors.

HST5305

British Horror: Film, Television and Literature

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Matt Jacobsen

Assessment Details

Source Analysis	25%
Essay	75%

British cinema is often celebrated for its social realism, yet it has made significant and influential contributions to the worlds of horror, fantasy and science fiction. From the Gothic tradition of Dracula to the nightmarish vision of London in 28 Days Later, this module investigates this alternative history or 'repressed underside' of British cinema and the ways in which these films have responded to their social and cultural production contexts.

Introducing you to a range of critical approaches to film, this module will explore debates on the cultural appeal and social significance of horror, the meaning of horror figures like the vampire, werewolf and zombie, and the nature of audiences and film spectatorship. Key discussion topics will be the representation of gender and sexuality in horror texts; the psychoanalytic interpretation of horror; and the ways in which the films respond to the history of Britain and its capital. With an emphasis on cinema, we will also compare the writing of British authors with film adaptations of their work.

HST5342

Japanese Film: History, Culture and Fantasy

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Matt Jacobsen

Assessment Details

Source Analysis	25%
Essay	75%

Japan's modern history has been characterised by dramatic and turbulent social and economic fluctuations: forced out of centuries of isolation from the world's political and economic stage; through occupation by allied forces in the post-WWII period; unparalleled economic boom in the 1980s; and the subsequent pits of recession and social crisis in the 1990s. The study of Japanese Cinema, which evolved in the 20th century through periods of profound cultural change, reveals a nation torn between its rich cultural heritage and legacy of tradition and a rapid modernisation and global expansion.

This module will examine a range of Japanese films spanning the second half of the 20th century, and situate them within their social, cultural and industrial contexts. Key periods in Japanese History will also be introduced and the purpose and effect of their representation in film considered.

Looking at samurai period drama (Kurosawa's *Rashomon*), the rich tradition of ghost stories (Mizoguchi's *Ugetsu Monogatari*) up to the 90s Horror boom (Ringu) and the animated films (anime) of Studio Ghibli (Miyazaki's *Spirited Away*) we will be thinking about how cultural practices, values and ideologies are refracted, circulated, enforced, questioned or critiqued through the use of fantastic and historic settings and narratives.

HST5413

Art and the City from Michelangelo to Blade Runner

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Hannah Williams

Assessment Details

Online Participation	10%
Blog Post	30%
Essay	60%

In our current climate of rapid urbanization, this module explores histories of art and the city from the Renaissance to the present. From Michelangelo's sculpture of David (1504) on a public square in Florence, to Ridley Scott's dystopian vision of Los Angeles in Blade Runner (1982), via Impressionist views of 19th-century Paris, and graffiti on the Berlin wall, we will be thinking about how artists have engaged with cities and how that has changed over time. What crucial roles do artworks play in city space, whether political, commercial, commemorative, or subversive? How has art shaped the history and development of cities? And what impact does it have on the experience of our urban environments?

This module explores a range of urban sites and spaces (squares, streets, walls, transport systems, parks) and different kinds of artworks (public sculpture, painting, monuments, street art, photography, film), with case studies from cities around the world. Students will have the opportunity to engage with their own urban environment and explore critical themes including: boundaries and borders; community and civic identity; crime and transgression; religion; memory; mobility; dystopia; and iconoclasm.

HST5397

The Soviet Union: Red Flag Unfurled, 1917-1991

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Andy Willimott

Assessment Details

Learning Log	35%
Essay	65%

This module will chart the rise and fall of the USSR, from the Russian Revolution of 1917 to the collapse of Soviet Communism in 1991. Along the way, we will meet familiar characters, including Lenin, Stalin, Khrushchev, Brezhnev, and Gorbachev. But we will also be introduced to the ordinary people that called themselves Soviets. The module will cover themes including ideology, gender, sex and sexuality, race and anti-racism, religion, and multi-nationalism. We will travel from Moscow to Siberia, via the Caucasus and Central Asia, exploring the Soviet Union through a variety of primary sources, including political writings, party resolutions, newspapers, letters, memoirs, agitation and propaganda, and material history. We will think critically about the historiographical arguments and controversies that have defined Soviet studies.

HST5314

Madness and Medicine in Modern Britain

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Claire Martin

Assessment Details

Essay	50%
Take Home Exam	50%

"Psychiatry has been foundational to our understanding of a wide range of modern concepts from identity and responsibility through to illness and agency.

This module will provide a broad overview of the discipline from the beginning of state regulated asylums through to the advent of care in the community. Using a mixture of secondary sources and a selection of primary texts, we will examine how the diagnosis and treatment of madness has been shaped through the rich interaction of social, scientific, economic and cultural factors.

HST5387

Totalitarianism: Authoritarian Politics in History and Theory, 1920-2003

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Waseem Yaqoob

Assessment Details

Learning Log	15%
Book Review	25%
Essay	60%

This module introduces students to some of the major theoretical and historical approaches to twentieth century authoritarian politics. In particular we will focus on the ways in which the concept of totalitarianism has been theorised, applied and contested by historians, political scientists and philosophers in Europe, America and beyond. How did totalitarianism regimes emerge and function? What is at stake when we talk about totalitarianism, fascism or populism? What can these categories tell us about modern politics? Readings include classic texts and recent scholarship, and cover themes including fascism and communism, technology, racism and colonialism, Marxism, the concept of political religion, and the origins of contemporary radical movements. Combining primary sources with historiographical and theoretical commentary, this module encourages drawing connections between the history and theory of twentieth century politics.

HST5350

The American Century: the History of the United States, 1900–2000

Key Information

Credits	30
Duration	Year-Long
Organiser	Prof. Mark White

Assessment Details

Essay 1	25%
Essay 2	25%
Take HomeExam	50%

This module examines the major developments in United States history in the twentieth century. The general issues to be explored will include the cycles of conservatism and liberalism in America on the domestic front, and on the world stage, the rise of the United States to superpower status. Specific topics to be covered include World Wars I and II, the Jazz Age, the New Deal, civil rights and Vietnam. The roles played by key individuals, such as Theodore Roosevelt, Martin Luther King and Bill Clinton, will also be evaluated. On this module, students will develop an ability to analyse both broad

historical themes as well as specific episodes and issues. The use of documents throughout the module, particularly in the second-semester Detailed Study on the Cuban missile crisis, constitutes preparation for the more concentrated use of primary sources in students' final year, in the Special Subject and Dissertation. This module enhances students' international awareness by fostering their knowledge of and interest in American political history, and developing their understanding of the global impact of American politics and America's changing relationship with the rest of the world throughout the twentieth century.

HST5360

Violence and Modernity in Twentieth-Century India

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Chris Moffat

Assessment Details

Source Analysis	25%
Essay	75%

This module provides an introduction to modern Indian history through the thematic of violence and its relationship to politics and social change. Interrogating India's momentous twentieth century - from the dawn of mass anti-colonial politics to the independent state's emergence as global power - students will explore how the triumphant story of Gandhian satyagraha and postcolonial democracy is shadowed throughout by a 'history of violence'. We will consider how critics and advocates of violence negotiate and respond to developments in modern technology - from bombs and trains to nuclear power and the internet.

