

UCD School of History

Syllabus 2018/19

Semester Dates

Monday 10 September 2018 – Friday 30 November 2018

Monday 21 January 2019 – Friday 8 March 2019

Monday 25 March 2019 – Friday 26 April 2019

Level 1:

Core module:

Creating History (HIS 10390) Assoc Prof Michael Staunton

This is a module about the importance of critical thinking to the study and the writing of history. It will examine the relationship between what happened (or what might have happened) in the past and how we think about it now. We will attempt to look behind the scenes of the history books, articles, documents, films and other sources that you will encounter during the course of your studies and ask how history is written and debated. Also, we will ask what history is, what an historian is and what exactly do they do?

Option modules

Semester 1

The Making of Modern Europe, 1500-2000 (HIS 10070) Assoc Prof William Mulligan and Professor Sandy Wilkinson

This module offers a sweeping introduction to some of the momentous changes which have taken place in Europe over the past five hundred years. It explores some of the major landmarks in Europe's social, political, and economic development: the development of European Empires, religious change, witchcraft, the industrial revolution, democratic change, war in the modern world, the Cold War and socio-cultural change since 1945. There will be one lecture every week which will introduce students to these themes, but the heart of the course lies in the seminars. Here, students will be encouraged to challenge interpretations of the past, to debate ideas and to draw on primary evidence.

Ireland's English Centuries (HIS 10310) Professor John McCafferty and Assoc. Professor Ivar McGrath
In 1460 Ireland was a patchwork of lordships including an English Pale, by 1800 the country was poised to enter a United Kingdom with England and Scotland. In 1460, all Irish people shared the common religion of Western Europe, by 1800 three groups – Catholics, Protestants and Dissenters dominated. In 1460, only a tiny number did not speak Irish, by 1800 English was spoken by well over half the population. During these 340 years Ireland experienced massive transfers of land-holding, invasions, bitter civil war and a huge expansion of population. This module explains the complex blend of identities, allegiances and social changes that shaped the past and continue to shape the Irish present.

Semester 2:

Rome to Renaissance (HIS 10080) Dr Roy Flechner and Assoc. Professor Michael Staunton

This module provides an introduction to European history during the middle ages, from the fall of Rome in the fifth century to the Renaissance of the later fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. The middle ages, once dismissed as a time of stagnation and superstition, is now regarded as an exciting period of ferment, innovation and creativity. The social, political and cultural foundations of modern Europe were established in the middle ages, and the modern era cannot be understood without an awareness of this formative millennium. But equally, the study of the middle ages often means encountering the strange and unfamiliar, and this too is an essential part of being a historian. This course will study the period by focusing on a range of significant events which illustrate some of the most important developments of the period. These include the sack of Rome by barbarians, the influence of the Irish on the conversion of Europe to Christianity, the trial of Joan of Arc, and Columbus's 'discovery' of America. By the end of the semester not only will you have a grounding in medieval history, society and civilisation, but you will have

experience of dealing directly with historical evidence, and evaluating and interpreting it in order to reach conclusions about events and people from the past.

From Union to Bailout: Imagining Ireland, 1800-the present (HIS 10320) Professor Diarmaid Ferriter and Dr Susannah Riordan

This course takes students through two centuries of modern Irish history, examining key events, themes and milestones from the Act of Union between Britain and Ireland in 1800 to the collapse of the Irish economy in the early twenty-first century. It covers political, social, economic and cultural dimensions of Irish history during tumultuous times, the experience of Anglo-Irish relations, Catholic emancipation, famine, the evolution of Irish nationalism and unionism, the land war, the revolutionary upheavals of the early twentieth century, the impact of partition, the quest for sovereignty in the Free State, the experience of life in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, and continuity and change in the latter part of the twentieth century.

Semesters 1 and 2

War: Ancient and Modern (DSCY 10050) Professor Robert Gerwarth

War is as old as mankind, but it has changed its character over the centuries. This module will introduce students to the changing character of war from ancient times to the present, highlighting the latest research results on a large variety of conflicts and themes: wars, piracy and civil wars in the ancient world, the Viking conquests in Europe, the Crusades, the Wars of Religion, the Napoleonic Wars of the 19th century and the American Civil War to the total wars of the 20th century. The module takes an interdisciplinary perspective on war, combining insights from history, classics, politics, medicine and sociology. Together, faculty from these diverse disciplines will introduce some of the latest cutting edge research on violence and gender, medical responses to the outbreaks of war and the 'new wars' on terror in today's Middle East.

Level 2

Core Module

History Today (HIS 21140) Associate Professor Paul Rouse

This is a module that explores the place of history in society. Drawing from podcasts and blogs and news websites as well as from academic histories, it looks at how historians work and how this work fits into the modern world. Historians have adopted a variety of different approaches to their studies and have often disagreed about the causes, meaning and implications of certain historical events. For some, ideas about the past have been shaped by political beliefs, by the application of political ideologies and philosophies, popular culture and by the desire to produce a more inclusive version of history, focusing on the experience of the working classes, women, racial minorities and other groups marginalised in established accounts. This module examines how the writing of history has evolved over time and also assesses how states, nations and institutions use history for their own end. It asks how history is used, and is consumed, by the public. It asks, also, what informs people's attitude to the past? Is it shaped by

the history of historians? How and why do we remember the past? When and why do we invoke history? If historical memory evolves, what forces tend to influence it? Ultimately, what is the function of history and historians in wider society today?

Option Modules

Semester 1

Islam and Christianity (HIS 20460): Assoc. Professor Elva Johnston

The first part of this module will examine how Muhammad's revolutionary new message gave rise to a vibrant culture that changed the east and west forever. Who was Mohammad and what was his message? Why was Islam so successful? How did it transform the ancient world? It will then go on to assess the expansion of Islam and its impact on the early middle ages up to c.750 CE.

The second part of the module will consider the continuation of the Arab conquests in the Mediterranean and southern Europe between the 8th and 10th centuries CE and the Christian recovery of territory in the 11th century, beginning with the Berber landings in southern Spain in 711 and ending with the construction of the cathedral of Pisa in 1064. Throughout the module relations between the two faith communities will be studied through texts. Students will have the opportunity to read a selection of primary sources including key religious works such as the Qur'an, Arab and Christian narrative histories of the period, legal and constitutional texts, literature, letters and epigraphy.

The French Revolution (HIS 20670) Dr David Kerr

This module will begin by examining the intellectual, cultural, social and political origins of the revolution. The core of the module will be a narrative of the revolution from 1789 to the fall of Robespierre and the end of the Terror. In the course of the narrative, the revolution's varied contributions to the development of modern political culture will be discussed, from liberalism through revolutionary war and nationalism to political violence and the Utopian reign of Virtue. Seminars will be constructed around readings of contemporary documents and secondary literature.

