



Guide to Modules 2024/25

BA (Hons) History

Welcome to History at Liverpool John Moores University.

This guide is offered as an “unofficial” insight into the modules we are running in the academic year 2024/25 on our History programme. It gives you an idea of the rich variety of topics you might study in terms of period, geography, and approach. We are a modern and contemporary history programme, aimed at supporting you to understand the world around you through an in-depth study of the past. You will find subjects with which you may be familiar and have studied before, alongside courses that offer something entirely different, not previously encountered at school or college.

Please note that this guide gives an indication of the modules which typically run, and this is absolutely no guarantee that these courses will be running in the period that you will be studying with us.

The programme is designed in such a way as to provide a natural progression from one level to the next, and you will be able to find modules which perhaps directly build on what you have studied in previous years. Through the course of the degree, you should be developing your skills as a historian, honing your perspective on the past, and exploring topics, time periods, and regions in increasing depth.

All modules in your first year are core, to develop your foundational knowledge and understanding. From your second year, there is a great amount choice available through our option modules, that align with the staff team’s research expertise, allowing you to specialise and develop your interests. What is taught in the classroom, however, is just the starting point! You will engage in discussion and debate with your peers, conduct your own investigations and research, and develop your own ideas and argument based on that research. You will read and write extensively, working independently in formulating and testing ideas, as well as working within groups, learning how to appreciate the opinions of others, whilst defending your own position.

In terms of logistics, each module runs for one semester and will be available in either semester one or two (not both). Each year you will study six modules: three in semester one, three in semester two. At Level 5 there is one core module in each semester, you get to pick the remaining four. At Level 6 there is just one, year-long core module (the dissertation), and you pick an additional four.

This guide provides you with a real insight into what studying History at LJMU will be like. Although the modules you study may be different from those listed here, you will get a sense of the programme, the expertise of our staff, and our approach to the study of History. We hope you find something in here which appeals to you, and we look forward to welcoming you into the LJMU History community.

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Level-4

Your first year is all about setting a sound foundation from which to build in future years. There is also an important job to be done here in respect to informing you about what studying History at undergraduate level is all about. So, a good deal of what we do involves getting back to basics, notably in terms of your ability to interrogate primary and secondary sources. We also try to instil good habits such as regular reading and working independently.

SEMESTER 1	SEMESTER 2
4100HIST. Making History	4101HIST. Exploring History
4104HIST. Modern European History	4102HIST. The Faces of Britain
4103HIST. Lion Rampant, Lion Tamed: the rise and fall of the British Empire	4105HIST. The American Age

4100HIST. Making History

Making History equips you with the skills to become a fully-fledged undergraduate historian. You will work closely with your personal tutor – the member of staff who supports your academic development throughout your degree – during this module. Making History gets you to think, read, and write like an undergraduate historian, introducing you to new approaches to the study and practice of history. You will work closely with primary sources, including hands-on classes with a range of online databases. The module provides you with the essential skill-set to take on the challenges of your undergraduate history degree.

4103HIST. Lion Rampant, Lion Tamed: The Rise & Fall of the British Empire

This module provides an introductory survey of British imperialism from the mid-eighteenth century to the present. By the beginning of the twentieth century, those countries coloured pink in British school atlases made up the largest empire the world had ever known, encompassing nearly one quarter of the world's land mass and more than 25 per cent of its people. By the end of the 1960s, however, the Empire upon which 'the sun never set' had shattered into more than forty independent nation-states, most of which found a new status of legal equality with Britain in the Commonwealth. By 2005, there were only 190,000 residents of British colonies, which had been restyled 'UK Overseas Territories' in 1999. Like it or not, therefore, there is no denying that the rise and fall of the British Empire in the eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth centuries has left a profound legacy in both the UK and in much of the rest of the world – across Australasia, Asia, Africa, North and South America, and even within European societies, such as Ireland, Malta, Cyprus and Gibraltar.