HST5394

Consumed: American Consumer Culture from the 18th to the 21st century

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Joanna Cohen

Assessment Details

Learning Log	25%
Essay	75%

From Amazon.com to the Mall of America - some of the world's most sophisticated selling technologies emerged in the United States. In fact, some have called consumption America's true national pastime. But how did this culture of consumption take shape? And what does it mean for a global community today? Surveying the transformation of America's consumer culture, this module explores what power the consumer has commanded in American society. We will examine how critiques of consumption shaped the course of American politics, economics and social order. And as we enter an era where everything - including health, friendship and even love is commodified - we will explore the limits of consumer culture. Will the twenty-first century finally see the end of consumer culture as we know it?

HST5365

Chartists, Rebels and Suffragettes: Democracy in Britain, 1830-1928

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Robert Saunders

Assessment Details

Essay 1	50%
Essay 2	50%

This module charts the rise of democracy from the "Great" Reform Act of 1832 to equal suffrage in 1928. The rise of democracy was not just a political development; it was a cultural and intellectual revolution, with implications for the Empire, the relationship between men and women, and the survival of the UK. We will explore the case against democracy and assess the influence of debates about race, sex and the American Civil War, as well as considering the legacy of these ideas for democracy in the twenty-first century.

HST5390

Nice Girls, Bad Girls and Bitches: British Women and Gender from the Vote to Thatcher

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Prof. Amanda Vickery

Assessment Details

Seminar Participation	40%
Essay	60%

What difference did the vote make? Were modern women emancipated? The press noticed 'modern girls', with office jobs, short skirts, a swimsuit, sex appeal (known as 'SA' or 'It'), keen on make-up, smoking, dancing and the flicks. But how real were her gains? This module explores the words and experiences of British women in a century of rapid social, economic and cultural transformation - when what it meant to be a 'British woman' was itself revolutionised. We will determine the constraints on women in war and peace, politics, education and paid work, marriage, motherhood and family, and celebrate rebels and non-conformists. But we will also explore women's dreams and disappointments in courtship and romance, sexual relationships and desire, domesticity and home-making, consumerism and fashion.

HST5396

Black Metropolis: London, New York and Paris from Imperialism to Decolonisation

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Sarah Dunstan

Assessment Details

Seminar Participation	10%
Learning Log	30%
Essay	60%

Throughout the 20th century the cities of London, New York and Paris became important sites of various black internationalist political and cultural movements. Drawing together methodologies from urban, social and intellectual history, this course will give students a deep understanding of the prominence that London, Paris and New York took on in black life both within England, France and the United States, and internationally. It will encourage students to think of cities as both creations and creators of local, national and international black historical activism from Garveyism to the "New Negro" Movement and the birth of *négritude*, through to the West African Students Union movement and Black Pantherism.

HST5391

A Century of Extremes: Germany 1890 - 1990

Key Information

Credits	30
Duration	Year-Long
Organiser	Dr Joseph Cronin

Assessment Details

Essay 1	25%
Essay 2	25%
Take Home Exam	50%

This module provides a systematic account of German history in the twentieth century. It aims at a better understanding of the major developments in society, politics, culture, and economy which shaped the country up to today. Students will reflect critically on contemporary issues in Germany, on the burden of the German past, and on the place of Germany in Europe. In the beginning, special attention will be paid to the origins and consequences of World War I, the challenges facing the Weimar republic, Hitler's rise, the National Socialist Regime, World War II, and the Holocaust. The module then turns to the Allied occupation, Germany's division into two states on opposing sides of the Cold War, the Westernization of the West and Sovietisation of the East, and the unexpected reunification. Class readings include historical research and original sources as well as some literary texts and films. Different approaches, arguments, and controversies will be presented.

HST5408

Animal Madness in the Human Zoo: The History of Animal Experimentation and the Human Condition

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Edmund Ramsden

Assessment Details

Source Analysis	20%
Essay	80%

Throughout history our understanding of what it is to be human has depended upon our perceptions of, and relations with, non-human animals. In this module we will trace the emergence and development of animal experimentation from the mid-19th century through to the late 20th and examine how it has informed our understanding of human behaviours, emotions and their discontents. Beginning with Charles Darwin's interactions with the orangutan Jenny in London Zoo through to the use, on an industrial scale, of laboratory animals to understand stress-related illnesses and devise drugs to relieve them, students will explore the profound effect various species, such as rats, mice, dogs and monkeys, have had on the human condition in the modern era.

HST5395

Race in the United States: Plantation Slavery to #BlackLivesMatter

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Noam Maggor

Assessment Details

Learning Log	40%
Take Home Exam	60%

This module interrogates the resilient power of racism in American history from the founding of the United States to the recent past. We will survey African American history from slavery through the Civil Rights era, broadly defined, and to more contemporary struggles. We will embed this history in the larger sweep of American history, covering topics such as plantation slavery, abolitionism and emancipation, Reconstruction, Jim Crow segregation, the “New Negro,” the long Civil Rights Movement, and the age of Trump/Obama. We will discuss the legacy of prominent African-American thinkers, activists, and political leaders, as well as the perspectives of ordinary black men and women. With the use of scholarly works and primary sources, we will reflect on the invention and re-invention of “race” and question what African-American history should mean for our understanding of American capitalism, empire, democracy, society, and culture.

HST5227

The Buildings of London I: From the Ashes of Fire to the Capital of Empire

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Matthew Walker

Assessment Details

Guidebook	30%
Essay	70%

Taught by numerous site visits to historic buildings alongside lectures and seminars, this course introduces students to the study of architecture by exploring buildings in the London area from the start of the seventeenth century to the accession of Queen Victoria in 1837. During the course, we will witness London burn to the ground, be comprehensively rebuilt, and then expand from a small European capital into the largest city in the world. Along the way, we will encounter a wide variety of buildings including cathedrals, palaces, churches, synagogues, breweries, shops, and hospitals. Students will acquire skills in looking at, reading, and understanding buildings and become adept at using them as historical evidence. Students will also learn how to relate architecture to its social, political, and intellectual context, and develop insights into the ways that buildings may carry and convey meaning, whether to an expert or to a more general audience. No prior knowledge of architecture or architectural history is required to undertake the course.

HST5389

Angels, Spinsters and Whores: British Women and Gender from Victoria to the Vote

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Prof. Amanda Vickery

Assessment Details

Seminar Participation	40%
Essay	60%

Did Victorian women lie back and think of empire? They were certainly beset by stereotypes, from the pure to the depraved - from Angel in the House and virgin bride, to tawdry fallen woman, prostitute, chorus girl and shoplifter. Some types were to be pitied (redundant spinsters and degraded wage slaves), others feared (unsexed bluestockings, New Women, Suffragettes). Together we will examine Victorian and Edwardian ideals and realities, looking at sex, love, work, politics, fashion, manhood, imperialism, race, and war.