Nazi Germany (HIS 20820) Dr Mark Jones

The course provides an overview over some of the most important aspects of Nazi Germany – covering political, cultural, social and military history. The module provides insights into one of the darkest, most disturbing and most formative periods of modern European history. The module aims to pay particular attention to different and conflicting interpretations of how the Third Reich came into being and why Hitler's dictatorship proved to be one of the most murderous in history. Particular attention will be paid to racial thinking, the Holocaust and the question of European collaboration with the Nazis. The module aims to improve the students' capacity to engage with historical interpretations and different methodological approaches.

Australia: From the Dreaming to Today (HIS 21070) Professor Amanda Nettelbeck, Keith Cameron
Professor of Australian History

This module surveys the history of the Australian continent and its people from the beginnings of Aboriginal colonization, some 50,000 years ago, to the present day. Themes that will be considered include: the nature of Aboriginal society; early European exploration and colonisation; frontier conflict; economic and political developments in the settler colonies, nation-building and changing identities; and the experiences of war, migration, and the shift from assimilation to multiculturalism. We will consider Australia's role in the British Empire and in the wider Asia-Pacific Region, and highlight the contemporary

challenges of life 'down under'. The module builds on the expertise of the Visiting Keith Cameron Professor, and particular topics and themes will reflect their research focus.

Northern Ireland, 1920-2010: from partition to Paisley (HIS 21120) Dr Conor Mulvagh

This course will chart the history of Northern Ireland from its foundation through state building, war, civil rights, sectarian conflict, and the peace process. Relative to its size, Northern Ireland is arguably the most studied and analysed place on earth in the twentieth century. Partition is by no means a phenomenon unique to Ireland. Germany, India, Korea, and Sudan are among the most prominent examples of a phenomenon that has been a major component of the twentieth century world.

The Northern Irish troubles witnessed the deaths of 3,636 people between 1966 and 1999. That conflict has had been a defining moment in the modern histories of Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, and Britain. In being a resolved conflict, the solution arrived at in 1998 has become a template for peace processes the world over.

1998 initiated a peace process rather than concluding a peace settlement. That peace has been at times unstable, fragile, and imperfect. This course will progress past the Good Friday Agreement, examining the history of near contemporary Northern Ireland to examine how power sharing, decommissioning, and cultural demobilisation have shaped a new polity, asking what changed and what stayed the same.

Semester 2

Modern America (HIS 20470) Professor Maurice Bric

This course will survey the evolution of the United States from the consolidation of American independence until the twentieth century. It will address issues such as the evolution of party politics, the opening up of the west, the lead-up to the Civil War and the various platforms of reform that were promoted at popular level during the nineteenth century. The post-civil war lectures will address the impact of Emancipation as well as the impact of industrialisation and the 'new' immigration and the background to US involvement in the two world wars of the twentieth century.

Early Modern Europe, 1450-1800 (HIS 20950) Dr Declan Downey and Assoc. Professor Eamon O'Flaherty

Western Civilization in the present day has its roots in the re-discovery of Classical Civilization and Humanism and in the discovery of new continents during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. The impact of these forces of change shaped the progress and development of the West in the following centuries. The chronological span of three hundred and fifty years from 1450 to 1800 witnessed a most concentrated and consistent flourishing of intellectual, scientific and creative progress and dramatic change not only in Europe, but through overseas discovery and expansion, worldwide. This Early Modern Period was the first truly global age in which the words 'Europe', 'European' and 'Civilization' acquired new and immense significance.

Through studying the experiences of two major European powers of the early modern period: the Dutch Republic and France. This module examines that crucial period in world history in which the cultural, political, economic, social, intellectual, scientific and strategic foundations of our present world were established. It focuses upon the great events and movements of the period that shaped human development such as Renaissance Humanism, Religious, Cultural and Social Reformations, Exploration, Discovery, Scientific Development, Baroque Art & Neo-Classicism and the rise of Political Absolutism, Modern Military and Diplomatic Strategy and the emergence of the modern power-state, of the nation-state, of overseas dominions, and of supra-national institutions.

The Irish Experience (HIS 20960) Assoc. Professor Catherine Cox and Dr Fionnuala Walsh

This module explores the forces which shaped Irish society in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries from the perspective of ordinary lives and everyday experiences, experiences of sickness and health, love and marriage, birth and death, getting and spending. The topics examined will include population increase and decline - including the impact of emigration and disease - the revolution in communications, changes in religious and medical practices, and debates on child and maternal welfare. The Irish case will be situated within broader European and British trends.

Early Medieval Ireland (HIS 20970) Assoc. Professor Elva Johnston

Ireland fully entered recorded history, for the first time, with the arrival of Christianity in the fourth and fifth centuries AD. Its culture was rooted in the native past as well as in contemporary Europe. These two influences, the old and the new, were creatively combined. The Irish developed a unique form of kingship and a complex social system. Irish achievements in literature, art and religion were recognised across Western Europe, to such an extent that Ireland became known as the Island of Saints and Scholars. This module will introduce students to the history of Ireland between AD 400-1200. It will focus, in particular, on conversion to Christianity, changes in Irish kingship, the evolution of the Church and the impact of the Vikings. It will provide a framework through which the earliest years of Irish history, and their impact, can be understood.

British Empire, 1495-1945 (HIS 21080) Assoc. Professor Ivar McGrath, Assoc. Professor William Mulligan and Dr Jennifer Wellington

This module will investigate the origins and evolution of the British empire, from the early adventurers' journeys of exploration in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries to the zenith of British dominion over large areas of the globe in the early twentieth century. Throughout the module, emphasis will be placed on themes such as exploration, trade, slavery, war, humanitarianism, and culture and cultural exchange in relation to the emergence and expansion of the empire. Issues regarding the relationship between the coloniser and the colonised and the centre and periphery will be explored, along with examination of the various ways in which the empire was represented through media such as print, art, cartography, and music.

