School of History (see also Ancient History)

Head of School
Professor A D M Pettegree

Degree Programmes

Graduate Diploma
Central & East European Studies
Environmental History
Historical Research
Mediaeval History
Middle Eastern History
Modern Historiography
Modern History
Reformation Studies
Scottish Historical Studies

M.Litt.
Central & East European Studies
Environmental History
Historical Research
Mediaeval History
Middle Eastern History
Modern Historiography
Modern History
Reformation Studies
Scottish Historical Studies

M.Phil.
Central & East European Studies
Environmental History
Historical Research
Mediaeval History
Middle Eastern History
Modern Historiography
Modern History
Reformation Studies
Scottish Historical Studies

Programme Requirements

Central & East European Studies
Graduate Diploma: 120 credits from RU5001 - RU5100, AH5086, AH5101, IR5012, IR5212, MO5301, MO5402, MO5503 and MO5602, save that no more than two modules may be taken from one subject.
M.Litt.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma plus one of AH5099, IR5099 or MO5099
M.Phil.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words

Environmental History
Graduate Diploma: 120 credits: 40 from core course MO5601; a minimum of a further 40 (and a maximum of 80) credits chosen from MES001, ME5414, MO5023; and, if necessary, a further 40 credits chosen from EC5505, EN5023, GE5010, GE5011, GE5012, GE5048, GE5051, IR5013, MO5203, MO5308, MO5400, MO5602, MO5605, SC5403
M.Litt.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma plus EH5099
M.Phil.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words
Historical Research
Graduate Diploma: 120 credits; 40 credits from either MO5601 or MO5801 and 80 further credits from any combination of the following: MO5602, MO5609, HI5002 – HI5004, other appropriate skills courses (credit transfer)
M.Litt.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma plus HI5099
M.Phil.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words

Mediaeval History
Graduate Diploma: 120 credits from ME5002, ME5005, and ME5001, ME5006 or ME5414
M.Litt.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma plus ME5099
M.Phil.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words

Middle Eastern History
Graduate Diploma: 120 credits: 80 credits from MO5601, MH5001, plus a further 40 credits from one of the following: MH5002, MH5003, IR5219
M.Litt.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma plus one of AR5099, ME5099 or MO5099
M.Phil.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words

Modern Historiography
Graduate Diploma: 120 credits: 80 credits from MO5601 and MO5308, plus either 40 credits from the following: HI5002 – HI5004, other appropriate skills courses (credit transfer) or 40 credits from one of the following: MO5203, MO5602 - MO5608
M.Litt.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma plus MO5099
M.Phil.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words

Modern History
Graduate Diploma: 120 credits: 40 credits from either MO5601 or MO5801 and 80 further credits from any two of the following: MO5602 - MO5608, MO5203
M.Litt.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma plus MO5099
M.Phil.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words

Reformation Studies
Graduate Diploma: 120 credits, 40 from MO5011 and a further 80 credits from HI5004, MO5002 - MO5006, MO5602, MO5905, SC5022, GM5028
M.Litt.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma plus MO5099
M.Phil.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words

Scottish Historical Studies
Graduate Diploma: 120 credits, 80 credits from SC5051 and SC5052, 40 credits from any combination of the following: HI5002 – HI5004, appropriate skills (credit transfer)
M.Litt.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma plus SC5099
M.Phil.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words
Modules

AR5099 Dissertation for M.Litt. Programme/s
Credits: 60.0
Prerequisite: An average grade of at least 14 in course work.
Programme(s): Compulsory module for Arabic Literature, Islamic History, Middle East Politics, and Middle East Studies M.Litt. Postgraduate Programmes
Description: Student dissertations will be supervised by members of the teaching staff who will advise on the choice of subject and provide guidance throughout the research process. The completed dissertation of not more than 15,000 words must be submitted by the end of August.
Class Hour: At times to be arranged with the supervisor
Teaching: Individual Supervision
Assessment: Dissertation = 100%