HST5370

Art and Society in Nineteenth-Century Britain and France

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Chloe Ward

Assessment Details

Essay	50%
Slide Test	50%

The nineteenth century saw the birth of many revolutionary artistic practices that transformed the visual culture of Europe. Industrialisation, urbanisation, and colonialism brought about a new social order, and artists responded by developing artistic styles that addressed society's modern values. This module will explore artistic innovations in Britain and France including Impressionism, Pre-Raphaelitism, and the invention of photography. By examining individual art objects and wider art historical themes, we will see how new artistic styles responded to issues like class, gender and race. This module makes use of the rich art collections on offer in London, with seminars taking place at Tate Britain and the National Gallery.

HST5405

Human Rights in History: Origins, Foundations, Prospects

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Professor Andrew Fitzmaurice

Assessment Details

Essay Plan	20%
Essay	80%

Where do human rights come from? Historians began treating 'human rights' as a distinct historical subject about a decade ago, and since then the field has grown considerably. In this short time the field has shifted from a celebration of the origins and roots of a universal language for making moral claims, to more critical interpretations of historical origins that question the consequences of this inheritance for contemporary politics and global justice. In this QMUL Model module, we will examine the origins of the idea of human rights, how it became institutionalized in law and international politics, and how its history and prospects have become so fiercely contested today. We will reflect on the history of abolitionism, human rights, and humanitarianism in a global setting, and analyse the impact of modern international and multi-cultural perspectives on the evolution of 'human rights history'.

HST5377

American Populism: From Thomas Paine to Donald Trump

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Noam Maggor

Assessment Details

Learning Log	40%
Essay	60%

What is populism? What are populism's core tenets as a political tradition? How has it shaped the historical trajectory of the United States? Is Donald Trump indeed a populist? What are the deep-seated political currents that carried him to the White House? Roughly defined as the call for the empowerment of ordinary people in all areas of life, populism has been one of the most influential (and probably least understood) social and ideological currents driving American politics since the early days of the republic. This module will explore the history of populism in the United States from the founding to the contemporary moment. We will examine the ideas, individuals, social movements, party platforms, and controversies that defined the populist tradition, including, for example, Andrew Jackson and the bank wars of the 1830s, the People's Party and the anti-monopoly campaigns of the 1890s, and Henry Ford's illiberal politics during the 1930s. We will reflect, in turn, on populism's multifaceted political valence and its profound imprint on American public life.

HST5220

Violence in Early Modern Europe

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Liesbeth Corens

Assessment Details

Source Analysis	40%
Essay	60%

Early modern Europe was no stranger to violence. Wars were fought over religious differences, borders were redrawn by means of strength, apprentices wielded influence in urban London through rioting, etc. Yet violence was not meaningless. This module will introduce students to the uses of and motivations behind violence in early modern Europe. They will study both warfare and neighbourhood skirmishes, political fights and religious controversies, symbolic acts and riots in London streets. In the process, students will develop clearer insights into the written and unwritten rules that underpinned early modern society and the consequences when these were not upheld.

HST5614

History of Political Thought

Key Information

Credits	30
Duration	Year-Long
Organiser	Dr Waseem Yaqoob and Prof. Georgios Varouxakis

Assessment Details

Learning Log	15%
Source Analysis	15%
Essay	20%
Take Home Exam	50%

How has the meaning of "democracy" changed over the centuries? Where did the language of rights come from? How have slavery and empire been justified - and criticised? Beginning with some of the earliest examples of political theorising in the ancient world, and ending in the twentieth century, this module introduces students to some of the most important thinkers and debates in the history of political thought. Individual thinkers and major texts will be discussed each week, together with major debates and issues. Students will look at arguments and controversies as they unfolded in different historical circumstances, becoming familiar with the concepts, problems, and debates that have shaped political thought. They will acquire a solid grounding in the development of, and differences among, the various philosophical and ideological traditions that have shaped modern politics.

HST5114

Women and Gender in Late Medieval England, c.1300–c.1500

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Prof. Virginia Davis

Assessment Details

Source Analysis	25%
Essay	75%

Having established the religious and legal context in which women were operating, this module will explore the different stages in a woman's lifecycle, childhood and youth, married life and old age, most often as a widow. Attention will be paid to the different experiences of aristocratic and peasant women, rural and urban women. The alternative option of a life devoted to religion will be considered. Issues covered will include women's experiences of work, in both a rural and an urban environment, education, literacy and cultural patronage and the course will conclude with an examination of women on the margins of society, as criminals and prostitutes.

HST5100

Women and Gender in Medieval Islam

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Anna Chrysostomides

Assessment Details

Seminar Participation	25%
Essay	75%

This module will offer an introduction to the history of women in medieval Islamic societies (600 - 1500 AD), through their experiences and representations in art and literature. We will aim at finding the boundaries that divided the worlds of women and men in the economic, legal and spiritual spheres. We will do so by looking at a variety of texts, including the Qur'an, Prophetic traditions, marriage contracts, travellers' accounts and the tales of the Arabian Nights. By comparing sources from diverse cultural perspectives, we will consider the development of a cultural, economic, legal, and spiritual female identity in the Middle Ages, and critically examine medieval and modern discourses on women and Islam.

HST5120

Medieval London: Pubs, Plague-Pits and Cathedrals

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Eyal Poleg

Assessment Details

Seminar Participation	10%
Source Analysis	25%
Essay	65%

Taught by seminars, site visits and museum sessions, this module introduces students to life in medieval and renaissance London. The central themes of royal power, gender, marginality, the Black Death and popular revolt, will be studied in class and in the streets of London. Students will visit key monuments of medieval London (such as Westminster Abbey), trace the path of rebels in 1381, or handle medieval and early modern artefacts in the Museum of London. Sites, monuments, topography, and artefacts will lead to a new understanding of politics, devotional practices, trade and family life. This module enables students to develop professional networks, and foster an understanding of multi-disciplinary approaches. Through their work with curators, palaeontologists, and historians, students evaluate approaches to past objects from various disciplinary perspectives, and demonstrate how historical research can be applied in the environment of museum studies, public engagement, and object analysis.

HST5123

The Black Death: A Global History of Catastrophe and Transformation

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Tom Asbridge

Assessment Details

Learning Log	35%
Essay	65%

The Black Death was the most lethal natural disaster in human history. Wiping out some fifty million people between 1347 and 1352, and then recurring for decades, even centuries, to come, its effects were felt not just in Europe, but across the medieval world. This module examines the course of this catastrophe, from the mid-fourteenth century through to the mid-fifteenth century, considering humanity's responses to the pandemic's onset and the phenomenon of unprecedented mass mortality. Students will explore a series of micro-histories to reveal the experience of the Black Death and its aftermath in the likes of Florence and Constantinople, Mamluk Egypt and Plantagenet England, while also adopting a comparative, meta-historical approach to consider how and why these events reshaped the known world, impacting upon society, culture and law, trade and commerce, intellectual life, faith and politics.