Muslims and the Mediterranean World, 1830-2015 (HIS 21170) Professor Robert Gerwarth

Where 'Europe' begins and ends, and who belongs inside and outside it, stands as one of our epoch-defining questions. It is clear that 'Europe' is not merely a geographical reality, but an ever evolving idea in which the Mediterranean Sea, sitting as it does at its 'limits' with the 'Islamic world', has been essential to the way that its unity and its allegedly essential characteristics have been imagined. Despite such tumultuous acts of violence as the reconquista in Iberia or the aggressive drives toward confessionalization in the aftermath of the Wars of Religion, many historians of the early modern world still emphasise the degree to which identities were 'fluid', individuals shape-shifting and the borders between Islam, Christianity and Judaism fuzzy. With the onset of modernity and the empires that were claimed to be its agents, it is often argued, these borders would in many ways become less permeable. Yet just as these territories became more difficult to traverse, discourses around shared Mediterranean culture—whether in Spain's claims to the resurrection of al-Andalus in Morocco or France's attempts to resurrect the granary of Rome in Algeria—became increasingly central to imperial claim making and legitimacy. In this module we will not only assess the 'realities' of such claims to cosmopolitanism and shared cultural inheritance, but critically examine representations of them: to ask what is at stake when we make claims about such cultural 'fluidity', and the political effects to which they've been put to use.

Elective Modules

Semesters 1

The History of Science (HIS 20780) Dr Edward Collins

This module provides a broad outline of the history of science, from ancient times to the present, and incorporates a number of fields of study that we today consider to be 'scientific'. It traces a line from the earliest conceptions of the universe to the evolving views of mankind's relationship with his world, through the Scientific Revolution to current and emerging scientific theories that challenge our very notions of reality itself. The course addresses the question of what counts as science, and whether this has changed over time. What, for example, would the idea of 'science' or 'scientific endeavour' have meant to the earliest geographers, zoologists or mathematicians? What line divides early-modern astronomical navigation from astrology? What is a 'scientific revolution'? How does the history of science confirm or challenge our ideas of historical narratives?

Celtic Dawn to Celtic Tiger: A History of Ireland: Culture and Society (HIS 21100) Dr Mel Farrell

History has shaped modern Irish life in ways that are many and complex. This course opens with an exploration of Irish culture and society in a new millennium. What is it about Ireland that is unique? And what is it, instead, that is part of a shared human experience that transcends borders, whether political or geographic? The course examines how millennia of history have shaped life on the island from the arrival of the first humans, through the Irish experience within the British Empire, and on to a partitioned island which is organized into two states: Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. The course will also assess how Ireland has been shaped by emigration, by Famine, and by media, among other forces. Woven through the course will be an appraisal of continuity and change in political, social, economic and cultural dimensions of Irish history.

Global Economic History (HIS 21150): Dr Chiara Tedaldi

This module adopts a transnational perspective in order to survey the key events of twentieth century history with a view to highlighting the links between modernity, consumption and globalisation. The focus on the main historical junctures provides a point of entry for the examination of the rise of a mass consumer culture and how this process has impacted on the lives of billions of people across the world. The case studies to be examined will include, for instance, the car and fashion industry. The first half of the module examines la Belle Époque, WWI, the interwar years and WWII so as to shed light on the increasing number of 'choices'

that became available to people and to flag out the manner in which established roles and behaviours were challenged and redefined by the interplay of economic, social, political and cultural factors. The second half of the module focuses on the latter part of the century and explores how governments, mass media, and advertisers presented peacetime mass-consumption driven economy as having the potential to deliver 'the promise of political as well as economic democracy' (Cohen, 2004). Most importantly, it draws attention to the inherent shortcomings of globalisation, a process that has yet to prove that it can bring about the end of inequality and exploitation.

Second World War (HIS 21160): Prof Robert Gerwarth

This course will examine the origins, course and outcomes of the Second World War from the brittle peace of the interwar period to the collapse of the Grand Alliance and the early stages of the Cold War. It will offer a survey of the major stages of the conflict in both the European/ North African and Asian/Pacific theatres. In addition to the military and diplomatic aspects of the War, the course will also consider its social and cultural dimensions, including the experience of civilian populations, the activities of resistance movements and the role of ideology throughout the conflict.

Semester 2

Global Economic History (HIS 21150): Dr Chiara Tedaldi

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The History of Science (HIS 20780) Dr Edward Collins

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Level 3

Option Modules

5 Credit Modules

Semester 1

Revolutionary Russia (HIS 32310): Dr Jennifer Keating

In under twenty years, Russia experienced three revolutions, world war, civil war, the collapse of the three-hundred-year-old Romanov dynasty, and the rise of the Soviet state. This course examines the causes and consequences of these tumultuous years from 1905 to 1921, exploring the rich political, social and cultural world of revolutionary Russia. It looks at the challenges of reform and modernisation in late imperial Russia, the rise of revolutionary politics, the impact of the First World War and the immediate events of 1917 leading to the establishment of Bolshevik power, before assessing the Red victory in the civil war, the consolidation of the early Soviet state, and the cultural dynamism of the period. In doing so, the course focuses on the centres of power in Moscow and Petersburg and their key actors, but also ventures into provinces and countryside to assess the ways in which political and social change unfolded elsewhere. We will also engage with critical debates in the historiography of the period on the 'inevitable' fall of the Romanov dynasty, continuities between the late imperial and early Soviet systems, and the relationship between state, society and the individual before and after the 1917 revolution.

The Spanish Civil War (HIS 32370) Professor Robert Gerwarth

This module examines the economic, social, political, cultural and religious roots of the Spanish Civil War (1936-39) and places them within the wider international historical context. The domestic causes of the military coup in July 1936 will be explored in conjunction with a focus on ideals and ideologies and other key factors that favoured its internationalisation and ultimately led to foreign intervention (Fascist Italy, Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union) and "malevolent neutrality" (Great Britain, France and the United States). The violence and hatred between Nationalists and Republicans that were unleashed in this conflict will be analysed as part of a broader discussion of the highly polarised rhetoric that inspired it. The war's dual nature, revolutionary and reactionary, and the short and long-term repression that it triggered will be examined by drawing on a wide selection of primary and secondary sources, such as archival records, propaganda posters and cartoons, newspapers, photography, literature, memoirs, film, graphic novels and art. Interpretative categories that have attracted increasing attention in recent historiography, such as gender and race, will also be discussed.

Semester 2

Geocide and Mass Violence in the Twentieth Century (HIS 32280) Dr Jennifer Wellington

Was the twentieth century uniquely violent? If so, why? This course explores the question of genocide and mass violence in the twentieth-century world. In this class, we will engage with theories of genocide and political violence, and also examine the validity of these explanations for the causes and consequences of mass violence by examining four case studies in depth. Looking at Armenians in the Ottoman Empire in the period of the First World War, Jews on the Eastern Front during the Second World War, Cambodia under the Khmer Rouge in the 1970s, and Rwanda in 1994, this class will ask: what is the context for these acts of mass violence? Who were the perpetrators of these acts? Who were the

victims? Why did they happen at this time and in this place, and not at another time? What was the tipping point between persecution or repression and mass murder? What was the role of belief or ideology? Did the geopolitical situation in each time and place matter? What were the roles of individuals, groups, and the state? Students will engage with the historiography of twentieth-century genocide, political violence, warfare and civil war, as well as reading and viewing a range of primary sources including victim and perpetrator testimonies, trial records, and documentary film.

