



Programme Specification (PG)

Awarding body / institution:	Queen Mary University of London
Teaching institution:	Queen Mary University of London
Name of final award and title:	MA History
Name of interim award(s):	
Duration of study / period of registration:	1 academic year (full time) or 2 academic years (part time)
Queen Mary programme code(s):	V1Q5 V1Q6
QAA Benchmark Group:	
FHEQ Level of Award:	Level 7
Programme accredited by:	Queen Mary University of London
Date Programme Specification approved:	
Responsible School / Institute:	School of History

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

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Collaborative institution(s) / organisation(s) involved in delivering the programme:

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Programme outline

Designed by students, for students, this innovative programme will give you the opportunity to specialise in your chosen field, working alongside our world-class expert historians. You will be trained in the latest research methods. And alongside this, you will gain invaluable employability skills and workplace experience through our unique internship programme.

Key features of the MA include:

- Intensive training in research skills and the use of historiography, and practical experience of an advanced historical research project that equips you for Masters' level research;
- The opportunity to specialise in one of several key subject streams in which you will 'Master the field' and write a dissertation under the guidance of world-leading expert academics;
- A unique internship option, which will give invaluable 'real-world' experience and transferable employability skills, through a placement with one of our public history/heritage partners;
- A guaranteed place on the MA for any student who attains a 2.1 at UG level on a QMUL single or joint History UG degree programme and who wishes to continue;
- Completion of all MA components, including the dissertation by early summer, facilitating entry into the job market.

Aims of the programme

This MA will give students a distinctive, high-level programme of post-graduate study in History. They will gain a combination of advanced research skills training; in-depth historiographical knowledge relating to their chosen field of specialisation (from a choice of several 'streams'); and the opportunity to write a dissertation under the guidance of one of our expert academics. Alongside this, students will be given employability skills and experience, including a public heritage work placement, through a unique internship module.

In this way, the programme will be uniquely capable of catering to both those students for whom the MA will be their final engagement with higher education, and those who wish to continue further into doctoral study.

The MA will give students an intellectually coherent and rigorous course of study, which gives them a mixture of advanced methodological and historiographical skills. This will include:

- An in-depth understanding of the main themes and approaches to a distinct field of history, chosen from a number of 'streams' in which the School can offer world-class academic expertise
- The opportunity to develop critical, inter-disciplinary, cross-cultural and comparative approaches and perspectives
- The opportunity to study subjects enhanced international awareness and understanding, as well as cross-cultural engagement.
- The ability to engage in extended, advanced forms of research -- both for an advanced research project and for a dissertation
- Training in a number of skills with direct relevance to the work-place, as well as an opportunity to gain experience through placement on our internship programme

What will you be expected to achieve?

Students who complete the MA will have:

- Shown a grasp of key methodological skills and historical approaches (HST7900, History: Methods, Approaches, Challenges)
- Demonstrated mastery of a specific field of history (HST7901, Mastering the Field)
- Been trained in advanced research skills and had an opportunity to demonstrate their competence in those skills by completing an advanced research project (HST7902, History Advanced Research Project)
- Completed an independent research dissertation (HST7621)
- Completed a placement in the public history/public heritage sector, which has equipped them with employability skills (HST7903, History Internship)

Academic Content:

A 1	Understanding and ability to apply advanced methodological skills and historical approaches
A 2	Specialised knowledge of a distinct historical field, and the ability to deploy that knowledge in the service of a independent research project
A 3	An awareness of how different historical and inter-disciplinary perspectives can enrich understanding, and an ability to apply such insights where appropriate

Disciplinary Skills - able to:

B 1	Analyse a historical research problem/question and construct an appropriate research agenda
B 2	Analyse and synthesise historiographical debates in a particular field
B 3	Analyse primary source material to an advanced level, and deploy these skills in the research and writing of an independent dissertation that makes a contribution to historical understanding

B 4	Evaluate the use of different methodologies/approaches and their applicability to different types of research task
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Attributes:	
C 1	Possession of advanced research skills and an ability to operate as an independent researcher
C 2	Ability to select and dissect a range of source materials, as part of a research project
C 3	Possession of employability skills and practical experience of the workplace
C 4	Mastery of a distinct historiographical field and an understanding of its wider historical context
C 5	Ability to approach contemporary debates through the lens of historical study

How will you learn?

Teaching will be provided through a mixture of seminars, lectures, workshops and one-on-one supervision, delivered by senior members of the School of History with established and specialist research expertise.

Study materials will be provided online via QMplus (with hard copies available where these are required to ensure student accessibility). Students will be encouraged to reflect on theoretical approaches and interpretative procedures; substantive historiographical debates; and the role of the historian as a researcher. Students will be expected to engage in private study in preparation for class-room teaching, and in the production of coursework, the advanced historical research and the dissertation. Each module will be supported by a detailed reading list, a substantial part of which will be available online via QMplus and other material locatable online.