4104HIST. Modern European History

This module introduces students to some of the key events, themes and concepts in modern European history, beginning with the Congress of Vienna in 1815 and ending with the outbreak of the Russian Revolution in 1917. In the process of exploring this century of history, students will examine the deep-rooted intellectual, ideological, cultural and geopolitical events that shaped modern Europe. In doing so, students gain crucial knowledge of Europe's history, standing you in strong stead to take on your option modules in Level 5 and beyond.

4101HIST. Exploring History

During this module you will work on your very own historical research project – from the history of the Blitz in Liverpool to the war on drugs in the Americas – and transform it into an exhibition suitable for a public audience, just like you would find in a museum or gallery. In groups, you will undertake all of the research yourselves, and then design the exhibition, including selecting the content and images, which is showcased at the end of the year. Although each group will work under the supervision of a project manager – a staff member with expertise and interest in the content of the project – the focus in this module will be on encouraging independent learning and the crucial transferable skills of group working, problem-solving, creativity, and innovation.

4102HIST. The Faces of Britain

The Faces of Britain, sets out the foundations of British history by questioning how the British nation might be defined and how the British people might seek to establish their place within the nation. As such it explores the various political, social and cultural factors which create the environment and backdrop to the negotiation of identity. For the purposes of this module a modern timescale is adopted, situating the discussion of these ideas within the nineteenth- and twentieth-centuries. The coverage is intended to be broad by surveying key themes and ideas that wax and wane through this time.

4105HIST. The American Age: People, Politics and Power.

This module allows students to engage with a variety of means of understanding the American nation via its people, political processes and actions abroad. Through a range of case studies and contextual lectures and material students will be introduced to important moments in America's history. It will discuss times which challenged the nation's sense of identity, changed the way it engaged with the world and both unified and divided the people who live within its borders.

Level-5

In your second year we set out to broaden your horizons by encouraging diversity and innovation in your studies according to your range of learning according to time, geography, approach. There will also be a growing intensity in the use of primary and secondary sources, along with developing your appreciation of methodological and theoretical approaches.

SEMESTER 1	SEMESTER 2
Core (20 credits each)	
5101HIST. Debates in History	5102HIST. Research Paper
Options (20 credits each. Select two in each semester)	
5105HIST. Society and Culture in the Soviet Union	5106HIST. Colonial Africa, 1880-1994
5108HIST. Gendering the Past	5111HIST. From Shogun to Showdown: Japan, 1853-1941
5109HIST. Ireland 1690-1922	5114HIST. Supernatural Britain
5121HIST. A History of Modern Latin America	5126HIST. Gender, Race and Slavery in the United States
5122HIST. International History of the Cold War	5128HIST. International Fieldwork: Germany
5125HIST. Age of Terror	5129HIST. Teaching History
5127HIST. From Tanzimat to Taliban 2.0. The Modern and Contemporary History of the Middle East	5130HIST. History Works
5132HIST. Civil Rights Movement	5133HIST. Revolutionaries: International Communism from the Great War to the Cold War.

THE CORE MODULES

5101HIST. Debates in History

This module develops your understanding of the nature of historiographical debates – the different ways in which historians think and write about the past, and how the writing of history has been shaped and informed by political, economic, social, and cultural developments. It builds around the idea that there is no one history but rather a variety of interpretations, perspectives, and speculations. You will look at a series of different debates, which could include topics such as US imperialism and the French Revolution.

5102HIST. Research Paper

This is the chance to develop your skills in research and writing extended essays – all the hallmarks of a fine historian! Not only are these useful skills in themselves but in the context of an undergraduate degree this is a key requirement ultimately to be realised in the undergraduate dissertation at Level 6. You will work independently, make informed decisions around your research topic, and devise a realistic research question to address and explore. You will be allocated a supervisor with expertise in the field to support you along the way. Your project will relate to a topic that you have already studied, or will be studying, so you will have a basic knowledge base and a degree of expertise as a foundation for your long essay.