10 credit modules

Semester 1

Dynasty Politics, Culture and Diplomacy in Post-Westphalian Germany (HIS 31250) Dr Declan Downey
It is not without significance that after 1945 the founding fathers of the movement for European Union looked to the supra-national federative structures and institutions of the Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation for inspiration as a role model or precursor. This module will examine the constitutional, political and cultural natures of the Empire and the historiographical debates concerning its viability. Within this context, the module will analyse the rise of 'imperial patriotism' and early German national consciousness, the emergence of the 'balance of power' in International Relations after 1648, the German Enlightenment and Cultural Renaissance in the princely courts, the rise of Brandenburg-Prussia, the evolution of Austro-Prussian Dualism and the bi-polarisation of the German world between Vienna and Berlin.

The Irish Revolution, 1910-1923 (HIS 31320) Professor Diarmaid Ferriter
This course seeks to recreate the excitement, turmoil and difficulties of this crucial period in modern Irish history by outlining the course of the revolution as well as examining some of the documentary evidence produced by those involved. The course will deal with all aspects of the Irish revolution, including the 1916 Rising, the War of Independence, Partition, the Treaty and the Civil War, and the social, political military, economic and cultural impact and legacy of the struggle for Irish independence in the early twentieth century. The significance of the Decade of Commemoration associated with this period will be explored. Sources from this period will be discussed in detail in the seminars, including contemporary newspaper reports, documents from Irish archives, published collections of speeches and published memoirs or books by participants in the period, letters and diaries, as well as the extensive range of books in the UCD Library.

Ireland and the Glorious Revolution, 1685-1725 (HIS 31430) Assoc Prof Ivar McGrath
This module examines the origins, events and impact of the 'Glorious Revolution' of 1688-9 from the perspective of all of the main countries involved. While the primary focus is upon Ireland's place and role in the Glorious Revolution, and the impact of that event upon Ireland, some time is dedicated to studying France, England, Scotland and the Netherlands. Emphasis is placed upon the interrelationship between events, people and ideas in all five countries during the period under study. Central overriding themes are also explored, such as the nature of Revolutions, religion, the role of political rhetoric and ideas, the relationship between executive government and the legislature, the financing of war and the concomitant changes in financial practices, and the questions of identity, community, nation and state in the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. In all such cases, Ireland is used as the template for investigation, with detailed consideration of issues such as the changing interpretation of Poyning's Law, the advent of regular parliaments, the imposition of a penal code against Catholics, the nature of the Irish Constitution, the different religious, social and economic communities in Ireland, and the emergence of an Irish Protestant political nation and its sense of identity as expressed in pamphlets, addresses, and other media.

Irish Urban History, 1500-1800 (HIS 31450) Assoc. Professor Eamon O'Flaherty

This module offers a survey of the economic, social, cultural, political and spatial development of Irish towns and cities in a period of profound change in Ireland. The late medieval urban network was transformed in the 16th and 17th centuries by the expansion of English power in Ireland by processes of conquest, plantation and anglicization and this was reflected in the emergence of large numbers of new urban centres and the transformation of the existing urban network. The 18th century saw a further phase of consolidation and expansion giving rise to the Irish urban system as it existed on the eve of the Act of Union. The development of Irish towns is also considered in the context of wider developments in British and European urban history.

Orwell's Twentieth Century (HIS 31490) Dr David Kerr

Through a close reading of selected novels and journalism of George Orwell, placed within the context of intellectual and cultural debate in England in the 1930s and 1940s, this module will introduce students to many of the most important issues of the twentieth century: colonialism; class prejudice; unemployment, poverty and the Great Depression; Fascism and the Spanish Civil War; the rise of mass culture; the 'English genius', the home front and the Second World War; totalitarianism. All seminar texts for discussion will be taken from Orwell's works, including 'Shooting an Elephant', 'Such were the Joys', 'The Road to Wigan Pier', 'Homage to Catalonia', 'The Lion and the Unicorn', 'Animal Farm' and '1984'.

Memory and Commemoration: policy, politics and popular perception (HIS 31710) Dr Conor Mulvagh

As Europe and Ireland come to commemorate a series of centenaries that defined the shape and course of their twentieth century, this module will examine the processes of remembering and commemorating the past in the modern period. Taking a case study orientated approach, the ways in which history and commemoration has been utilised by politicians, communities, and interest groups will be explored. Divided into two halves, this module will examine the nature of memory before moving on to considering the practice of commemoration.

Contested commemoration, iconoclasm, counter-cultures, and the evolution of memory will be among the concepts tackled from a historical standpoint. Case studies covered will include the commemoration of the famine, 1798, 1916 from an Irish perspective. Outside of Ireland, commemorating and remembering will be considered through the lenses of the American and French revolutions, the First World War, the Holocaust, and the Balkan wars among other. Students will have an opportunity to investigate areas of their own interest as part of the module. The course will consider memory from literary as well as historical perspectives.

Living on the Edge: Ireland and Empire AD 400-700 (HIS 31780) Assoc. Professor Elva Johnston

The transformation of Ireland between AD 400 - 700 is the first historical change in Irish history which can be traced and analysed by historians. At the beginning of the fifth century Ireland was largely pagan; two centuries later it was Christian. During this period of transition Irish society was indebted to Empire. Fifth-century Ireland was closely connected to the Roman Empire, economically, socially and religiously. Later, the island was part of a Christendom extending from Rome. Irish writers looked to Rome and the Mediterranean as models for their own society. They were conscious of living on the edge of Europe. This module will examine Irish responses to the Rome of the Caesars and the Rome of the Popes. It will investigate the emergence of Irish society through a period of historical change, drawing on a rich body of literature, supplemented by our knowledge of the material realities of Irish life.

The American Civil War (HIS 31730) Professor Glenda Gilmore

This course is an overview of the causes, process, and outcomes of the American Civil War and the period that followed (known as Reconstruction). We will spend the first few weeks discussing the political, economic, and social dimensions of slavery, abolitionism, and sectionalism in antebellum America leading up to the war. This background will be tied to a consideration of the process of secession and the patterns of change that occurred during the war. We will examine the goals and strategies of both sides, the means they used to achieve those goals, and how the contingencies of war required changes to both means and ends. Finally, we will explore the political, economic, cultural, and social ramifications of the war and Reconstruction, connecting these themes to developments in the late nineteenth century. Our consideration of the war itself will balance military, political, and social developments. Battle tactics and strategy will be seen in relation to larger social and political aims. We will explore how developments on home fronts and battle fronts were integrated experiences that profoundly shaped the people living and fighting in both. Central themes will include: the growth of nationalism and political centralization; the agency of enslaved people, changes in race relations, patterns of economic mobilization and growth (including class competition); and the broader meaning that the war took on for participants and their descendants. Materials will be presented in a variety of formats, including lectures, images and video clips. Those along with required primary and secondary source readings will guide the seminar discussions.