HST5116

From Muhammad to the Ottomans: A History of Medieval Islamic Societies

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Anna Chrysostomides

Assessment Details

Seminar Participation	25%
Essay	75%

This module offers an introduction to the history of medieval Islamic societies, from the rise of Islam up to 1500 AD. It will follow the major political events in the history of the Muslim community, and explore the development of key religious trends, cultural concepts and social institutions. The module will highlight the range of literary, artistic and scientific achievements of medieval Islamic civilizations. By using critical historical tools for examination of the Islamic past, it will seek to draw a multi-dimensional picture of complex and dynamic societies. Students will reflect on the religious, cultural, and social history of Islamic societies, and analyse traditional and modern narratives of Islamic history.

HST5124

Latin for Medievalists I

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr David Harrap

Assessment Details

Translation Exercise 1	10%
Translation Exercise 2	20%
Translation Exercise 3	20%
Take Home Exam	50%

This module is designed for complete beginners in Latin. It covers the following elements of grammar: nouns, plural, genders, prepositions, genitive, questions, vocatives, adjectives, basic conjugations and irregular verbs, and present & future tenses. In addition, it provides information on the history of Latin, its pronunciation at different times and its influence on English; and a discussion of a story set in a ninth-century monastery, which introduces some medieval vocabulary and usages. By the end of the module, you will be able to read simple short medieval texts.

This module is an excellent opportunity for students to broaden their linguistic and cultural experience. Over half the words in the English language have Latin roots, and learning Latin is an excellent basis for improving English grammar and vocabulary and for learning other languages (French, Spanish, Italian). Latin (particularly medieval Latin) is also frequently used in legal and government documents, as well as in the modern sciences.

HST5106

Latin for Medievalists II

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr David Harrap

Assessment Details

Translation Exercise 1	10%
Translation Exercise 2	20%
Translation Exercise 3	20%
Take Home Exam	50%

This module builds on the foundations provided by Latin for Medievalists I and provides further tuition in Latin geared to the needs of students studying medieval history. It provides a practical grounding intended to enable students to take advanced medieval history modules.

Piracy and Civilisation: Antiquity to the Golden Age

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Simon Layton

Assessment Details

Seminar Participation	25%
Presentation	25%
Essay	50%

Pirates have stalked the seas from time immemorial, bearing witness to the rise and fall of the world's greatest states and empires. Their mythical presence at the margins of civilisation has enthralled, repulsed, and entertained for generations; but why do they endure in our collective memories, and how did pirates—and the concept of piracy—impact upon history? This module traces piracy's origins and development in world history, from the Classical Mediterranean to the early-modern Atlantic and Caribbean. It engages key texts of piratical folklore, from lurid contemporary accounts to swashbuckling cinema, while exploring (through a field trip) the wider significance of seafaring within British national identity.

Third Year Modules

In addition to the modules listed below, all third years taking single honours history can take any second year (Level 5) module, up to a maximum of 30 credits. They may also take up to 30 credits from modules offered in another School at Queen Mary (such as English, Drama, Politics, International Relations or Geography) or from modules offered by another college of the University of London. All single-honours students take a Special Subject worth 60 credits.

HST6405

Video Games: History, Culture and Representation from Pac-Man to Pokemon

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Matt Jacobsen

Assessment Details

Essay 1	25%
Essay 2	50%
Source Analysis	25%

A truly transnational industry with a current annual value of \$100 billion and an estimated 1.2 billion players worldwide, the video game has had an incalculable impact upon global culture. This QMUL Model module traces the origins, development, socio-cultural significance and critical appreciation of the form from its beginnings in the amusement arcades to the mobile games of the present day. Considering video games as uniquely interactive visual sources, the module will employ a diverse range of methods, approaches and critical contexts, from the circumstances of socioeconomic national production in Japan, Europe and the US to global gaming cultures, the representation of history, the video game's relationship to cinema and the theoretical ways in which we might understand the nature of human leisure and play.

HST6380

American Horror Stories: The Fiction and Film Worlds of Stephen King from Carrie to It

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Matt Jacobsen

Assessment Details

Source Analysis	35%
Essay	65%

With a career spanning over 40 years, Stephen King is one of the world's most popular and influential writers, his stories and iconic characters forming an integral part of the American cultural landscape. Film adaptations of his work continue to receive critical acclaim and extraordinary box office success. The analysis of Horror film and fiction can reveal cultural anxieties at significant socio-historic moments. In this module, we will explore the ways in which Stephen King's shorter novels, novellas and film adaptations of his work interrogate the American psyche, capturing its fears and apprehensions at defining points in modern history. Taking an interdisciplinary approach, this module will use King's work as a lens through which to examine developments in American horror cinema and fiction, investigating the articulation of cultural anxieties from the New England Puritan imagination in the influential works of Edgar Allen Poe and H.P. Lovecraft to the disillusioned aftermath of the Vietnam War in 'Carrie' and contemporary contexts of gender, empowerment and sexuality in 'Gerald's Game'. While the module will focus on the Horror texts for which King is renowned, we will look at his contribution to other genres, from the depiction of boyhood in 'Stand by Me' to the prison melodrama of the world's favourite movie, 'The Shawshank Redemption'. We will read and reflect on what we can learn about our own writing from King's memoir and reflection on the writing process, 'On Writing'.

HST6411

Decolonisation and History

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Rob Waters

Assessment Details

Book Review	25%
Essay	75%

What does it mean to 'decolonise history'? In this module, we will consider the contemporary demand to 'decolonise history' from a historical perspective, exploring how history as a practice - historical thinking, history making, history writing - has operated as a key terrain in the struggle against empire. The module explores how the questions of who gets to narrate history, in what form, and to what audience, became crucial to the struggles for and against colonisation and empire. The module will also introduce you to the ways in which the movement for decolonisation remade what history might be, and what it might do in the world. We will explore the various forms that the relationship between history and decolonisation have taken in the past, and think about the contingency of the forms that relationship takes in our present.

HST6392

Searching For Sisterhood: Feminist Activism in Britain 1968-1988

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Lyndsey Jenkins

Assessment Details

Source Analysis	25%
Essay	75%

The women's liberation movement was one of the most influential and imaginative protest movements ever witnessed in Britain, seeking structural, political, social and cultural change. Contemporary feminists still benefit from - while often critiquing - their legacy. In this module, we will explore activists' urgent and creative demands for change in all aspects of their lives, through their insistence that the personal was political. We will analyse how factors such as geography, class, race, sexuality and dis/ability shaped their campaigns. We will investigate efforts to gain equal pay and receive 'wages for housework', examine protests which attempted to 'Reclaim the Night' and abolish virginity testing for migrant women, and consider women's involvement in protest movements against racism and nuclear power. Throughout, we will use women's own testimonies to help us understand their ideas - including magazines, artwork and oral histories - and consider the importance of women's history itself.

HST6301

Cold War America 1945–1975

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Prof. Mark White

Assessment Details

Essay	50%
Take Home Exam	50%

This module will examine the major developments in United States history from the end of the Second World War to Watergate. The issues to be covered include the onset of the Cold War, McCarthyism, civil rights, the Cuban missile crisis, Vietnam, 1960s culture, Watergate, and the institution of the presidency. The roles played by key individuals, such as John Kennedy, Martin Luther King, and Richard Nixon, will be explored. Declassified documents will be used in analyzing some of these topics. The module aims to develop students' basic knowledge of this era in American history, to hone their analytical skills, to develop their ability to examine documentation, and to heighten their ability to respond to historiographical debates. Students will develop an understanding of the global impact of American politics, from the Vietnam War to the Civil Rights Movement, and will compare international perspectives.