AR5237 Arabic for Beginners
Credits: 30.0 Semester: Whole Year
Prerequisite: Admission to a taught postgraduate degree programme
Anti-requisite: Previous study or knowledge of Arabic beyond beginner's level
Programme(s): Optional module for Middle East Studies and Middle East & Central Asia Security Studies M.Litt. Postgraduate Programmes
Description: This module will enable beginners to read, write and converse in simple Modern Standard Arabic. It will cover the Arabic alphabet and the basics of Arabic grammar. Teaching will be based on a textbook that makes use of reading, writing, listening and speaking exercises that have a direct relevance to the culture and history of the Arab World.
Class Hour: 11.00 am
Teaching: Four lectures and dedicated tutorial.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 70%, 2 Hour Examination (20% written 10% oral) = 30%

EC5505 Global and Local Issues of the Environment
Credits: 20.0 Semester: 2
Programme(s): Optional module for MSc in International Strategy and Economics and Graduate Diploma in Environmental History
Description: The aim of this module is to introduce basic ideas and methods of environmental economics and policy without assuming any prior knowledge of economics. The geological background and current state of global warming is related to international efforts to control the problem and efforts by energy lobbies to undermine controls and misinform public opinion. A variety of topical issues that relate economic, environmental and public policy considerations will be discussed including international trade, tropical deforestation, transport, sustainability, the relationship between economic (material) growth, the environment and human happiness and welfare. Specific problems of developing countries and their relations to the developed world will be studied.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Two lectures, one seminar.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 60%, 2 Hour Examination = 40%
EH5003 Environmental History: Nature and the Western World, 1800-2000

Credits: 40.0  Semester: 2
Programme(s): Optional module for Environmental History, Modern Historiography, Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: This module studies environmental history over the past two centuries in an international context. It examines attitudes to nature and animals, species history (extinctions and introductions), national parks and nature reserves, the history of environmentalism and nature conservation, the history of countryside recreation and tourism, and the history of current problems such as pollution and pesticide use. It will draw on examples taken from the USA, southern Africa, Australasia and Great Britain.

Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Two hour seminar, fortnightly tutorial.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

EH5099 Dissertation for M.Litt. Programme/s

Credits: 60.0
Prerequisite: An average grade of at least 14 in course work.
Programme(s): Compulsory module for Environmental History M.Litt. Postgraduate Programme

Description: Student dissertations will be supervised by members of the teaching staff who will advise on the choice of subject and provide guidance throughout the research process. The completed dissertation of not more than 15,000 words must be submitted by the end of August.

Class Hour: At times to be arranged with the supervisor
Teaching: Individual Supervision
Assessment: Dissertation = 100%

GE5051 Environmental Management in Scotland

Credits: 20.0  Semester: 1
Prerequisite: Available only to Students admitted to the M.Litt. in Environmental History.
Programme(s): Optional module for Environmental History Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: This module focuses on current environmental management issues in Scotland. It provides, firstly, a presentation of the fundamental elements of the various systems of land and resource management (e.g. forestry, agriculture & crofting, wildlife, freshwater resources, conservation), and secondly, examples of the ways in which these systems interact. Throughout, the module aims to engender a holistic understanding of environmental management, in contrast to the sectoral approach traditionally employed by central and local government. The ultimate aim is to leave students with an informed conceptual framework for evaluating the merits of management proposals, with their attendant implications for environmental change and economic development. A particular focus, employing topical case studies and a field visit, will be the conflicts that are increasingly arising as interest groups with contrasting philosophies & value systems compete for the finite resources of Scotland’s wild places.

Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Two 1 hour lectures weekly, and a weekend field excursion.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%
HI5002 Historical Sources and Skills I

Credits: 40.0 Semester: Whole Year

Programme(s): Optional module for Historical Research, Modern Historiography and Scottish Historical Studies Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

Description: The aim of this module is to give students a chance to acquire two technical skills which they must have in order to embark on their chosen path of research, not just for the M.Litt. dissertation but also for possible future Ph.D. work. It relates primarily to other courses in the M.Litt. (Historical Research). There is no set syllabus. Each student chooses two from the available options which currently are (i) Bibliography (ii) Palaeography and Diplomatic (iii) Language Training - Latin and French are currently offered, but the School can secure teaching in any appropriate language currently taught in the University (iv) Archaeology (v) Archive Studies (vi) Quantitative and Computing Skills for historians. The module can therefore vary considerably and may be taught almost entirely within one department (such as Modern History or Mediaeval History) or in a number of different departments. Two semesters are essential because of the need for time to cope with a great deal of new and rigorous scholarly work.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Lectures and seminars as appropriate up to three hours per week.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