Contested Histories in Australia (HIS 31850) Keith Cameron Professor of Australian History

This module surveys key perspectives and themes in contemporary Australian historical practice, and then encourages students to engage in guided research and analysis of a chosen area. Topics for analysis include Indigenous and non-Indigenous histories, developing national, class and regional identities, as well as moments of crisis and political upheaval such as the Eureka Rebellion of 1854, Federation in 1901 and the political crisis of 1975. The emerging colonial capitals of Sydney and Melbourne will be considered along with Australia's changing external relationships with the UK, the USA, Ireland, and Asia. We will explore how immigration changed the face of Australia and consider its future as a hybrid society 'under the stars of the Southern Cross'.

Slavery and the New World (HIS 31860) Assoc. Professor Marc Caball

It is estimated that between the mid-fifteenth century and towards the end of the nineteenth century, more than 12 million people from Africa were enslaved and forcefully transported to the Americas. Of these 12 million, it is believed that approximately 11 million Africans survived often terrible and harrowing Atlantic voyages. Such was the scale of the Atlantic slave trade that until the 1820s more Africans crossed the Atlantic than Europeans. The produce of enslaved labour in the form of tobacco, rice, sugar and cotton transformed European economies and habits and arguably laid the basis for globalised capitalism. All major European maritime powers were involved in the slave while more than 90% of slaves shipped across the Atlantic were supplied by African traders. Many key features of the modern world have roots which can be traced to slavery: demography of the Americas; poverty in sub-Saharan Africa and foodways of the world. While this module will examine early modern and modern slavery from its Portuguese beginnings down to its final abolition in Brazil in 1888, it will concentrate in particular on slavery in Britain's seventeenth-century Atlantic territories and colonial America in the eighteenth century.

Murder in the South Seas (HIS 31910) Assoc. Professor William Mulligan

Between the mid-nineteenth century and the First World War, the world became increasingly interconnected, as a dense web of global and imperial networks, ideas, and institutions emerged. In the middle of this era of change, on 20 September 1871, John Coleridge Patteson, bishop of Melanesia and the leading Anglican missionary in the South Pacific, landed on Nukapu, a tiny island in the Santa Cruz

group. Later that day some of the islanders killed Patteson. The murder, its causes, and its consequences reveal much about the new world being forged in the middle of the nineteenth century. This module will provide context and explanation for the killing of Patteson - the presence of missionaries, the agency of islanders in revolutionary economic conditions, the growth of plantation economies following the American Civil War, the politics of labour supply, the reaction of humanitarians, the development of international law, and the relationship between imperial expansion and globalization. The lectures will provide broad context, while in the seminars we will examine primary sources, including newspapers, official reports, and memoirs.

Biography and History (HIS 32230) Assoc. Professor Michael Staunton

There are few more fascinating subjects than the lives of others, and biography has never been as popular among the public, yet the study of individual lives remains curiously underappreciated by historians. In this course we will read biographies from a historical perspective, and examine what they can tell us about individuals, about society, and about our changing perceptions of the human experience. We will look at the methods used, the role of politics, psychology and culture, how people have addressed the different stages of life and common experiences, and the factors that have influenced the representation of people at different times. Readings will encompass the ancient, medieval and modern worlds, and will focus on biographical subjects ranging from Leonardo da Vinci to Haile Selassie, from Charlemagne to Mary Wollstonecraft, and from St Brigid of Kildare to Donald Trump.

Weaponizing the World: Media and Conflict in Pre-Industrial Europe (HIS 32300) Prof Sandy Wilkinson

This course explores how print was weaponized in pre-Industrial Europe. We will look at a series of particularly fertile case studies: how Luther spearheaded a mass movement by mobilising the printing presses into the service of the German Reformation; at how Catholics responded to this onslaught; at how pamphlets and other forms of print were employed by various factions during the bitter and protracted French Wars of Religion; and, finally, at the English Civil War. The course is designed to deepen your awareness of print culture in sixteenth and seventeenth-century Europe, and how this can be investigated. You will be introduced to established and new research tools and techniques, and gain insight into how these are transforming our understanding of the role and place of print in early-modern society.

France since Revolution (HIS 32320) Dr Emmanuel Destenay

This module is aimed at providing students with a thorough understanding of the French Revolution and of the successive constitutional regimes. The module will follow a traditional chronological approach and examine the different constitutions until the establishment of the Fifth Republic in 1958. Between freedom and despotism, these regimes, be they republics or royal restorations, struggled to come to terms with the ideals of 1789. The module will provide students with the necessary analytical and conceptual tools to understand the transformation of French politics over two centuries. The concept of protest will be analysed from various angles to bring into light the social, economic and ideological objections which dealt a death blow to twelve constitutions between 1789 and 1958. Beyond the notions of power and protest, the period 1789-1958 will be regarded as a long transition which gradually redefined the concept of national identity. Students will then examine the foreign constitutions the revolutionary élites envisaged to rely on before addressing the influence of the French Revolution on other European countries (such as Italy, Germany and Spain) and engaging in a transnational analysis of the reshaping of modern Europe following 1789.

St. Patrick and his times (HIS 32340) Dr Roy Flechner

This module explores the biography of St Patrick in light of recent research. It is also an introduction to the history of Late Antique Ireland and Britain in which Patrick was active. In the seminars we will attempt to view the insular world as Patrick would have seen it and as he might have interpreted it through the many facets of his cultural identity: as a Briton, as a Roman, and as an immigrant to Ireland who could comment on Irish society with both an insider's and outsider's view. Straddling, as he did, Late Roman Britain and Late Iron Age Ireland, Patrick would have bridged over worlds that went through far-reaching political, economic, and religious changes: from the Christianisation of the Roman Empire in the fourth century to the collapse of Roman Britain in the early fifth century.

Florence, 1200-1400: The Making of medieval city-state (HIS 32430) Dr Edward Coleman

Although Florence was to become one Europe's greatest cities it was a relatively unimportant centre until the thirteenth century. Thereafter it grew rapidly in size, wealth, power and prestige. This expansion was based on a thriving economy dominated by the textile industry, commerce and banking. By the early fourteenth century Florence had a population of around 100,000 making it one of the largest cities in Europe.