SEMESTER ONE OPTION MODULES

5105HIST. Society and Culture in the Soviet Union

This module focusses on the Soviet “experiment”. From the avant-garde 1920s to the so-called “evil empire” of the 1980s, the interlocking political, cultural and social dynamics of the Soviet Union will be explored. The module introduces students to key themes in Soviet history such as the New Economic Policy, Industrialisation and Collectivisation, the Terror, Stalinism, the “thaw”, late socialism, and perestroika.

5108HIST. Gendering the Past

In ‘Gendering the Past’ you will examine the everyday lives of men and women in the long nineteenth century (1780-1920). This module will introduce you to an exciting and burgeoning area of social and cultural history. We will turn to the expanding areas of material culture studies, sensory studies and gender studies in order to analyse the most intimate areas of people’s lives in the long nineteenth century. Taking the private sphere as its starting point, the module begins by examining domestic, intimate lives of men and women in the Victorian period. The first half of the module explores the role of home and domesticity, love and courtship, marriage, heterosexuality, queer love and desire, and the gendered body. We will also consider gender non-conformity through an exploration of the lives of trans people in the Victorian period.

5109HIST. Ireland 1690-1922

This course provides covers a range of political, social, cultural and economic topics as it traces its way from the 1690s to the establishment of the Irish Free State in the early twentieth century. During the course will we will examine the development of nationalism, republicanism and unionism. The course will concentrate on the period between 1798 and 1921. The 1798 Rebellion, the Great Irish Famine of the 1840s and the 1916 Rising are among the topics considered, while the importance of religion, music, language, sport and literature in Irish life will be also be examined. The important contribution made by Irish immigrant groups in Britain, the United States and Australia to Irish political, economic and cultural life back in Ireland will also be considered.

5121HIST. A History of Modern Latin America

From the iconic image of Che Guevara to the television programme *Narcos*, Latin America has inspired and intrigued modern-day audiences. But what are the historical antecedents to this contemporary popularisation of the region? This course provides an introduction to Latin American history during the nineteenth and twentieth century. Taking a comparative approach by looking at the experience of different countries, it will focus on social and political change over time and will consider the domestic and international factors which have shaped the development of the region.

5122HIST. An International History of the Cold War Era

What was the Cold War? Why did it come about? How does it fit in to the broader histories of the nineteenth, twentieth, and twenty-first centuries? This module takes a long-term approach to these questions, beginning with the global financial crisis of the 1890s and ending with Russia’s annexation of the Crimea in 2014. It takes a chronological and geographical approach, alternating between examining how the Cold War evolved over time and how it

intersected with the histories of Western and Eastern Europe, East Africa, South Asia, and the Middle East.

5125HIST. The Age of Terror, 1850 – 1914

This module will introduce you to the concept of societal fear, focusing on the period from the 1850s, through the *fin de siècle* and to the final years of peace before 1914. In assessing the means by which the transatlantic world succumbed to societal, military and political fears, this module will explore the impact of invasion scares, the problems of imperial/national decline, security concerns and media hysteria over “others” (i.e. immigrants, dissidents and radicals) and the global impact of the terrorist campaigns of anarchists and nihilists. In covering these issues, this module will present students with topics that are both contemporary in their relevance and fascinating in their history.

5127HIST. Tanzimat to Tahrir: the history of the modern Middle East

The Middle East is never far from British news screens, but what truths are there beneath the images of conflict, displacement and revolution that we are subjected to? This module sets the understanding of the Modern Middle East within its wider historical context, beginning with a broad overview before focussing on a chronological and thematic analysis of the later Ottoman Empire through to the Arab Spring. Although inevitably, we will be discussing warfare in all its guises, including terrorism, we will also be using the experiences of different countries to interrogate topics as diverse as minorities, kingship and religion.

5132HIST 'Until I am free, you are not free either': The U.S. Civil Rights Movement

This course examines the civil rights movement in the United States. Beginning with World War II and carrying through the 1960s, the module will question the traditional periodisation of the narrative (1954-1968) as well as analyse the 'long civil rights movement'. We consider the regional and national aspects of the movement, and think about major historical themes as they relate to the civil rights movement (i.e. gender, class, labour, age, and race most notably). The module will also consider the black freedom struggle in England.