HI5003 Historical Sources and Skills II

Credits: 40.0 Semester: Whole Year

Programme(s): Optional module for Historical Research, Modern Historiography and Scottish Historical Studies Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

Description: The syllabus for this module is the same as for HI5002. Its aim is to allow students to acquire a further two technical skills from the list given under HI5002.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Lectures and seminars as appropriate up to three hours per week.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

HI5004 Historical Sources and Skills III

Credits: 20.0 Semester: Whole Year

Co-requisite: 20 credit Language module

Programme(s): Optional module for Historical Research, Modern Historiography, Reformation Studies and Scottish Historical Research Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

Description: The aim of this module is to give students a chance to acquire one technical skill which they must have in order to embark on their chosen path of research, not just of the M.Litt. dissertation but also of possible future Ph.D. work. There is no set syllabus. Each student chooses one from the available options which currently are (i) Bibliography (ii) Palaeography and Diplomatic (iii) Language Training (iv) Archaeology (v) Archive Studies (vi) Quantitative and Computing Skills for Historians. The module can therefore vary considerably and may be taught almost entirely within one department (such as Modern History or Mediaeval History) or in a number of different departments.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Practical classes.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%
HI5099 Dissertation for M.Litt. Programme/s
Credits: 60.0
Prerequisite: An average grade of at least 14 in course work.
Programme(s): Compulsory module for Historical Research M.Litt. Postgraduate Programmes
Description: Student dissertations will be supervised by members of the teaching staff who will advise on the choice of subject and provide guidance throughout the research process. The completed dissertation of not more than 15,000 words must be submitted by the end of August.
Class Hour: At times to be arranged with the supervisor
Teaching: Individual Supervision
Assessment: Dissertation = 100%

IR5212 Revolution and change: Post-Communist Central and Eastern Europe
Credits: 40.0 Semester: 2
Programme(s): Optional module for Central & East European Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Description: This module examines the changes brought about by the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe and the disintegration of the Soviet Union including: the nature of the 1989 revolutions; the impact of the collapse of communism on the international system; regional co-operation; Russia’s place in Europe; nationalism and ethnic conflict; the wars in Yugoslavia; Western approaches to Eastern Europe; domestic political-economic transformation and its international context; and changes to the European security institutional architecture.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: One 2 Hour seminar.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR5219 Politics and State Formation in the Modern Middle East
Credits: 40.0 Semester: 2
Programme(s): Optional module for Middle East History Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Description: The module will provide an in-depth survey of the modern political development of the Middle East, concentrating on the period since 1945. It examines how the pre-modern historical heritage of the region, the impact of imperialism and the advance of modernisation have shaped contemporary politics. It also examines contemporary political ideologies and movements, elites, the role of the military, authoritarian state structures, development policies, and the prospects of Islamisation and democratization. This is done through case studies of Turkey, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Syria, Lebanon and, to a lesser extent, other countries.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: One lecture and one 2 Hour seminar.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

ME5001 Special Topic in Mediaeval History
Credits: 40.0 Semester: Whole Year
Programme(s): Compulsory module for Mediaeval History Postgraduate Programme. Optional module for Environmental History Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Description: This module is a detailed study of a mediaeval topic of the student’s own choice which, as appropriate, will include either participation in any 4000 level module or individual tutorials with a designated tutor.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: One 2-3 hour seminar or individual tutorials as required.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%
ME5002 Sources and Source Criticism
Credits: 40.0 Semester: Whole Year
Programme(s): Compulsory module for Mediaeval History Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Description: This module addresses interpretation and criticism of mediaeval sources. A taught core in semester one concentrates upon a selected central body of documentation and its associated problems and introduces appropriate skills training. This is completed in semester two by an extended paper, together with training in seminar presentation and discussion skills.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: One-and-a-half hour seminar and individual tutorials as required.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

ME5005 Manuscript Studies
Credits: 40.0 Semester: Whole Year
Programme(s): Compulsory module for Mediaeval History Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Description: This module is an introductory survey of the history of the mediaeval manuscript book and of mediaeval archival practices. Students will learn to transcribe and translate documents from the original language.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Three hours.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