HST6378

Modern Art in Britain, Europe, and America: 1900-1950

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Chloe Ward

Assessment Details

Essay	50%
Slide Test	50%

This module explores the development of Modern Art between the turn of the twentieth century and the Second World War. We will examine the major art movements of the period - from colourful Fauve painting to the drama of Abstract Expressionism - and will discover how artists sought to challenge aesthetic traditions by formulating innovative 'avant-garde' methods and theories. Through works of art, this module investigates the aesthetic and political landscape of Western Europe and the United States, and traces the emergence of Modernism in the early twentieth century.

HST6354

The Supernatural in Modern Britain

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Rhodri Hayward

Assessment Details

Essay 1	50%
Essay 2	50%

This module provides a broad introduction to the changing ideas of the self and supernatural nineteenth-century Britain. Using a mixture of primary and secondary sources, it will look at how supernatural events - from ghostly encounters through to astral projection were experienced and understood across the course of the nineteenth century. It will pose questions about the moral and political impact of these experiences and the different models of selfhood that were deployed in making sense of them, paying particular attention to the interaction between social, medical and religious history.

HST6329

The Germans and the Jews Since 1871

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Daniel Wildmann

Assessment Details

Source Analysis	25%
Essay	75%

In the period covered by this module, from 1871 to the present, interactions between Gentiles and Jews in Germany underwent a dramatic and unprecedented set of upheavals. What were the main problems, struggles and achievements in this period of German-Jewish history? This module will initially focus on debating the chances and limits of emancipation and assimilation of Jews in Imperial Germany and on discussing the so-called Jewish Renaissance in the Weimar Republic. A survey of the expansion and the role of antisemitism and its political manifestations in German society will provide a platform for studying the Nazi take-over of power and the Holocaust. The module concludes with the post-war history of Jews in Germany, addressing contemporary challenges such as the integration of Russian-speaking Jews and the future of German Jewry. Students consider the ethical questions that arise when approaching a challenging area of historical enquiry, and learn to identify information needs appropriate to different situations. They develop professional and informed attitudes, which enable them to evaluate the contemporary issues of emancipation, assimilation, and acculturation in a historical context.

HST6372

Europe in Revolution: 1848

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Maurizio Isabella

Assessment Details

Essay 1	50%
Essay 2	50%

The 1848 revolutions represented a truly pan-European phenomenon, one which gave rise to several republican experiments, an unprecedented development of the public sphere and to the politicisation of new sectors of Europe's society. The course will analyse the causes of the revolutionary wave in Europe and discuss both the commonalities and the regional or national peculiarities of these events. Attention will be devoted to specific case-studies in France, the Habsburg Empire, the Italian and German states. The course will look at the consequences that the emigration of the revolutionary elites after 1848 had on the development of democratic and socialist ideas. Finally, it will discuss the historiography of the revolutions and the impact that this trans-national event had on European society, politics and political thought in the following decades..

HST6404

The Darwinian Revolution: The History of a Dangerous Idea

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Edmund Ramsden

Assessment Details

Book Review	25%
Essay	75%

The "Darwinian Revolution" is considered one of the major intellectual transformations of the 19th and 20th centuries. This module will explore the background, formation and consequences of Charles Darwin's work, placing it firmly in intellectual and social context, from the Age of Revolution through to more recent controversies regarding sociobiology, eugenics and biological racism. This module will focus on the shift from natural history to biology, on changing conceptions of evolution in France, Britain, Germany and the United States, and on the ways in which evolutionary ideas have challenged and influenced scientific, religious, political, and social thought.

HST6408

Empire and Political Thought

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Prof. Andrew Fitzmaurice

Assessment Details

Essay Plan	20%
Essay	80%

We often think of the state as the crucible of modern political thought. Many of the ideas that are fundamental to the way in which we live today were, however, developed in the process of forging the vast European empires that spanned the globe from the sixteenth century to the twentieth. These include our understandings of human rights, property, the international laws that govern the global system, and even the concept of the state itself. This module will also examine the various ways in which non-European peoples reacted to and engaged with such ideas. The aim of this module will be to show that modern political thought did not develop in exclusively European contexts but, rather, through a centuries-old engagement between European and non-European societies.

HST6219

Art and Power in Early Modern Europe

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Hannah Williams

Assessment Details

Source Analysis	40%
Essay	60%

What power does art have? How can it be used to control, manipulate, entice, and inspire? This module offers students the chance to explore the power of art in one of the most dynamic periods of European history and artistic production - from the royal and papal courts of the seventeenth century, through the Counter-Reformation and the Enlightenment, to the French Revolution at the end of the eighteenth century. In this module, students will encounter iconic sites (Versailles, the Vatican) and artists (Caravaggio, Bernini, Gentileschi, Rubens, Velazquez, Boucher, David, Vigée-Lebrun). Students will also learn to analyse different kinds of objects and spaces (sculpture, paintings, palaces, churches), go on museum and site visits, and think about power in a range of discourses (politics, religion, sex, science, gender, and money). From the churches of baroque Rome to the toppling statues of Paris in the Revolution, what can art tell us about the histories of power in Europe?

HST6339

The Atlantic Slave Trade: Africa, Europe, and the Americas from the Sixteenth to the Nineteenth Centuries

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Reuben Loffman

Assessment Details

Book Review	25%
Essay	75%

During the era of the Atlantic slave trade, more than twelve million Africans were forcibly transported to colonies in the Americas. Rather than focusing solely on European merchants, this module focuses more on how Africans experienced the Atlantic trade and the ways in which they challenged the oppressive systems under which they were forced to labour. It provides a broadly chronological introduction to the ways in which Africans became slaves, the Middle Passage, and the establishment of plantations in the New World. It will make use of a vast array of primary sources, including slave narratives, photographs, and abolitionist tracts, to examine the origins, form, and structure of the Atlantic trade from a global perspective.

HST6386

Sea Power and Empire: Piracy, Race and Modernity

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Simon Layton

Assessment Details

Essay Plan	10%
Essay	70%
Annotated Bibliography	20%

Sea power was essential to the rise of the British Empire and the making of the modern world. From the mid-eighteenth century to the present day, the spectre of 'piracy' haunted those states that sought to project power in a globalising, international order premised on notions of 'civilisation' on the one hand, and merciless state-violence on the other. This module begins by examining how the British encountered (and transformed) seafaring communities in Asia—in Indian, Arabian, Southeast Asian and Chinese waters—before examining piracy's postcolonial role in shaping both international law and countercultures of resistance in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.