However, in 1348, the city was devastated by the Black Death. Up to 60% - or 2 in 3 - of the population perished. This led to severe economic contraction and social dislocation culminating in a popular uprising in 1378 which briefly threatened the stability of the republic ruled the nobility and the city's leading trade and craft guilds. Despite the turbulent times Florence resisted the drift towards urban lordship or 'signoria', unlike many other Italian city-states which came to be dominated by a single powerful family during this period. For this reason Florentines came to imagine their city as the successor of the ancient Roman republic, a beacon of republican freedom surrounded by tyrannical enemies. This self-image was connected with a revival of interest in all aspects of Classical culture (philosophy, literature, history, art and architecture) which was particularly strong in Florence. This cultural movement became known as Humanism.

Florence fought a series of wars against her neighbours in Tuscany during the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries – especially Siena, Pisa and Lucca - and as a result achieved dominance of the region. Florence has an extremely rich legacy of written sources from this period which students will be able to study on this module. These include chronicles, government records, personal memoirs, letters and legal documents. Major themes that will be covered include politics, war, commerce, religion, history and literature, art and architecture, urban development.

10 credit modules

Semester 2

Rise, Fall, Rise of Modern Japan (HIS 31280) Dr Declan Downey

A hundred years ago, the European powers were at the centre of the world's wealth and power. Within fifty years that position of global pre-eminence had shifted to the United States of America. This had led inevitably to realignments in the balance of power and new rivalries as well as new opportunities. About twenty years ago a more recent shift in the balance of world economic power to East Asia with Japan at its epicentre took place. With the largest surpluses in the history of merchandise trade, Japan had transformed itself into a financial and technological superpower and set a dynamic example for other East Asian nations to follow.

Despite war, destruction and occupation Japan, has since 1945, emerged as one of the world's major economic and financial powers. This module will examine the impact of Western expansion in East Asia on Japan and how the Japanese responded to it politically and culturally. Also it will examine the consequences of Japan's response to the West for other East Asian nations, particularly China and

Korea. It will analyse the political, diplomatic, economic and cultural dynamics in Japanese History that contributed to its rise and to its role as a major power on the global stage.

The Irish Revolution, 1910-1923 (HIS 31320) Professor Diarmaid Ferriter

This course seeks to recreate the excitement, turmoil and difficulties of this crucial period in modern Irish history by outlining the course of the revolution as well as examining some of the documentary evidence produced by those involved. The course will deal with all aspects of the Irish revolution, including the 1916 Rising, the War of Independence, Partition, the Treaty and the Civil War, and the social, political military, economic and cultural impact and legacy of the struggle for Irish independence in the early twentieth century. The significance of the Decade of Commemoration associated with this period will be explored. Sources from this period will be discussed in detail in the seminars, including contemporary newspaper reports, documents from Irish archives, published collections of speeches and published memoirs or books by participants in the period, letters and diaries, as well as the extensive range of books in the UCD Library.

Medicine, Culture and Society (HIS 31460) Dr Fionnuala Walsh

This module explores a series of ongoing debates within the social history of medicine and welfare. It examines sickness, disease and the provision of care in Britain and Ireland in a broad social, economic, political and cultural context. It focuses on the plurality of medicine in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, the 'medical marketplace', and the rise of medical institutions. It will look at the evolving relationships between doctors and patients, and the place of poverty, class, gender and ethnicity in these relationships. The course will also cover the impact of urban growth on changing patterns of disease and medical practice. Other themes include the rise of the medical profession in the nineteenth century, the impact of medical science on society, and the role of state medicine.

Past, Present and Future in Medieval England (HIS 31500) Assoc Professor Michael Staunton

How did people in the middle ages think about their past, present and future? How did they explain the fortunes of individuals and the rise and fall of empires? How did they discuss authority and resistance, religious conflict, the natural and the supernatural world? This course looks at how a talented and original group of writers in England in the high middle ages tried to make sense of the remarkable times in which they lived. Combining history, prophesy, poetry and political commentary, their works address not only the dramatic events of the time – the murder of Thomas Becket, the rebellion of Eleanor of Aquitaine, the crusade of Richard the Lionheart – but a range of other topics, from the character of the Irish to the nature of werewolves. Students will gain both an insight into a formative period in English history and an appreciation how historical interpretation has changed over time.

Tudor England (HIS 31590) Assoc. Professor Ivar McGrath

This is a survey module aimed at providing students with a good understanding of Tudor England. Commencing with the accession of the first of the Tudor monarchs, Henry VII, in 1485, the module follows a traditional chronological approach, examining the reigns of Henry VIII, Edward VI, Mary and Philip, and Elizabeth. Central topics are examined within that framework, such as the Henrician Reformation, the Marian Reaction, the Counter-Reformation, the Elizabethan Reformation, and the Union of the Crowns. Relevant primary source documents, images and paintings will be studied throughout the module, covering topics such as public protest, riot and rebellion; the Reformation; literature; theatre; and art and architecture.

Irish Foreign Policy, 1919-75: A Place Among the Nations (HIS 31760) Dr Susannah Riordan

This module explores the development of Irish foreign policy from the efforts of the First Dáil to gain international recognition of Irish independence to the year in which Ireland joined the EEC. The pursuit of sovereignty, the conduct of Anglo-Irish relations, and the decision to remain neutral during World War II are important parts of this story, but only parts. The module examines a variety of bilateral, and multilateral, relationships, especially Ireland's membership of the League of Nations and the United Nations. The module raises questions such as: What did Irish policy-makers understand as 'the national interest' and how did they pursue it? How did Ireland come to 'punch above its weight' on the international stage? Was Irish foreign policy idealistic – and if so, what informed those ideals?

First World War: Culture and Consequences (HIS 31840) Dr Jennifer Wellington

This course will explore the cultural impact and aftermath of the First World War. The First World War has been understood alternately as the birth of modernity, the beginning of the end of Empire, and the cause of the Great Depression, fascism, communist revolutions and the Second World War. In this course we will weigh the veracity of each of these claims, paying particular attention to the cultural impact of the war. Topics discussed will include trench warfare, new military technologies, war crimes, morale, mutiny, shellshock, victory and defeat, peacemaking, war art and literature, mourning and memorial making, and empire.

Weaponizing the World: Media and Conflict in Pre-Industrial Europe (HIS 32300) Prof Sandy Wilkinson

This course explores how print was weaponized in pre-Industrial Europe. We will look at a series of particularly fertile case studies: how Luther spearheaded a mass movement by mobilising the printing presses into the service of the German Reformation; at how Catholics responded to this onslaught; at how pamphlets and other forms of print were employed by various factions during the bitter and protracted French Wars of Religion; and, finally, at the English Civil War. The course is designed to deepen your awareness of print culture in sixteenth and seventeenth-century Europe, and how this can be investigated. You will be introduced to established and new research tools and techniques, and gain insight into how these are transforming our understanding of the role and place of print in early-modern society.