ME5099 Dissertation for M.Litt. Programme/s
Credits: 60.0
Prerequisite: An average grade of at least 14 in course work.
Programme(s): Compulsory module for Mediaeval History M.Litt. Postgraduate Programme
Description: Student dissertations will be supervised by members of the teaching staff who will advise on the choice of subject and provide guidance throughout the research process. The completed dissertation of not more than 15,000 words must be submitted by the end of August.
Class Hour: At times to be arranged with the supervisor
Teaching: Individual Supervision
Assessment: Dissertation = 100%

ME5414 Ideas on Nature and Animals in the Middle Ages
Credits: 40.0 Semester: 2
Availability: not available 2006-07
Programme(s): Optional module for the Environmental History and Mediaeval History Postgraduate Taught Programmes.
Description: This module reviews the main Mediaeval ideas of Nature, mankind and animals. What was the origin of the world? Should Human Beings modify the creation of God? Do animals, plants and planets influence people? Why were there famines and floods? The option is an introduction to the strand of Environmental history concerned with the cultural and historical representations that past societies had of their environment. The course involves lectures, classes and seminars. It makes extensive use of sources in translation such as: the Bible, the writings of the Church Fathers, Lapidaries, Bestiaries, saints’ lives, and literature, as well as iconographical sources. An oral presentation (inclusive of 1 poster presentation) and 3 essays will be required.
Class Hour: 11.00 am – 1.00 pm Tuesday.
Teaching: One lecture, one seminar, four tutorials.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%
MH5001 Directed Reading in Middle Eastern History

Credits: 40.0
Programme(s): Compulsory module for the Middle Eastern History Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Description: A directed reading project designed to encourage the development of skills of historical analysis through concentrated study of a topic chosen by the student in consultation with a supervisor. The project offers the student the opportunity to develop skills of research, analysis and presentation prior to the dissertation. As such, it will serve as a useful transition between the more structured teaching of undergraduate work and the independence of postgraduate dissertations. The project will normally take the form of a bibliographic essay or primary research on a narrowly defined topic.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Fortnightly tutorials.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

MH5002 From Muhammad to the Mamluks: themes in the history and culture of the Middle East

Credits: 40.0
Programme(s): Optional module for the Middle Eastern History Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Description: This module will cover the history and culture of the Islamic Middle East from the birth of Islam in the region in the 7th century until the conclusion of its pre-modern history by the Ottoman conquest of Egypt in 1517. Within this wide range of a millennium of Islamic expansion, innovation, consolidation, fragmentation and re-orientation, there will be a thorough coverage of the key themes that define the resulting societies, their subjects and their historical and cultural evolution. These themes include the Middle East’s social and religious history and its political, military and material culture.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Two hour seminar.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

MH5003 Empire, Nationalism and the Birth of the Middle East

Credits: 40.0
Programme(s): Optional module for the Middle Eastern History and Middle East & Central Asian Security Studies Postgraduate Taught Programmes.
Description: This module looks at the development of the Middle East from 1800 to the present, analysing in particular the impact of European intervention and the response of Middle Eastern empires in decline. The first part of the module will look at the differing ways in which the Ottoman Empire, Egypt and the Iranian state responded to the European challenge, before turning to the Great War and the foundation of the modern Middle East state system. The growth of nationalism and the rise of Islamism will also be assessed with particular focus on Arab nationalism and the Islamic Revolution in Iran. The module concludes with an assessment of the post war state system and the continuing conflict between tradition and modernity.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Two hour seminar
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

MO5006 Society and Religious Change in Sixteenth Century France

Credits: 40.0
Availability: not available 2006-07
Programme(s): Optional module for Modern Historiography and Reformation Studies Postgraduate Taught Programmes.
Description: This module offers a detailed examination of the development and near disintegration of the new French nation state in the sixteenth century. It examines how France faced the two major challenges of the age: the trend towards more centralised state-building, stimulated in part by the changing nature of warfare in the sixteenth century and the urge on the part of European monarchies to create a new monarchy; and the challenge posed by the divisions of European Christendom resulting from the Protestant Reformation. A central question to be answered is why France succeeded in meeting the first challenge so successfully, as epitomised by the ‘Renaissance’ monarchy of Francis I, but then collapsed so weakly in the face of the growth of Calvinism in the second half of the century.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Fortnightly tutorial and other teaching as appropriate.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%
MO5011 Aspects of Reformation
Credits: 40.0 Semester: Whole Year
Programme(s): Compulsory module for Reformation Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Optional module for Modern Historiography Postgraduate Taught Programmes.
Description: This module explains selected themes in Reformation Studies and encourages students to develop a sense of the historiography of the period. It is the core course of the Reformation Studies M.Litt. Each theme is treated in these seminars with students being required to make presentations on current historical debates. The themes include: Reformation theology, popular religion, the local reformation and the printed book.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Fortnightly tutorial and other teaching as appropriate.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

