

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Name, title and level of final qualification(s)	Grad Cert History (Level 6)
Name and title of any exit qualification(s)	N/A
Awarding Body	University of London
Teaching Institution(s)	Birkbeck, University of London
Home School/other teaching departments	School of Historical Studies
Location of delivery	Central London
Language of delivery and assessment	English
Mode of study, length of study and normal start month	Part-time (1 year) September
Professional, statutory or regulatory body	N/A
QAA subject benchmark group(s) Higher Education Credit Framework for England	N/A
Birkbeck Course Code	GCGHISTO_C
HECoS Code	100302 history
Start date of programme	Autumn 2008
Date of programme approval	Summer 2008
Date of last programme amendment approval	July 2013
Valid for academic entry year	2023-24
Programme Director	TBC
Date of last revision to document	01/07/2013

Admissions requirements

The programme is open to students who have a first degree (BA/BSc).

We welcome applicants without traditional entry qualifications as we base decisions on our own assessment of qualifications, knowledge and previous work experience. We may waive formal entry requirements based on judgement of academic potential.

Course aims

This programme provides an interim level of study between BA and MA level. It is available as a stand-alone degree, but is particularly suitable for those wishing to progress to MA study who do not however come from a humanities/social sciences background.

Course structure

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Comp Core/ Option	Likely teaching term(s)
Part-time – 1 year					
6	FFHI318S6	Foundations of History	30	Core	T1
6	FFHI299S6	Dissertation OR any level 6 module offered in the subject area of History, Classics and Archaeology	30	Option	T3 T 2 or 3
Indicative options (these may vary each year)					
6	SSHC393S6	The Colonial Gaze: Western Perceptions of Asia Africa and the Middle East 1600-1960	30	Option	T2
6	SSHC350S6	Crime Poverty and Protest in England and Beyond 1500-1800	30	Option	T2
6	SSHC245S6	Body Politics: Health Illness and Death in Britain	30	Option	T2
6	SSHC566S6	Ruins: The Creation of the Past	30	Option	T2

Core: Module must be taken and passed by student

Compulsory: Module must be taken but can be considered for compensated credit (see CAS regulations paragraph 24)

Option: Student can choose to take this module

How you will learn

Your learning and teaching is organised to help you meet the learning outcomes (below) of the course. As a student, we expect you to be an active learner and to take responsibility for your learning, engaging with all of the material and sessions arranged for you.

Each course is divided into modules. You will find information on the virtual learning site (Moodle, see Academic Support below) about each of your modules, what to expect, the work you need to prepare, links to reading lists, information about how and when you will be assessed.

Your learning for this course will be organised around lectures and seminars.

How we will assess you

The course will use a variety of assessment methods. Assessment is used to enhance your learning rather than simply to test it. For most of the modules associated with this course, your assessment will be via written coursework and examinations.

Learning outcomes (what you can expect to achieve)

'Learning outcomes' indicate what you should be able to know or do at the end of your course. Providing them helps you to understand what your teachers will expect and also the learning requirements upon which you will be assessed.

At the end of this course, you should be able to:

Subject Specific:

1. demonstrate an awareness of contemporary historical practice
2. demonstrate an understanding of the methodologies used in the analysis and interpretation of historical documents and other forms of source material where appropriate
3. use historical sources to form interpretations about past societies
4. understand core debates within specific subject fields

Intellectual

5. demonstrate the ability to carry out effective and critical evaluations of information, data and interpretations
6. use critical reasoning
7. demonstrate the development of analytical skills
8. the ability to synthesise different types and quantities of data and information
9. the ability to tackle complex problems and select the appropriate evidence to solve them

Practical:

10. improved level of IT skills and computer literacy through experiences with word processing and internet, and where appropriate with databases and spreadsheets
11. ability to collate, compare and analyse substantial quantities of data
12. carry out documentary-based research
13. present findings both orally and in writing

Personal and Social:

14. work successfully in teams
15. work successfully on an independent basis
16. develop presentation skills
17. develop organisational skills
18. master time-management

Careers and further study

Graduates in history can pursue career paths in education, research and journalism. Possible professions include:

- heritage manager
- museum/gallery curator
- higher education lecturer
- archivist.

Birkbeck offers a range of careers support to its students. You can find out more on [the careers pages of our website](#).

Academic regulations and course management

Birkbeck's academic regulations are contained in its [Common Award Scheme Regulations](#) and Policies published by year of application on the Birkbeck website.

You will have access to a course handbook on Moodle and this will outline how your course is managed, including who to contact if you have any questions about your module or course.

Support for your study

Your learning at Birkbeck is supported by your teaching team and other resources and people in the College there to help you with your study. Birkbeck uses a virtual learning environment called Moodle and each course has a dedicated Moodle page and there are further Moodle sites for each of your modules. This will include your course handbook.

Birkbeck will introduce you to the Library and IT support, how to access materials online, including using Moodle, and provide you with an orientation which includes an online Moodle module to guide you through all of the support available. You will also be allocated a personal tutor and provided with information about learning support offered within your School and by the College.

[Please check our website for more information about student support services.](#) This covers the whole of your time as a student with us including learning support and support for your wellbeing.

Quality and standards at Birkbeck

Birkbeck's courses are subject to our quality assurance procedures. This means that new courses must follow our design principles and meet the requirements of our academic regulations. Each new course or module is subject to a course approval process where the proposal is scrutinised by subject specialists, quality professionals and external representatives to ensure that it will offer an excellent student experience and meet the expectation of regulatory and other professional bodies.

You will be invited to participate in an online survey for each module you take. We take these surveys seriously and they are considered by the course team to develop both modules and the overall courses. Please take the time to complete any surveys you are sent as a student.

We conduct an annual process of reviewing our portfolio of courses which analyses student achievement, equality data and includes an action plan for each department to identify ongoing enhancements to our education, including changes made as a result of student feedback.

Our periodic review process is a regular check (usually every four years) on the courses by department with a specialist team including students.

Each course will have an external examiner associated with it who produces an annual report and any recommendations. Students can read the most recent external examiner reports on the course Moodle pages. Our courses are all subject to Birkbeck Baseline Standards for our Moodle module information. This supports the accessibility of our education including expectations of what information is provided online for students.

The information in this programme specification has been approved by the College's Academic Board and every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information it contains.

Programme specifications are reviewed periodically. If any changes are made to courses, including core and/or compulsory modules, the relevant department is required to provide a revised programme specification. Students will be notified of any changes via Moodle.

[Further information](#) about specifications and an archive of programme specifications for the College's courses is available online.

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