Venice in European Imagination: A study in decadence (HIS 32330) Dr David Kerr

The modern myth of Venice is a composite of two powerful images: Venice as the city of pleasure and Venice as the city of death. This course will cover both. Venice as the world centre of overpowering luxury, all-pervasive spectacle, frivolous self-indulgence and sexual licence will be examined through the accounts of eighteenth century Venetians (Casanova, Goldoni and Gozzi) and travellers from Britain, France and Germany (including, amongst others, Addison, Rousseau and Goethe). Together, they portray Venetian life in the century before the fall of the Republic in 1797 as a curiously modern combination of political and sexual intrigue in a gossip obsessed city of cafés, theatres, casinos and brothels.

Venice as the city of decadence, exquisite beauty and moral decay, sexual ambiguity and physical corruption, will be examined through her representation in British, French, German and Italian literature from Byron (in the 1820s) to Proust (in the 1920s). Writers covered will include Fenimore Cooper and Monk Lewis (on Gothic horror), Ruskin (on Gothic revivals), Dickens and George Sand (on the romance of the ghostly), and Thomas Mann and Baron Corvo (on homosexuality and death). All texts will be read in English translation.

St. Patrick and his times (HIS 32340) Dr Roy Flechner

This module explores the biography of St Patrick in light of recent research. It is also an introduction to the history of Late Antique Ireland and Britain in which Patrick was active. In the seminars we will attempt to view the insular world as Patrick would have seen it and as he might have interpreted it through the many facets of his cultural identity: as a Briton, as a Roman, and as an immigrant to Ireland who could comment on Irish society with both an insider's and outsider's view. Straddling, as he did, Late Roman Britain and Late Iron Age Ireland, Patrick would have bridged over worlds that went through far-reaching political, economic, and religious changes: from the Christianisation of the Roman Empire in the fourth century to the collapse of Roman Britain in the early fifth century.

Alcohol, Drugs and Society (HIS 32350) Prof Robert Gerwarth

This module will explore the history of alcohol and drugs in Ireland, Britain and America from the late eighteenth century to present day. From US prohibition to smoking bans; opium dens to heroin addiction; the gin craze to binge-drinking, a long, historical perspective is essential to framing debates about drugs and alcohol today. The course will follow a broadly chronological format, beginning with the evolution of the 'disease model' of addiction from the 1770s and tracing contrasting state, voluntary and medical approaches to stemming the tide of substance misuse. These include the rise of the temperance movement, prohibition and the origins of 'rehab'. Attention will be paid to how restrictive legislation, recreational norms/subcultures and drug classification have been shaped by discrete sets of social, cultural and political ideas in historical contexts. The course will also examine how attitudes towards drugs and alcohol lend insight into wider cultures and societies at specific historical moments. Throughout, the importance of class, gender and ethnicity will be assessed. The rise of the medical profession and the growing influence of medical knowledge will also form a central theme. The course will engage with a blend of secondary readings and primary source material, to include audio-visual clips, patient testimony and pamphlets.

Environment and Power in Modern Russia (HIS 32360) Dr Jennifer Keating

The modern Russian state contains some of the most varied environments on the planet, from mountains, forests and lakes, to steppe, tundra and taiga. This course explores human-nature relations from 1861 until the collapse of the Soviet Union: the ways in which interactions with these diverse landscapes and eco-systems have shaped and been shaped by Russia's modern history. It focuses in particular on the role of the environment in the ongoing processes of empire, nation, state and identity-building under the late imperial and Soviet regimes, examining how landscape and resources were integral parts of the state exercise of power. In doing so, the course looks at imperial cityscapes, the development of national identity, frontier settlement, arctic exploration, natural resources during the revolutionary period, Soviet industrialisation and collectivisation, and the natural/un-natural disasters of late socialism, including Chernobyl and the Aral Sea. Alongside exploring key moments in the history of modern Russia, we will engage with some of the major themes in environmental history more broadly, including resource management and exploitation, energy regimes, pollution and preservation, and consider whether the Soviet quest to 'master nature' has led only to environmental decline.

Renaissance to Enlightenment (HIS 32390) Dr Eamon O'Flaherty

The early modern period witnessed a series of transformative changes in the cultural and intellectual life of Europe. The revival of ancient learning and the humanist reform of scholarship and pedagogy in the Renaissance period ushered in changes in the political, scientific and religious outlook of many Europeans. The sense of rapid and profound change was also quickened by the impact of the voyages of discovery, the development of overseas empires and the scientific and technological advances of the

seventeenth century. The ideas of Enlightenment - rational, scientific and humanitarian - were constructed on the foundations laid by these developments and further contributed to the creation of the modern European mind as well as the shaping of the world. The course offers a survey of the major developments in these areas and the opportunity to study aspects of the field in detail.

History of the Medieval Continental Book (HIS 32400) Dr Anna Dorofeeva

This module will explore the origins of written media from antiquity to c. AD 1500. The materiality and practice of written communication during this period shaped the relationship between graphic symbols and their meaning, transformed the practice of political power and religion, profoundly changed the experience of education over time, and contributed to the formation of a European cultural memory. This course will explore these far-reaching changes by looking at the wide range of historical written media on stone, bark, papyrus, parchment and paper; the development of the codex from previous book forms, and its links to Christianity; the practice of writing, including documentary and secret writing; the relationship between text and image in art and architecture; and the invention of music notation. We will also discuss contemporary media theories and ideas of symbolism in order to understand how to interpret written primary sources, particularly at the intersection of the visual and the textual. An important component of the course will be hands-on examination and discussion of the source material, including medieval manuscripts, music samples and penmanship.

Global Information Societies: A History (HIS 32410) Prof Robert Gerwarth

We frequently call our age the 'information age'. What does the term mean and how did we arrive here? The history of modern information is closely tied to the invention of electronic computing but also runs deeper to include innovations in wartime cryptography, human genetics, nuclear physics and statistical prediction.

This course explores the intersecting histories of science, technology, global politics and cultural exchange that have come to define the current information age. Seminar readings will explore the relationship between 20th century data science and the politics of race, decolonisation, warfare and private enterprise. Readings will focus on a series of historical case studies, including the invention of a Chinese typewriter, the creation of Silicon Valley and the data-driven utopian aspirations of Allende's Chile. In the process, this course explores the impact of information technologies on changing cultural perceptions, public policies, automation and social identities.