HST6215

Witches, Demons and Magic in Late Medieval and Early Modern Europe

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Prof. Miri Rubin

Assessment Details

Source Analysis	40%
Essay	60%

The central theme of this module is the 'supernatural' in the early modern world. The module will explore beliefs in witches, demons and magic, and phenomena such as angels, ghosts, dreams and miracles using case studies from a range of European countries across the period 1450 - 1750. It will investigate the interplay between popular and elite ideas about witchcraft and magic and how these changed over the course of the period. Topics will include: witchcraft, sabbats, the diabolic pact and black magic; witch trials, torture and execution; demonic possession and exorcism; angels, ghosts and fairies; and monsters and miracles. Students will be given the opportunity to discuss a range of textual and visual primary sources including woodcuts, witchcraft trials, popular pamphlets and official treatises (all in translation). Students will model a holistic approach to the study of the 'supernatural' in the early modern world, and reflect on the meanings that witchcraft and the supernatural continue to hold in the modern world.

HST6106

Islam and the West in the Middle Ages

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Tom Asbridge

Assessment Details

Learning Log	35%
Essay	65%

In the course of the Middle Ages, Islam and the West came into closer contact through the agencies of frontier societies, trade and cultural interchange, and crusade and holy war. This advanced module explores the forms, representations and outcomes of these interactions in Iberia, southern Italy and the Levantine Crusader States, encouraging students to consider issues of commonality and difference across space and time. Interactions on these frontiers were complicated. Prior to the Reconquista, Iberia saw a flourishing of trade and expansion of knowledge which turned Cordoba into a major cultural centre, a huge city on the border of the Islamic and Christian world. This wealth and cultural interaction, led to the transfer of knowledge which made the renaissance both in the twelfth and fourteenth century possible. However, this was followed by conquest, and the expulsion of the Islamic and Jewish communities which had previously made the southern Iberian peninsula their home. It is these interactions, both violent and educational and enriching that this module shall focus upon. Students explore the multi-cultural environment of the Crusader Levant, Iberia, and Sicily from the perspectives of Christians, Muslims, and Jews, and gain an appreciation of the culture and attitudes of societies other than our own.

HST6114

1066! The Norman Conquest

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Prof. Virginia Davis

Assessment Details

Essay	35%
Essay	65%

This module will provide students with a good understanding of the causes, course and consequences of the Norman Conquest of England in 1066 which decisively shifted England's relations with continental Europe from a Scandinavian to a Norman French focus. The course is divided into three parts. The first explores the last decades of Anglo-Saxon England including links between England and Normandy before 1066; the second investigates the succession crisis of the 1060s, the invasion of 1066 and the subsequent resistance and rebellions while the third addresses the impact of the Norman Conquest on different aspects of government and society, including landholding and lordship, the church and the physical landscape. Seminars will draw upon an extensive range of rich and diverse primary source available to historians of the Norman Conquest. Issues relating to the relationship between England and the Continent continue to resonate and this course offers an opportunity to explore a key moment in the history of this relationship. There will be an optional fieldtrip to Battle Abbey, the site of the 1066 battle.

HST6116

Islam in Africa and the Indian Subcontinent: Conquest, Islamisation and Co-existence

Key Information

Credits	15
Duration	Single Semester
Organiser	Dr Anna Chrysostomides

Assessment Details

Seminar Participation	25%
Essay	75%

Have you ever wondered about the origin of Sufism in India? When Islam reached Algeria or Sudan and how the communities there responded? This module offers students the opportunity to explore the advent of Islam in two, often neglected, geographical areas - Africa and the Indian Subcontinent - in the medieval and early modern period (600-1600). Lectures will provide a chronological perspective, while seminars will focus on a range of thematic primary sources such as: Sufi poetry, historical chronicles, religious literature, letters, archaeological evidence, art and material history.

Special Subject Modules

The Special Subject is the culmination of your studies as an undergraduate historian. Special Subject modules make an in-depth study of a particular topic over the course of a year. They often draw on or even contribute to new work in the field. In the course of a Special Subject module, students become researchers too, producing a 10,000 word Dissertation which takes an in-depth look at an area of special interest chosen by you. Special Subjects can also be taken from any other University of London college.

HST6767

Global History of Pandemics from Plague to Coronavirus

Key Information

Credits	60
Duration	Year-Long
Organiser	Dr Andrew Mendelsohn and Dr Ed Ramsden

Assessment Details

Dissertation Progress Report	5%
Essay	25%
Policy Evaluation	20%
Dissertation	50%

Covid-19 stopped the world in its tracks. For most people, this is an unprecedented experience. Yet humanity has been here before. This module explores the long and global history of communities, governments, and experts confronting crisis in the form of epidemic disease. The module proceeds through four pandemic periods: (1) plague and smallpox since 1500; (2) cholera since 1800; (3) influenza since 1900; (4) novel viruses emerging from animals to humankind since 1980 - HIV/AIDS, Ebola, new influenzas, SARS, Covid-19. We will interrogate each period with three questions: How have pandemics shaped world history - and vice versa? How have diverse cultures and empires, states, communities, sciences, and international organisations learned from pandemics and from the outcomes of policies and responses? How, and why, have societies united or divided over concepts and practices of purity and danger, security and crisis, evoked by pandemics?

HST6757

Race, Ethnicity and Immigration: Britain from the 1905 Aliens Act to Brexit

Key Information

Credits	60
Duration	Year-Long
Organiser	Dr Rob Waters

Assessment Details

Source Analysis	7.5%
Literature Review	10%
Seminar Participation	7.5%
Essay	25%
Dissertation	50%

How has race shaped modern Britain? This module traces the shifting meanings and boundaries of race in Britain between the panic over Jewish immigration at the end of the nineteenth century and the anti-European and Islamophobic politics of the early twenty-first. We will historicize race as a constant but shifting presence in British social, cultural and political life, particularly as it has turned on issues of immigration. The module includes a sustained focus on the importance of black and Asian experiences and political mobilizations for understanding this history, and on the critical perspectives of British black and Asian intellectuals.

HST6741

The War on Terror

Key Information

Credits	60
Duration	Year-Long
Organiser	Dr Martyn Frampton and Dr James Ellison

Assessment Details

Learning Log	10%
Essay	12.5%
Source Analysis	12.5%
Take Home Exam	15%
Dissertation	50%

The War on Terror and the conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq remain the most controversial issues of our time. International public debate about their cause, course and effect remains acute yet it is often political, partisan and rarely balanced or complex. This module seeks to put 9/11 and its consequences in historical context by asking historically-informed questions about Western intervention in the Middle East and using an array of recently released primary sources to try to answer them. The aim is to approach the most contentious events of the contemporary era with the historian's informed, detached understanding. That process begins with analysis of the origins of the modern Middle East and the post-Cold War conflicts which led to regional and international instability and the rise of terrorist organisations, principally Al-Qaeda. It goes on to consider the alliance developed by Tony Blair and George Bush after 9/11, the fight against the Taliban, regime change in Iraq and the disintegration of that country with all of its often tragic consequences for its peoples, the region and global security. Students will critically appraise a vast array of congressional and parliamentary material, and develop the skills needed to draw-up political briefs.