SEMESTER TWO OPTION MODULES

5106HIST. Colonial Africa

This module will introduce students to the history of sub-Saharan Africa since the advent of European colonial rule in the late nineteenth century. It shows modern African history to be shaped by the character of Africa's place in the world, and by the dynamism of African societies; by the unequal yet ambiguous power relationships between western actors, African elites and African peoples; by the tensions of gender and generational inequality which have powered social and political change within African societies; and by the constant interactions between cultures and political systems which make a nonsense of claims that Africa has ever been outside of world history. The module will provide a chronological overview of modern African history, concentrating on the colonial period, but also including sessions on pre-colonial and post-colonial Africa. It will also examine a number of over-arching themes in modern African history, including gender, religion and ethnicity.

5111HIST. From Shogun to Showdown: Japan, 1853 – 1941

Between 1853 and the Second World War, Japan was transformed from an isolated feudal country to a great power capable of challenging the great powers of the West. This module explains this 'emergence' by examining the interactions between the natural environment, politics, society and economic development.

5113HIST. Supernatural Britain

History contains as much fancy as fact. Imagination, beliefs, thoughts, and interpretations all played a part in the lives of our ancestors. Supernatural Britain considers the place of the uncanny, weird and paranormal in Modern British history. In this course you will meet witches, clairvoyants, beasts, fairies and aliens – well, sort of. As well as considering specific case studies, the module will introduce you to the clashes between those who believe in the supernatural, others who provide rational explanations, and the people who just keep an open mind. With its focus on the acquisition, validity and interpretation of evidence, this module compels you to think in general about the importance and flexibility of historical evidence.

5126HIST. Gender, Race and Slavery in the United States

This module explores how ideas of gender and race developed alongside slavery in the United States. With a special focus on the sexual and reproductive exploitation of enslaved people, this module will encourage you to consider how racialised ideas of sexuality and exploitability have made a lasting impact on 'race' in US society. It will involve close engagement with the testimony of the formerly enslaved, in particular the WPA interviews from the 1930s.

5128HIST. International Fieldwork: Modern Germany

This module is built around a week-long field trip to Berlin where we will engage with different aspects of modern German history. We will explore Berlin as place of modernity and vibrant culture since the 18th century, including its role as the capital of six (!) states, Prussia, Imperial Germany, the Weimar Republic, Nazi Germany, the German Democratic Republic, and the united German Republic. All of these left a lasting mark on the city. We will also engage with the question how the chequered German past is represented in museum and memorial sites. Site visits will include Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp, the former Gestapo HQ, the former Stasi HQ, the Reichstag, the Jewish Museum, and the German Historical Museum.

5129HIST. Teaching History

This module is all about the process of teaching and learning history and is specifically designed for those of you who may be considering teaching as a career. Working with Birkenhead Sixth Form College (BSFC) you will help to support the learning of their A-level History pupils both by mentoring and then designing and delivering a specific class. You will learn about how teaching works and then apply those skills.

5130HIST: History Works

Gain project-based work experience that will equip you with a range of skills essential not only for your degree but life beyond university. A partner organisation – which might include heritage and cultural partners, small and medium enterprises in the Liverpool metropolitan region, and LJMU libraries and archives – will set a real-life project for you to work on. You will develop skills in team-work, initiative, creativity, and problem-solving along the way. You will also learn how to develop a professional CV, cover letter, and on a profile on the platform LinkedIn – setting you up to apply for internships and further work experience during your degree and beyond.

5133HIST: Revolutionaries: International Communism from the Great War to the Cold War.

This module introduces students to the political, social and cultural history of international communism. Focussing primarily on the era of the Communist International (Comintern) (1919-43), it also examines shifts in international communism after the Second World War, and examines the legacies of this political, social and cultural force in global history. The Communist

International was the world's first global political party created with no lesser a goal than the promotion of Bolshevik-style revolution world-wide. The Comintern singularly failed to live up to the high ambitions which its creators had envisaged. But why did it fail? What sort of organisation was it? And what attracted thousands of ordinary men and women across the world to join communist parties in the era of the two world wars, and beyond? Students will examine key debates in the history of international communism, such as the origins of the idea of communism and of revolutionary internationalism; the role of Lenin and the Bolsheviks in the Comintern; the influence of Stalin and the Soviet Union and the place of individual communist parties in their national political contexts. The course, however, will go beyond politics to examine communism as a social and cultural experience. Students will examine diaries, autobiographies and related sources to explore who the communists were and how they made sense of their ideological commitment.

Level-6

Your final year is the culmination of all your efforts to date, calling for the advanced and sustained application of methodological and theoretical approaches. By this point in your journey you will be expected to compose and articulate complex arguments, engage with the very latest, most up-to-date research, displaying critical insight. Ultimately, you will be expected to demonstrate your ability as an independent scholar.

SEMESTER 1	SEMESTER 2
CORE (40 credits) 6100HIST. Dissertation	
OPTIONS (pick two in each semester)	
6103HIST. Brummies, Geordies, Scousers and others	6101HIST. Living With Defeat
6106HIST. Life on the British Home Front	6107HIST. Laws of War
6114HIST. Interpreting conflict in post-colonial Africa	6108HIST. Soviet Healthcare
6125HIST. Commemoration & Celebration in Ireland	6110HIST: Victorian Cities
6126HIST. The Hatred That Never Dies. The Long History of Contemporary Global Anti-Semitism	6120HIST. When the sun set in the East: End of Empire in Southeast Asia
6128HIST. Nazi Germany	6130HIST. 'Like a Rolling Stone': Activism and Revolution in the Long Sixties
	6131HIST: History Works

THE CORE MODULE

6100HIST. Dissertation in History

It is one of the features of all undergraduate Programmes in the UK that final year students undertake an extended piece of research and writing. At LJMU this takes the form of a yearlong Dissertation based on primary source material. You have the freedom to choose what your research project will be about (within certain parameters): you design your research project, take ownership of that and work on it independently.

SEMESTER ONE OPTION MODULES

6103HIST. Brummies, Geordies, Scousers and others

This module introduces you to the diversity of British and Irish place identities, such as the Cockney, as well as broader categories like the 'North'. You will trace their history and significance. These sub-national identities relate to one another and to national identities. In

addition, place identities illustrate gender, generational and occupational hierarchies. A swift dismissal of these place identities as 'mere stereotypes' does nothing to aid our understanding of why these representations have come into being. Each representation furthers our understanding of the physical, social and cultural make-up of the British Isles. Jokes, sport, clothing, food, accent and dialect, work, music and many other cultural activities shed light these internal others.

6106HIST. Life on the British Home Front

The Second World War still has a strong presence within British society. For many it truly represents Britain's 'finest hour'. This momentous victory is thought to have brought out all that was good in the nation, encapsulating the true nature of British national character, encapsulated in the ideal of 'People's War'. This module is designed to deconstruct this moniker to examine it both as a widely prevalent phenomenon of the time and as the dominant post-war interpretation of those events. Studying this course offers you a detailed study of what it was like to live day-by-day in Britain between 1939 and 1945.

6114HIST. Interpreting conflict in post-colonial Africa

The global media has frequently interpreted the many conflicts of post-colonial Africa as 'tribal' violence. These crude stereotypes are themselves the products of a deep and continuing history of representations of Africa as the 'primitive other' in western culture. This course takes us beyond the stereotypes to examine in detail the historical, political and economic basis for warfare in Africa during the period of decolonisation and the Cold War. We will draw connections between the local, state-level, regional and global factors which have fed into these conflicts.

The course is structured around the close examination of a number of conflicts in Africa during the periods of decolonization and Cold War: Mau Mau in Kenya, liberation and civil wars in Mozambique and Angola, Zimbabwe, the Congo Crisis of the 1960s, secessionist struggle in Ethiopia, the Biafran war of independence in Nigeria; civil wars in Sudan and the Rwandan genocide.

6128HIST: Nazi Germany: Dictatorship and Genocide.

The module will engage with the history of the Nazi dictatorship between 1933 and 1945. However, rather than following the sometimes-simplistic narratives and the focus on the Second World War, we will focus on some key aspects: the destruction of Weimar democracy followed by the quick establishment of a brutal dictatorship and the persecution of Jewish people culminating in the Holocaust during the Second World War. We will try to answer the question of why the Nazi party could rise from the fringes of the political spectrum to political dominance and what role the old elites played in this process. How important were terror and consent for the functioning of the Nazi dictatorship? How did the dictatorship operate? How important was Hitler as a political leader? Why was the resistance against the Nazi dictatorship initially so ineffective? In the second part of the module, we will focus on the problem of the persecution of the German (and later European) Jews by the Nazis. We will analyse the patterns of prejudice and antisemitism that Nazis could mobilise. We will also discuss the policies of exclusion and persecution that eventually culminated in industrialised mass murder and genocide. At the end of the module, we also investigate the contested memories of the Nazi dictatorship and the Holocaust and their meaning in the 21st century.

6125HIST. Commemoration & Celebration in Ireland

Ireland is in the middle of its Decade of Centenaries and Commemorations (2013-2023) so this is an opportune time to examine how significant events in Irish history have been both celebrated and commemorated by later generations. This module offers students an opportunity to engage with events both as they unfolded and as they have been recalled.

Students will examine how, where and why we study history. They will consider how Irish history has been imparted through a range of sources including school text books, documentaries, films, museums, streetscapes, memorials, festivals etc. Students will consider three case studies: the 1798 Rebellion, the Great Irish Famine (1845-1849) and the Irish Revolution (1916-23). They will examine the events themselves and will assess how they have been remembered, commemorated, memorialised and manipulated by later generations.

6126HIST. The hatred that never dies: the long history of contemporary global antisemitism.

This module places the study of contemporary antisemitism in its wider global and historical context, focussing on the longue durée of the evolution of contemporary antisemitism in the Middle East and Europe. Beginning in pre-Christian antiquity, this module will engage with a wide variety of sources, from theological texts to folk tales to film, in order to examine the history of antisemitism both chronologically and thematically. Using a variety of less well-known case studies, including those from Syria, Algeria, and Morocco, as well as from Russia, the UK, and France, the module charts the development of antisemitic thought and tropes, whilst engaging with important questions along the way, including the very definition of antisemitism. This will allow us to investigate effectively the commonalities and divergences across regions, but will also help us chart the development of new patterns, investigate the role of European colonialism in the diffusion of antisemitism and antisemitic thought, and understand how some tropes have evolved over the centuries, to reflect contemporary geopolitical concerns. This module will also speak to the intersection of history and politics, the topics that we will be studying, researching and debating will include the history and evolution of “antisemitism” itself (and whether or not it should be hyphenated...); the varying relationships that anti-Zionism has had with antisemitism, from the 1880s onwards, whether in Russia or Iraq; and the rise of “corona antisemitism” in Iran, the “Arab world”, and Europe. This is a subject full of extensive historiographical debates, fascinating primary sources, and endless opportunities for discussion and dialogue. *No previous knowledge of Middle Eastern history required*

SEMESTER TWO OPTION MODULES

6101HIST. Living with Defeat: France and the Second World War, History and Legacies.

The experience of military defeat followed by four years of German occupation, together with the collaborationist activities of the French Vichy regime, have cast a long shadow over modern French society. Focussing upon the everyday lives and experiences of ordinary French people confronted with such extraordinary circumstances, this module engages with the key social, cultural and political themes and historical debates through which the French public and subsequent historians have attempted to make sense of these ‘Dark Years’ in their national past.

6107HIST. Laws of War

Since ancient times, the practice of making war has been regulated by an evolving series of

norms, prejudices, treaties and – in recent years – international agreements. In this module, students will explore the evolution of the laws of armed conflict via a series of historical case studies, each of which will involve engagement in primary source documents. By examining the changes in the nature of the norms of practice and laws of armed conflict over an expanded chronology, this research-led module will enlighten students as to the extent to which politics, culture, societal change and value systems have impacted the practice of war throughout history.