MO5012 Skills Training
Credits: 40.0 Semester: Whole Year
Programme(s): Optional module for Reformation Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Description: This is part of the M.Litt. in Reformation Studies and is intended to offer students training in skills relevant to research in early modern history. The student chooses two components from the range of options offered. These options included: Latin, palaeography, bibliography, and modern European languages. Each student will be able to choose the options most appropriate for the M.Litt. dissertation and further Ph.D. work.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: As appropriate to the option.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

MO5021 Tudor Political Thought
Credits: 40.0 Semester: 2
Availability: not available 2006-07
Programme(s): Optional module for Reformation Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Description: This module will examine the main texts and contexts of political thought in Tudor England. It will seek to identify political ideas and vocabulary, and to situate debates and language in their historical contexts. Both political ideas and the rhetorical modes by which they were conceived and communicated to an audience, real or imagined, will be considered. The main agenda will include politics, religion, rhetoric, law, and history. Special themes will include theories of monarchy and counsel, empire and sovereignty, civic humanism and mixed polity, Reformation, conciliarism, republicanism and resistance, Parliament, representation, and the politics of history, poetry and drama. This is overwhelmingly a source-based course.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Fortnightly tutorial and other teaching as appropriate.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

MO5023 Disease and Environment, c.1500 - c.2000
Credits: 40.0 Semester: 1
Programme(s): Optional module for Environmental History Postgraduate Taught Programme
Description: Before they are members of political and religious groupings, humans are biological entities. As such, throughout history humans have had to devise complex strategies to cope with fundamental biological factors. Focusing primarily upon an Anglo-American context, this course examines the manner in which sickness and death have shaped human history – both biologically and culturally – over the past 500 years. Consideration of patients’ and practitioners’ expectations, and of the changing meanings of cure, treatment, and care, encourages students to appreciate changing attitudes to health, hygiene, healing and illness within the social history of medicine. Moreover, through an examination of medical practitioners, hospitals, quarantine, inoculation, imperialism, urbanisation, and industrialisation, students will gain an appreciation of the historical relationships between the environment and disease.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Fortnightly tutorial and other teaching as appropriate.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%
MO5026 Art and Piety in Western Europe, 1400 - 1750
Credits: 40.0 Semester: 2
Availability: not available 2006-07
Programme(s): Optional module for Reformation Studies and Modern Historiography Postgraduate Taught Programmes.
Description: This module will begin by exploring the use of religious images during the late-medieval period. It will then examine Protestant attitudes towards religious art, focussing in particular on the Lutheran use of visual propaganda to disseminate the Reformation message, and on the motives and actions of more radical Zwinglian and Calvinist iconoclasts. The course will also look at Catholic attempts to reform religious art and at the flowering of visual piety in the wake of the Council of Trent. It will provide postgraduate students with a full awareness of the methodological issues involved in using visual sources in historical research.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Fortnightly tutorial and other teaching as appropriate.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

MO5027 Women and Men in Europe, 1500-1800
Credits: 40.0 Semester: 1
Programme(s): Optional module for Reformation Studies and Modern Historiography Postgraduate Taught Programmes.
Description: This module will assess the impact of major intellectual and social movements – the Renaissance, the Reformation and the Scientific Revolution – on legal, scientific and philosophical ideas about women. It will also examine women’s day-to-day experiences, focusing on themes such as marriage and the family, sexuality and the body, work and religion. It will explore notions of masculinity and femininity, considering how these were constructed and how their meanings have changed over time. The course will require postgraduate students to confront the problems involved in reconstructing women’s experiences given their silence in the written record.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Fortnightly tutorial and other teaching as appropriate.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