HST6730

The Kennedy Years

Key Information

Credits	60
Duration	Year-Long
Organiser	Prof. Mark White

Assessment Details

Source Analysis 1	6.25%
Source Analysis 2	6.25%
Essay	12.5%
Take Home Exam	25%
Dissertation	50%

What sets apart the Special Subject from your previous undergraduate modules is the degree of specialization and the emphasis on primary sources. The basic aim of this Special Subject is to examine the presidency of John F. Kennedy from 1961 to 1963. This will involve an analysis of his handling of foreign policy issues such as Cuba, Berlin and Vietnam, his approach to key domestic issues such as civil rights, and his assassination. His iconic image and his character will also be explored. This module is defined more broadly than this, however, and will foster an understanding of the global impact of American politics. The early part of the module will focus on Kennedy's career before reaching the White House and the 1960 presidential campaign. The latter part of the module will include an assessment of the presidency of Lyndon Johnson and the careers of JFK's brothers, Robert and Edward Kennedy, and his wife, Jackie. These topics will be examined by using a wide range of primary sources. Indeed developing the ability to examine documentation is one of the chief objectives of this module.

HST6764

Pakistan and the Politics of the Past

Key Information

Credits	60
Duration	Year-Long
Organiser	Dr Chris Moffat

Assessment Details

Literature Review	10%
Essay	25%
Source Analysis	7.5%
Exhibition Proposal	7.5%
Dissertation	50%

Pakistan was born in 1947 out of the partition of India, and split again in 1971 following the liberation of Bangladesh. Histories of conflict and loss have left their mark on Pakistani politics and culture. But so too have they been repressed in a nationalist narrative that celebrates Pakistan as a 'new Medina', a homeland for South Asia's Muslims. This Special Subject approaches 'history' as a terrain of struggle in Pakistan. It traces how different 'pasts' has been mobilised, by the powerful but also by marginalised communities, exploring why these contests matter for Pakistan's present and its possible futures.

HST6749

The Holocaust and its Aftermath in Literature and Film

Key Information

Credits	60
Duration	Year-Long
Organiser	Dr Daniel Wildmann

Assessment Details

Source Analysis	6.25%
Essay 1	25%
Essay 2	18.75%
Dissertation	50%

The Holocaust is the defining event of the mid-twentieth century and its aftermath shaped the history of Western Europe. This module takes a broad approach to the study of this cataclysmic episode. In the autumn term we examine Nazi policy towards the Jews between 1933 and 1945. Our investigations focus on questions of the legitimization of physical violence towards Jews, room for manoeuvre and personal responsibility of the perpetrators, as well as reactions and forms of resistance against the persecution policies among the Jews. In the spring term we analyse - based on juridical forms of dealing with the past - visual and literary attempts of confronting and coming to terms with the Holocaust. Central to this debate are films and novels from Germany, the UK, the USA and France and Israel, such as the crime novels by Philip Kerr or Quentin Tarrantino's film 'Inglorious Basterds'. We take a closer look at ideas of morality during periods of dictatorship and genocide and examine concepts of justice.

HST6763

Inside Hitler's Germany: Power, Persecution, and Resistance

Key Information

Credits	60
Duration	Year-Long
Organiser	Dr Joseph Cronin

Assessment Details

Literature Review	5%
Source Analysis 1	5%
Essay	25%
Take Home Exam	15%
Dissertation	50%

How much do you know about Hitler's Germany? Although it is one of the most studied topics in modern history, the Nazi regime is frequently misunderstood. This Special Subject offers a comprehensive insight into the inner workings of the regime, its effects on German society, and the ways in which it has been remembered. Some of the questions we will tackle include: How and why did the Nazis come to power? How much did ordinary Germans support the regime? Who resisted? Which groups did the Nazis persecute, and why? We will also consider how the regime represented itself globally, and how Nazi ideology fits into broader histories of imperialism and colonialism. In studying this module, we

will engage with an extensive historiography, and you will write assignments that make a strong and original contribution to the field. At the end, you can consider yourself an expert in one of history's most notorious regimes.

HST6761

American Film History: Hollywood and the Second World War

Key Information

Credits	60
Duration	Year-Long
Organiser	Dr Mark Glancy

Assessment Details

Source Analysis 1	5%
Essay 1	20%
Source Analysis 2	5%
Essay 2	20%
Dissertation	50%

This Special Subject centers on American films made during the Second World War as well as much more recent American films that represent the war. We are not concerned with war films alone but also explore how films represent issues of class, gender, race and sexuality that arise in tandem with wartime histories. We will also study the methods and sources used by film historians as we investigate matters of film style, filmmakers, and classic films ranging from Casablanca (1942) to Inglorious Basterds (2009).

HST6735

Reinventing Ourselves: Psychology, Sex and Chemistry in Modern Britain

Key Information

Credits	60
Duration	Year-Long
Organiser	Dr Rhodri Hayward

Assessment Details

Essay 1	15%
Literature Review	10%
Essay 2	15%
Reflective Report	10%
Dissertation	50%

Historians and philosophers have claimed that a massive transformation in our idea of the self took place in the twentieth century. Novel concepts developed in psychology, physiology, endocrinology, psychiatry, sexology, ethology and psychoanalysis promoted a new sense of the complexity and tractability of identity in the British population. Students analyse how the subject matter is approached from these different disciplines, learn to interrogate claims made in psychological and life sciences, and critically evaluate how perspectives from medical sociology can be incorporated into the history of medicine. Focusing on the middle decades of the twentieth century, this module surveys the vast range of materials individuals drew upon in constructing their identities and the new political and social relationships that these made possible.

HST6737

The 'Heart of Darkness'? Identity, Power and Politics in the Congo c.1870-2010

Key Information

Credits	60
Duration	Year-Long
Organiser	Dr Reuben Loffman

Assessment Details

Essay 1	12.5%
Essay 2	12.5%
Exam	25%
Dissertation	50%

This special subject module challenges conceptions of Central Africa as the Heart of Darkness, a place disconnected from civilization and unintelligible to all save for the hardened anthropologist. It starts during the intensification of European encounters in the region from late nineteenth-century and ends by covering the most deadly conflicts since the Second World War. It engages with broad historical questions relating to ethnic formation, violence, international development, and the mission encounter. To reveal the complexities involved in power relations in the Congo, this module will make use of a vast array of different kinds of sources from a range of cultural perspectives, such as literary accounts, photographs, and film, and will investigate Central African history in a global context.

HST6766

The First Age of Globalisation: Money, Race, and Empire 1850-1933

Key Information

Credits	60
Duration	Year-Long
Organiser	Dr Noam Maggor

Assessment Details

Learning Log	10%
Essay	25%
Take Home Exam	15%
Dissertation	50%

The period between the American Civil War and the Global Great Depression was an era of unprecedented global interconnectedness, not unlike our own. Telegraph wires, steamships, and railways crossed oceans and continental frontiers, fundamentally changing how human beings understood their relationship to each other and to their world. Students in this Special Subject will explore this period from a variety of perspectives, moving far afield - from London, Buenos Aires, and Bombay, to Chicago, Cairo, and Nanjing, from the prairies and mountains of North America to the Indian sub-continent, the Nile valley, and the hinterlands of Latin America. We will encounter a diverse cast of characters, including imperial officials, racialized labourers, department-store consumers, indigenous peoples, British financiers, industrial workers, indebted farmers, cosmopolitan intellectuals, and more.