Renaissance Florence, 1400-1530 (HIS 32440) Dr Edward Coleman

Florence is one Europe's greatest cities and the birthplace of the artistic and cultural movement known as the Renaissance. Although a relatively unimportant centre until the thirteenth century it thereafter grew rapidly in size, wealth, power and prestige. This expansion was based on a thriving economy dominated by the textile industry, commerce and banking. Despite a decline following the devastating Black Death (1348) by the early fifteenth century Florence had become one of the leading city-states in the politics of the Italian peninsula during together with other large states such as Milan, Venice, Naples and the Papacy. At this time one of the city's great banking families - the Medici - became rulers of the city in all but name, firstly under Cosimo il Vecchio (1434-64), and then his son Piero (1464-69) and grandson Lorenzo (1469-92). Art and architecture flourished under Medici patronage and Florence became the leading centre of the Italian Renaissance. However, following French and Spanish invasions of Italy in the late fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries, the political importance of the city declined. The Medici were expelled and papal Rome surpassed Florence as cultural and artistic centre. The republic was revived episodically between 1494 and 1512, an era associated with such famous figures as Savonarola and Machiavelli, and again more briefly in the late 1520s before the Medici returned to rule as Dukes of

Tuscany. The module will study Florence in its heyday, paying particular attention to themes such as changes in social structure and class consciousness; families, factionalism and conflict; territorial expansion and municipal patriotism; guilds, trade and banking; civic humanism and education; the writing of history and the shaping of the past; ecclesiastical organization and popular piety; trends and symbols in the private and public patronage of art, architecture and literature.

Wars and Humanitarianism (HIS 32450) Prof Robert Gerwarth

War and humanitarianism have developed in step with each other over the last centuries. As wars have become more total, so, too, have humanitarian responses and practices. This course will look systematically at the entangled history of humanitarianism and war in the modern world. It will discuss the origins, key concepts, organizations, and practices associated with humanitarianism and sketch broader debates around issues such as sovereignty, neutrality, victimhood, and empowerment. The course will explore individual motivations for aiding distant sufferers just as it will explore the long-standing political dimension of humanitarian aid (including the perils and promises of humanitarian interventions and human rights), the contested role of media and markets, and the specific challenges and risks, which humanitarian operations face in an age of terrorism.

Single Subject Major

Level 2:

5 Credit Modules

Semester 1

Using Archives (HIS 21090) Dr David Kerr

This module aims at providing students with a core understanding of how archives work and how they can be best utilised. Staff-led seminars will seek to provide students with a sense of archives, libraries and online sources relating to a wide range of areas in history from Early Modern History to American History. Students will also be informed of the latest archival developments in relation to digitisation of certain archival holdings and online archival sources on tours of UCD Archives and other archives in the Dublin area.

Themes in Contemporary British History (HIS 32420) Dr Jennifer Wellington

Britain after 1945 experienced social upheaval at home and fundamental changes to its position in the world. This course examines recurring themes in contemporary British history, including: the establishment and decline of the welfare state; emigration, immigration, and decolonisation; peace, war, violence, and terrorism; changes in gender roles and social identities; race and nationalism; and Britain's relationship with Europe. In exploring these topics, students will be exposed to a wide range of historical sources, and will read broadly in the historiography of contemporary Britain. Primary sources we will examine include political speeches, acts of Parliament, letters and diaries, television, comedy sketches, literature, film, and popular music.

Semester 2

Marathon: Introduction to Primary Sources (HIS 20250) Professor Diarmaid Ferriter

This is a directed reading module designed to introduce Single Subject Major students to the reading and evaluation of primary source material. It seeks to train students to avoid anachronistic interpretation and to place the sources in their proper historical context. The topic for each year will be determined by the head of school.

Student Research Seminar (HIS 20530) Dr Edward Coleman

This module is designed to provide Single Subject Major History students with the opportunity of studying a selection of topics in medieval and modern history in depth. It also provides training in presentation skills and the communication of historical and historiographical information and analysis. The topics studied will derive from other Level 2 history modules taken in the first and second semesters and will revolve around issues of historical controversy and debate. Students will design and contribute to a series of group presentations on the topics and will also submit an essay on a topic of their choosing at the end of the semester.

Level 3:

5 Credit Modules

Semester 1

Research Skills (HIS 30550) Assoc. Professor Marc Caball

The first objective of this module is to prepare students to write a dissertation. The second, related, objective is to deepen research skills and introduce students to certain methods used by researchers in History. Although every dissertation topic requires specialist knowledge and particular source materials, all dissertations have features in common. Every student needs to identify a topic, and then focus that topic so that it is coherent and workable. Likewise, every student needs to identify and analyse primary source materials, work with secondary literature, and develop a methodology. In this module, students will begin this process by working as a group. Much of the semester will involve an in-depth examination of how other scholarly historians work as a way of developing students' skills in scholarly practice. Most weeks students will be required to read the work of others, and to comment on it in class, in writing and verbally.

Themes in Contemporary British History (HIS 32420) Dr Jennifer Wellington

Britain after 1945 experienced social upheaval at home and fundamental changes to its position in the world. This course examines recurring themes in contemporary British history, including: the establishment and decline of the welfare state; emigration, immigration, and decolonisation; peace, war, violence, and terrorism; changes in gender roles and social identities; race and nationalism; and Britain's relationship with Europe. In exploring these topics, students will be exposed to a wide range of historical sources, and will read broadly in the historiography of contemporary Britain. Primary sources we will examine include political speeches, acts of Parliament, letters and diaries, television, comedy sketches, literature, film, and popular music.

Semester 2

Conference (HIS 31040) Assoc. Professor Ivar McGrath

On this module students will organise a one-day conference to be held in the School of History. The class will have collective responsibility for the planning, scheduling and publicity of the event. Each student will make a individual contribution consisting of a presentation which will be closely related to the subject of their dissertation. The presentations will be then be written up as essays, edited and published electronically.

Dissertation (HIS 30990)

The Dissertation is an exercise in independent historical research. Students are required to choose a topic for the Dissertation, identify key research questions, consult relevant primary and secondary sources, and present an analysis of their findings in a scholarly manner.

In Semester 1, the Research Skills course will provide guidance in how to identify and focus on a topic, locate and work with primary sources, and move from a research topic to a written analysis. The course will also provide advice on issues such as research methodology and scholarly conventions. Students should initiate contact with potential supervisors within the first two weeks of semester. By Week 3 at the latest, each student should have identified a coherent topic and a supervisor. Normally a student will have two formal meetings with the supervisor in each semester. During these meetings, the supervisor will provide guidance on the topic and on relevant primary and secondary material, as well as feedback on drafts. However, supervisors will not normally read more than 5,000 words of the draft Dissertation. Students may also consult other members of staff with relevant expertise.