MO5099 Dissertation for M.Litt. Programme/s
Credits: 60.0
Prerequisite: An average grade of at least 14 in course work.
Programme(s): Compulsory module for Central & East European Studies, Modern Historiography, Modern History, and Reformation Studies M.Litt. Postgraduate Programmes
Description: Student dissertations will be supervised by members of the teaching staff who will advise on the choice of subject and provide guidance throughout the research process. The completed dissertation of not more than 15,000 words must be submitted by the end of August.
Class Hour: At times to be arranged with the supervisor.
Teaching: Individual Supervision.
Assessment: Dissertation = 100%

MO5308 Approaches to Historical Theory
Credits: 40.0 Semester: 1
Programme(s): Compulsory module for Modern Historiography Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Optional module for Environmental History Postgraduate Taught Programmes.
Description: This introductory module asks questions about the degree to which, and the ways in which, history may be considered a theoretical subject. The module will be organised around the problems posed by the nature and limits of historical knowledge; the shaping of the past by historians; the validity of historical explanations; and competing styles of method deployed by historians over the past two centuries. No philosophical background is required.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Fortnightly tutorial and other teaching as appropriate.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%
MO5402 The Soviet Union, 1917-1991
Credits: 40.0 Semester: 1
Programme(s): Optional module for Central & East European Studies and Modern Historiography, Postgraduate Taught Programmes.
Description: The emergence and development of the Soviet Union is traced from the Bolshevik Revolution of October 1917, via the period of Stalin’s dictatorship and the leaderships of Khrushchev and Brezhnev, up to the end of the Gorbachev era which culminated in the dissolution of the Union in 1991. The course studies interlinked political, ideological, social, economic and cultural themes. The role of the Soviet Union on the international stage is also examined.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Fortnightly tutorial and other teaching as appropriate.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

MO5503 Central and Eastern Europe since 1945
Credits: 40.0 Semester: 2
Programme(s): Optional module for Central & East European Studies and Modern Historiography Postgraduate Taught Programmes.
Description: The collapse of the Soviet sphere of influence in Eastern Europe during 1989, and the subsequent disintegration of the USSR itself, have been among the most dramatic developments of recent years. The pattern of Soviet domination of this region is traced from the end of the Second World War through an examination of both the common and individual responses to this in the nations concerned. Countries studied include former East Germany, Poland, former Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria and former Yugoslavia. Developments after 1989 are also examined.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Fortnightly tutorial and other teaching as appropriate.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

MO5601 History in the Making: Theories, Approaches and Practice
Credits: 40.0 Semester: Whole Year
Programme(s): Compulsory module for Environmental History, Middle Eastern History, Modern History (as long as MO5801 is not yet available) and Modern Historiography Postgraduate Taught Programmes.
MO5601 or MO5801 is a compulsory module for Historical Research and Modern History Postgraduate Taught Programmes.
Description: The module brings together material from a range of historical approaches in order to provide an interdisciplinary module that will function as a satisfactory introduction to history and historiography for students interested in all branches of historical study. Its combination of substantive and historiographical material enables the module to be used as a free-standing guide for those humanities students who are not based in History but who wish to take an elective module in the subject.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Two hour fortnightly seminars.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%
MO5602 Directed Reading in Modern History

Credits: 40.0  Semester: Either  Programme(s): Optional module for Central & East European Studies, Environmental History, Historical Research, Modern Historiography, Modern History and Reformation Studies Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

Description: This module offers a directed reading project designed to encourage the development of skills of historical analysis through concentrated study of a topic chosen by the student. The project offers the student the opportunity to develop skills of research, analysis and presentation prior to the dissertation. As such, it will serve as a useful transition between the more structured teaching which characterises undergraduate work and the independence of postgraduate dissertations. The project will generally take the form of a bibliographical essay or primary research on a narrowly defined topic, but the guidelines are sufficiently flexible to accommodate new developments in learning and information dissemination.

Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Fortnightly tutorials.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

MO5603 Themes and Debates on War and Modern History

Credits: 40.0  Semester: 2  Programme(s): Optional module for Environmental History, Historical Research, Modern Historiography, and Modern History Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

Description: This module explores the impact of war on modern history and the ways in which historians have studied it. Using thematically-related case-studies which range across several centuries of European history, the course will introduce students to a wide range of historiographical approaches and debates. The structure of the course is also intended to unsettle perceptions which confine ‘modern’ phenomena to the 19th and 20th centuries and to challenge historiographical distinctions between ‘military’, ‘cultural’ and ‘political’ history.

Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Two hour seminars
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

MO5604 Key Issues in German Historiography

Credits: 40.0  Semester: 2  Programme(s): Optional module for Environmental History, Historical Research, Modern Historiography, Modern History Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

Description: This module is designed to engage with some of the most hotly disputed issues in German history. By focusing on three aspects central to our understanding of the development of modern Germany, students will have an opportunity to tackle some of the most sophisticated and influential writings on German history. Through the study of these controversies students will not only gain an insight into three pivotal concepts in German history but will also be exposed to most major strands in German historiography. While the ability to read German would be an advantage, it is by no means a prerequisite for this module.

Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Two hour seminars
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

MO5605 Themes in American History

Credits: 40.0  Semester: 2  Programme(s): Optional module for Environmental History, Historical Research, Modern Historiography, and Modern History Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

Description: This module will enable postgraduate students to tackle at a conceptually advanced level a selection of the most important issues in the history of North America, from its foundations as European colonies onwards. The module will expose students to several key debates in American historiography by focusing on a series of issues that have especially preoccupied scholars in the field.

Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Two hour seminars
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%
MO5606 Perceptions of Central and Eastern Europe

Credits: 40.0 Semester: 2

Programme(s): Optional module for Environmental History, Historical Research, Modern Historiography, and Modern History Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

Description: Perceptions of Central and Eastern Europe are as diverse as the ethnic and cultural characteristics of the region itself, and have undergone significant transformation since the emergence of modern nationalism in the mid-nineteenth century. As the Mitteleuropa of German imperial aspirations gave way to the successor states of the Versailles settlement, then to Soviet-dominated Eastern Europe in a polarised Cold War continent, and, most recently, to the post-Communist “return to Europe”, the correspondingly evolving views from the periphery, from Germany and Russian, and from within the region itself offer a rich and challenging subject for advanced historical study.

Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Two hour seminars
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

MO5607 The 1960s: an International Perspective

Credits: 40.0 Semester: 2

Programme(s): Optional module for Historical Research, Modern Historiography, and Modern History Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

Description: This module is designed to give students a perspective on a controversial decade which is strikingly different from the conventional ‘sex, drugs and rock and roll’ approach. In addition to the usual topics of youth culture, protest, et cetera, it will concentrate on issues not specific to the United States such as decolonisation, nuclear proliferation, the space race, and environmentalism.

Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Two hour seminars
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

MO5608 Themes and Debates in Modern French History

Credits: 40.0 Semester: 2

Programme(s): Optional module for Historical Research, Modern Historiography, and Modern History Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

Description: This module explores key themes in French history and introduces students to some important historiographical and methodological issues. The module is intended to combine study of key individual topics such as the ancien regime, the republic and French colonialism with some more conceptual notions relating to history and memory; key formative influences on developments in French history, and the changing methodological, intellectual and ideological approaches adopted by French historians. The seminars place an emphasis on the evolution of historical writing about France, by both non-French and French historians, and where possible will allow students to read key texts in the original French.

Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Two hour seminars
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%
MO5609 Directed Reading in Modern History 2

Credits: 40.0  Semester: 2
Programme(s): Optional module for Central & East European Studies, Environmental History, Historical Research, Modern Historiography, Modern History and Reformation Studies Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

Description: This module offers a directed reading project designed to encourage the development of skills of historical analysis through concentrated study of a topic chosen by the student. The project offers the student the opportunity to develop skills of research, analysis and presentation prior to the dissertation. As such, it will serve as a useful transition between the more structured teaching which characterises undergraduate work and the independence of postgraduate dissertations. The project will generally take the form of a bibliographical essay or primary research on a narrowly defined topic, but the guidelines are sufficiently flexible to accommodate new developments in learning and information dissemination.

Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Two hour seminars
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

MO5801 Hallmarks of Modern History

Credits: 40.0  Semester: Whole Year
Availability: 2007-08
Programme(s): MO5601 or MO5801 is a compulsory module for Historical Research and Modern History Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

Description: This module examines themes in the emergence of the Western world during the centuries following the Reformation, and explores whether the concepts of modernity and modernization have historical and intellectual validity. The focus is on a number of "hallmarks" that purportedly define "Modern History" as qualitatively different from earlier ages. By tackling key issues as diverse as the emergence of the modern state, the alleged decline of religion, the nature and role of revolutions or the construction of gender roles, the course invites students to engage critically with fundamental and deep-rooted historical problems such as continuity, the normative use of concepts ("modernity"), teleology or progress. Participants in this course will be introduced to the historiography of central issues in Modern History through the study of a selected number of key texts and will also have an opportunity to employ and re-evaluate their own historical knowledge by applying it to different concepts, arguments and perspectives.

Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Two hour seminars
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

MO5905 Politics, Literature and the Reformation: Sir Thomas More

Credits: 40.0  Semester: Whole Year
Programme(s): Optional module for Reformation Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: This module will investigate the life, writings and career of Sir Thomas More. Particular attention will be paid to More’s role as a European humanist, King’s councillor and politician and leading participant in the anti-Lutheran campaign of the early Reformation. The sources for his career and biography (including the early ‘Lives’ of Roper, Harpsfield and Stapleton, and More’s own letters) will be subjected to particular scrutiny: many of the so-called ‘primary sources’ were rhetorically contrived or manipulated shortly after his death, or even in his later lifetime, by those who believed that his execution by Henry VIII would bring him and the cause for which he died an inextinguishable fame and reputation. This is overwhelmingly a source-based course.

Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Two hour seminar weekly plus occasional tutorials.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%
MO5935 Charles Darwin and the Politics of Progress in the Natural World

Credits: 40.0  Semester: Whole Year
Programme(s): Optional Module for Environmental History Postgraduate Taught Programme
Description: The nineteenth century was the self-proclaimed age of progress. Consequently, it was an age obsessed with time, an age obsessed with origins. And just as human experience – human perfectibility – had become historicised, so too had nature. Natural history had become the history of nature. Drawing upon the rich primary and secondary sources generated by the ‘Darwin industry’, this course examines progressive developmentalism and evolutionary theories in the nineteenth century. Specifically, it considers the religious, political and social implications of a belief in a constantly changing world, governed by natural laws.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Fortnightly tutorial and other teaching as appropriate.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

SC5051 People and Identities in Scotland

Credits: 40.0  Semester: Whole Year
Programme(s): Compulsory module for Scottish Historical Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Description: Until recently, Scottish history was conceived and written almost exclusively as the history of the ‘nation’ and ideas of ‘nationhood’ and ‘national identity’ were the main categories used to define the scope and limits of the subject. However, modern scholarship has questioned and in many cases discarded the conceptual framework of nationhood as either unduly restrictive or anachronistic or both. In its place there has developed a more sophisticated understanding of the complex nature and development of the people – or peoples – who call themselves Scots and of their multiple and often conflicting identities. The purpose of this module is to explore these identities as they developed over time in the broader context of British, imperial and global history. By focusing on specific phases and episodes in Scottish history, students will be made aware of the inadequacy of the discourse of ‘nationhood’ when applied to pre-modern times and alerted instead to the significance of other forms of collective identity, whether based on geography, ethnicity, religion, class or gender, and of the Scots’ historically varied and often ambivalent understanding of who and what they were.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Fortnightly tutorial
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

SC5052 Directed Reading in Scottish History

Credits: 40.0  Semester: 1
Programme(s): Compulsory module for Scottish Historical Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Description: A directed reading project designed to encourage the development of skills of historical analysis through concentrated study of a topic chosen by the student. The project offers the student the opportunity to develop skills of research, analysis and presentation prior to the dissertation. As such, it will serve as a useful transition between the more structured teaching which characterises undergraduate work and the independence of postgraduate dissertations. The project will generally take the form of a bibliographical essay or primary research on a narrowly defined topic, but the guidelines are sufficiently flexible to accommodate new developments in learning and information dissemination.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Fortnightly tutorial
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

SC5099 Dissertation for M.Litt. Programme/s

Credits: 60.0
Prerequisite: An average grade of at least 14 in course work.
Programme(s): Compulsory module for Scottish Historical Studies M.Litt. Postgraduate Programmes.
Description: Student dissertations will be supervised by members of the teaching staff who will advise on the choice of subject and provide guidance throughout the research process. The completed dissertation of not more than 15,000 words must be submitted by the end of August.
Class Hour: At times to be arranged with the supervisor
Teaching: Individual Supervision
Assessment: Dissertation = 100%