HST6746

The Idea of ‘the West’: a History from the Nineteenth to the Twenty-First Century

Key Information

Credits	60
Duration	Year-Long
Organiser	Prof. Georgios Varouxakis

Assessment Details

Essay 1	12.5%
Essay 2	12.5%
Take Home Exam	25%
Dissertation	50%

This module analyses the history of different ideas of ‘the West’ from its earliest uses in the eighteenth century to the early twenty-first century. This history will be studied from the perspective of both ‘Western’ and ‘non-Western’ thinkers and authors. Students will gain a deep and many-sided mastery of a concept with a long history, which is highly relevant to contemporary debates and ways of thinking, and yet is rarely defined or analysed historically. The main contribution of the module will be to problematise and historicise the concept of the West and show when it emerged, why, and how meanings have changed over the last two centuries. The module is ambitious in its analysis, its geographical and cultural coverage, and its aim to develop students’ historical perspectives and critical skills.

HST6743

The Age of Revolutions: Global Perspectives

Key Information

Credits	60
Duration	Year-Long
Organiser	Dr Maurizio Isabella

Assessment Details

Source Analysis 1	6.25%
Source Analysis 2	6.25%
Essay 1	18.75%
Essay 2	18.75%
Dissertation	50%

The module examines the global nature of the age of revolutions between the late eighteenth century and mid-nineteenth century, focusing in particular on those parts of the world and on those revolutionary events traditionally treated by historians as marginal or peripheral. It provides an overview of the period through a set of case studies, ranging from events in Latin and Central America to the Mediterranean and Asia, as well as through the analysis of their global political and ideological entanglements. The module is organized around a variety of approaches. First it provides an introduction to the methodology of global history and its implications for the study of the age of revolutions. Second, it offers a thematic and comparative analysis of the shared features of the revolutions around the world (the role of the army and nature of revolutionary wars, the relationship between religion and revolutionary ideologies, counter-revolutionary culture, secret societies). Finally, it discusses specific case studies (the Haitian revolution, the Greek revolution of 1821, etc) and explores connections and transnational influences across the world.

HST6759

History from the Margins: Minorities in Early Modern Europe

Key Information

Credits	60
Duration	Year-Long
Organiser	Dr Liesbeth Corens

Assessment Details

Learning Log	12.5%
Blog Post	12.5%
Essay	25%
Dissertation	50%

Early modern society and culture was not monolithic. Religious, ethnic, and social differences pushed some to the margins of power and influence. Our big historical narratives and consequently our modules are often shaped by history's winners. This module invites students to look at England, Europe, and the world through the lenses of those at the margins. Jews in the Mediterranean, Black Londoners, Moriscos in the Iberian Peninsula, Roma travellers across England, Catholics under Queen Elizabeth, Calvinist exiles from Catholic France, all have their own story to tell and nuance to add to our understanding of the early modern world. This course will consider moments of discrimination as well as of interaction, and study minorities not as victims but search for their agency. Thereby, we put in relief the perspectives historians take on the past, challenge straightforward national stories, and articulate the diverging experiences of past people..

HST6720

Behind Closed Doors: Houses, Interiors and Domestic Life, c.1660–1830

Key Information

Credits	60
Duration	Year-Long
Organiser	Prof. Amanda Vickery

Assessment Details

Seminar Participation	20%
Source Analysis	10%
Essay 1	10%
Essay 2	10%
Dissertation	50%

This special subject module unlocks the front door of the Englishman's castle, to peer into the privacies of life at home from c. 1660–1830. It will vividly recreate the texture of life at home, from bed bugs and insects breeding behind the wallpapers, to new goods, fashions and rituals, from the performances of the drawing room to the secrets of the dressing room. The module sits on the research frontier, and crosses disciplinary boundaries, drawing on anthropology, historical geography, the history of architecture and decorative arts, material culture and museum studies. Domestic life will come out of the closet.

HST6713

Lives, Letters and Lifestyles: English Political Society during the Wars of the Roses

Key Information

Credits	60
Duration	Year-Long
Organiser	Prof. Virginia Davis

Assessment Details

Presentation	5%
Source Analysis 1	7.5%
Source Analysis 2	7.5%
Timesd Source Analysis	10%
Essay	20%
Dissertation	50%

This special subject module will provide students with an understanding of fifteenth century English history, introducing one of the major sources for the period, the substantial letter collection of the Paston family. Personal letters were extremely rare before the mid-fifteenth century and this is an exceptional collection which, alongside other smaller collections relating to other gentry and merchant families, are extensively used by historians to throw light on the political, social and economic history of England during a period of extensive social and political change. This module gives students the opportunity to engage with local history and heritage, and meet with archivists to build up a network of professional contacts outside of the university.

HST6710

Saladin, Richard the Lionheart & the Third Crusade

Key Information

Credits	60
Duration	Year-Long
Organiser	Dr Tom Asbridge

Assessment Details

Essay 1	12.5%
Essay 2	12.5%
Written Exam	25%
Dissertation	50%

Saladin's defeat of the Franks at Hattin and his subsequent conquest of Jerusalem on 2 October 1187 prompted Latin Europe to launch the Third Crusade. Across the West, tens of thousands took the cross for this expedition, among them Richard the Lionheart, king of England. The war that followed saw Saladin and Richard - two great champions of the age - contest control of the Holy Land. This special subject module explores the careers of both leaders and the wider history of the Third Crusade, drawing upon the testimony of Christian and Muslim contemporaries. Topics explored will include: the role of jihad in Saladin's rise to power; the progress and significance of the siege of Acre; Richard's standing as a military genius; the nature of negotiation and diplomacy during the crusade; and the roles of myth and memory in constructing Richard's and Saladin's historical reputations.

The Formation of the Early Islamic World: Muslims, Jews and Christians, 600-945 CE

Key Information

Credits	60
Duration	Year-Long
Organiser	Dr Anna Chrysostomides

Assessment Details

Source Analysis 1	6.25%
Source Analysis 2	6.25%
Draft Essay	12.5%
Essay	25%
Presentation	6.25%
Dissertation	50%

This special subject investigates the formation of early Islam and the interactions between Islam, Judaism, and Christianity in the late antique and early medieval regions of the Levant, Mesopotamia, Fars, the Arabian Peninsula, and Egypt. We will follow how the minority Muslim rulers navigated relationships with the majority Jewish and Christian communities they ruled over through examining textual and archaeological primary sources. We will employ a multi disciplinary approach, drawing upon the methodologies of history, archaeology, anthropology, and theology, and exploring topics such as: the formation of Islamic law and the place of non-Muslims within it; when and how the Muslim profession of faith developed; the debate surrounding the licit or illicit nature of images within Islam and what it held in common with contemporary Christian and Jewish debates over images; historically shared beliefs, traditions, and celebrations amongst Jewish, Christian and Muslim communities; ethnic tensions between Arab and non-Arab Muslims; inter-religious marriage; and conflicts between communities and how they were resolved.

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