The Core module, "History: Methods, Approaches, Challenges", will be co-convened and include guest lecturers according to specialism.

The design of the History Internship module with its external placement is based on an undergraduate module that has run successfully for several years. It will be run by a team with experience of that module, who will provide training and oversight for the internships, liaising with partner organisations, and providing all necessary support to students.

Mastering the Field will be delivered through a number of streams. The precise number of these may vary according to student interest and the evolving expertise within the department. In the first year we will offer 8, including: Global Britain; Global History and Decolonisation; Modern America; Modern Europe; Medieval Europe; The Medieval Islamic World; Material and Visual Culture; and History of Emotions, Medicine and Science. Before beginning the module, students will select which stream in which they want to specialise -- this should be broadly related to their dissertations, as it will give them key grounding in a broad subject matter, from which to pursue independent research. Each stream will be led by a subject specialist and will be co-convened with other experts in that field.

The dissertation supervisor will be allocated in the light of the student's outline topic proposal, which is formulated by the student during the Spring Semester in consultation with the leader of their 'Mastering the Field' stream. The supervisor will have expertise in the area of the student's proposed topic, and will help the student refine and develop his or her plans. Supervision may include discussion of methodology, research resources, the scope of appropriate reading, the conduct and structure of the argument, the quality of submitted drafts and bibliographical procedures. Supervision will be provided in an initial, individual planning meeting, followed by a minimum of three supervision meetings.

Each student will be allocated an independent academic adviser, at the beginning of the year who advises on personal, practical and academic issues, including written work, goals and progress, and the dissertation topic proposal.

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The student will have access to a range of learning resources, both online and physical, including the resources of the QMUL Library, the University of London Senate House Library, the Institute for Historical Research, the British Library, as well as other specialist London libraries and archives introduced through the research methods course. Students have access to the holdings of all other London college libraries.

We also place a strong emphasis on building an intellectual community for our MA students and integrating them into the vigorous research culture of the School students will be able to participate in the School's Graduate Seminar, and in events organized by the Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences (IHSS).

How will you be assessed?

All MA History modules are assessed using a range of assessment methods, which correlate to the learning outcomes of each module. These assessment methods include Essay, Presentation, Book Review, Archive Review, Oral Examination, and Reflective Report. Module convenors will provide guidance on, and offer support with, assessment. Students will be encouraged to formulate their own essay questions, presentation topics, etc. in consultation with their module convenor. The 12000 word dissertation will be supervised by an academic member of staff normally selected by the student, subject to staff availability, in agreement with the programme organiser. Students will be able to formulate their own dissertation topics in consultation with the supervisor and programme organiser. Feedback on all coursework will be provided in writing, with an opportunity for a one-to-one follow-up meeting, within three weeks of submission.

How is the programme structured?

Please specify the structure of the programme diets for all variants of the programme (e.g. full-time, part-time - if applicable). The description should be sufficiently detailed to fully define the structure of the diet.

This is a one-year degree for full-time students, and two years for part-time study. The MA will run from September to June. All students will take 180 credits.

Full-time students will take the following compulsory modules:

HST7900 History: Methods, Approaches, Challenges (40 credits), Semesters 1 & 2
HST7901 Mastering the Field (40 credits), Semesters 1 & 2
HST7902 History Advanced Research Project (20 credits), Semester 1
HST7903 History Internship (20 credits), Semester 2
HST7621 Dissertation (60 credits), Semester 3

Part-time students will take the following compulsory modules:

YEAR ONE

HST7900 History: Methods, Approaches, Challenges (40 credits), Semesters 1 & 2
HST7902 History Advanced Research Project (20 credits), Semester 1
HST7903 History Internship (20 credits), Semester 2

YEAR TWO

HST7901 Mastering the Field (40 credits), Semesters 1 & 2
HST7621 Dissertation (60 credits), Semester 3

Academic Year of Study FT - Year 1

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
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Programme Title: MA History

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
History: Methods, Approaches, Challenges	HST7900	40	7	Core	1	Semesters 1 & 2
Mastering the Field	HST7901	40	7	Core	1	Semesters 1 & 2
History Advanced Research Project	HST7902	20	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 1
History Internship	HST7903	20	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 2
Dissertation	HST7621	60	7	Core	1	Semester 3

Academic Year of Study PT - Year 1

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
History: Methods, Approaches, Challenges	HST7900	40	7	Core	1	Semesters 1 & 2
History Advanced Research Project	HST7902	20	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 1
History Internship	HST7903	20	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 2

Academic Year of Study PT - Year 2

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Mastering the Field	HST7901	40	7	Core	2	Semesters 1 & 2
Dissertation	HST7621	60	7	Core	2	Semester 3

What are the entry requirements?