6108HIST. Soviet Healthcare

The Soviet project, based on Marxist-Leninist principles, focused on the human body and the state expected its citizens to be healthy and productive members of society. This module examines state efforts to make Soviet people healthy through discussing and assessing questions on the themes of medicine, science, exercise, labour, gender, and ageing. Sources include photographs, film, diaries, and official documents. Discussions will address the relationship between state and society as well as what socialist care meant in practice.

6110HIST. Victorian Cities

How did the Victorians experience and imagine their cities? The nineteenth century witnessed the rapid transformation of cities. Contemporaries were both fascinated and repelled by this process. London was not only ‘magnificent’ in the eyes of American writer Henry James, but also a ‘brutal’ city gathering together ‘the darkest sides of life’. We will explore the Victorian city through a range of sources, including architecture, maps, photographs, novels, letters, diaries, journalism and investigative reports. To aid us on our journey, we will look at various writers and commentators, including Walter Besant, Charles Dickens, Friedrich Engels, Henry Mayhew, Charles Booth and many others.

6120HIST. When the Sun Set in the East: End of Empire in Southeast Asia

Slowly built up between the late-fifteenth and the early- twentieth centuries, the empires of Britain, France, The Netherlands, Belgium, Spain and Portugal collapsed remarkably rapidly in the three decades after the Second World War. This module examines the causes and nature of the often dramatic ‘end of empire’, what historians refer to as ‘decolonisation’ by focussing upon a number of case studies of this experience in one the world’s most dynamic and diverse regions: Southeast Asia. Here, the decolonisation process was often particularly fraught with a number of colonial wars between nationalist insurgents and the European imperial powers desperate to regain their colonies following the humiliation of the Japanese Occupation. At the same time, the region became a cockpit of superpower conflict as the end of empire intermeshed with the Asian Cold War.

6130HIST 'Like a Rolling Stone': Activism and Revolution in the Long Sixties

Minority rights, women’s rights, gay rights, anti-war activism, drugs, and sexual experimentation. These were only some of the radical challenges to the status quo in the United States in the long 1960s. This module traces this dynamic decade of social and political activism, and its cultural impact with particular emphasis on youth leadership. This course will analyse long 1960s activism, such as the civil rights movement, Black Power, Vietnam War and the peace movement, counterculture, women’s liberation, Red Power, and the gay rights movement. Key questions remain for historians. How long did these radical movements retain unity? How did they seek to effect change? What did they achieve, and when?

5130HIST: History Works

Another chance to gain project-based work experience that will equip you with a range of skills essential not only for your degree but life beyond university. A partner organisation – which might include heritage and cultural partners, small and medium enterprises in the Liverpool metropolitan region, and LJMU libraries and archives – will set a real-life project for you to work on. You will develop skills in teamwork, initiative, creativity, and problem-solving along the way. You will also learn how to develop things like a professional CV, cover letter, and a profile on the platform LinkedIn – setting you up to apply for internships and further work experience during your degree and beyond.

So, what now?

Undoubtedly you will have a lot on your plate at this time but we are often asked if there is anything that can be done so you are prepared and “academically ready” ahead of starting your degree. Whilst admiring this enthusiasm, I am a little cautious about setting reading in an unsupported and unguided fashion. We certainly have no expectations around new students being well versed in certain texts, indeed from day one we will take measures to thrust you into the literature. However, if you have some time on your hands, and you want to start getting your mind to work in the habit of a history undergraduate, here are some staples you might want to look at:

Carr, E. H., *What Is History?* Palgrave, Basingstoke, 2001.

Evans, Richard, *In Defence of History*, Granta, London, 1997.

Jordanova, Ludmilla, *History in Practice*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2000.

Tosh, John, *The Pursuit of History*, Routledge, Abingdon, 2015.