At least an upper second class honours degree in History or another relevant Humanities-related subject. A recognised equivalent from an accredited overseas institution or an equivalent professional qualification is also accepted. The language requirement for students whose first language is not English is a 7.0 IELTS score or equivalent overall, including 6.5 in writing and 5.5 in reading, listening and speaking.

How will the quality of the programme be managed and enhanced? How do we listen to and act on your feedback?

The co-Directors of Education within the School of History will direct the new MA programme during its first year of operation and will report on its progress to both Education Committee and Management Committee.

The deputy Director of Education will continue to act as the key point of contact for student representatives, both through the School's SSLC and ad hoc representations (the School has an established and regular process by which students can bring forward any issues they wish to discuss).

What academic support is available?

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

Programme-specific rules and facts

N/A

How inclusive is the programme for all students, including those with disabilities?

The modules of this programme will as far as possible rely on material that can be accessed online and off-campus, but in those cases where only physical copies of books exist, for background reading for instance, multiple copies will be made available in the QMUL library. All weekly seminar readings will be made available online, via the module QMplus-page, as will lecture notes and PowerPoint slides well in advance of the seminars. Furthermore, seminar readings can be supplied as print-outs for students upon request. Due allowance will be made for students to record seminars, if necessary, and seminar discussions and classroom arrangement will furthermore take into account any special requirements. Where longer time is required for students to prepare or to make presentations, this will also be taken into consideration. The module QMplus-page will contain clear learning-outcomes as per the standard policy of the School of History.

Links with employers, placement opportunities and transferable skills

The History Internship module gives students the opportunity to complete an internship placement with one of our local partners in the museum, public history, archival, or education sectors. These partnerships have been developed over time by a specialist member of the School (Dr. Trenery). Current partners include:

- Burgh House and Hampstead Museum, New End Square, London, NW3 1LT, <http://www.burghhouse.org.uk/home>
- The Drapers' Company, Drapers' Hall, Throgmorton Avenue, London EC2N 2DQ, <http://www.thedrapers.co.uk/>

- Headstone Manor and Museum, Headstone Recreation Ground, Pinner View, Harrow, HA2 6PX, <http://headstonemanor.org/>
- The House Mill, The Miller's House, Three Mill Lane, London, E3 3DU, <https://housemill.org.uk/>
- The Institute of Historical Research Library, Senate House, Malet Street, London, WC1E 7HU, <https://www.history.ac.uk/library>
- Lambeth Archives, Minet Library, 52 Knatchbull Road, London, SE5 9QY, <https://www.lambeth.gov.uk/places/lambeth-archives>
- The London Canal Museum, N1 9RT, <http://www.canalmuseum.org.uk/>
- The Museum of Croydon, Croydon Clocktower, Katharine Street, Croydon, CR9 1ET, <http://www.museumofcroydon.com/>
- Museum of Wimbledon, 22 Ridgway, Wimbledon, London, SW19 4QN, <http://www.wimbledonmuseum.org.uk/>
- Newham Archives and Local Studies Library, 3 The Grove, Stratford, London, E15 1EL, <https://www.newham.gov.uk/Pages/Services/Local-history-and-archives.aspx>
- Redbridge Museum and Heritage Centre, Redbridge Central Library, Clements Road, Ilford IG1 1EA, <https://www.redbridge.gov.uk/leisure-sport-and-the-arts/redbridge-museum>
- Richmond upon Thames Local Studies Library and Archive, Old Town Hall, Whittaker Avenue, Richmond, England. TW9 1TP, <http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/details/a/A13530113>
- Royal College of Physicians, 11 St Andrews Place, Regent's Park, London, NW1 4LE, <https://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/>
- Royal London Hospital Archives and Museum. Museum: St Augustine with St Philip's Church, Newark St, Whitechapel, London E1 2AA; Archives: 9 Prescott Street, London, E1 8PR, <https://www.bartshealth.nhs.uk/the-royal-london-hospital-museum-and-archives>
- Tower Hamlets Local History Library and Archives, 277 Bancroft Road, E1 4DQ, <http://www.ideastore.co.uk/local-history>
- Valence House, Becontree Avenue, Dagenham, RM8 3HT, <https://www.lbld.gov.uk/valence-house>

Programme Specification Approval

Person completing Programme Specification:

Dr Jo Cohen

Person responsible for management of programme:

Dr Jo Cohen

Date Programme Specification produced / amended by School / Institute Education Committee:

25 Feb 2025

Date Programme Specification approved by Taught Programmes Board: