

# Nottingham Trent University

## Module Specification

	Basic module information	
1	Module Title:	Medieval and Early Modern Worlds
2	Module Code:	HIST10211
3	Credit Points:	40
4	Duration:	Year Long
5	School:	Arts and Humanities
6	Campus:	Clifton
7	Date this version first approved to run:	September 2013

### 8 Pre, post and co-requisites:

These are modules that you must have studied previously in order to take this module, or modules that you must study simultaneously or in a subsequent academic session

<u>Pre, Co, Post</u>	<u>Module Code</u>	<u>Module Title</u>
Co	HIST10111	Into the Past (Co-requisite for SH/JH History)
Co	HIST10311	Creating the Modern (Co-requisite for SH History)
Co	HIST10412	World History (Co-requisite for SH/JH History)

### 9 Courses containing the module

<u>Level</u>	<u>Core/Option</u>	<u>Mode</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Course Title</u>
		FT	HIST001	BA (H) History
		PT	HIST002	BA (H) History
		FT	HUMA004	BA (H) Communication & Society and History
		FT	HUMA012	BA (H) English and History
		FT	HUMA020	BA (H) European Studies and History
		FT	HUMA025	BA (H) Film & TV and History
		FT	HUMA029	BA (H) Global Studies and History
		FT	HUMA035	BA (H) History and International Relations
		FT	HUMA036	BA (H) History and Linguistics
		FT	HUMA037	BA (H) History and Media
		FT	HUMA038	BA (H) History and Philosophy
		FT	HUMA039	BA (H) History and Politics
		SW	MODL008	BA (H) French and History
		SW	MODL021	BA (H) German and History

## 10 Overview and aims

This module offers a thematic introduction to Medieval and Early Moderns Worlds. It maps the transition of a society in 'darkness' through to the eve of 'modernity', looking ostensibly at European culture and society, but also examining European interaction with the wider world through exploration, trade, crusade and evangelisation.

The medieval period was a time of contrasts—on the one hand profoundly spiritual; on the other seemingly cruel and corrupt. The module explores the key features that define medieval society, such as religion, sex, death, war and politics, and traces its development from feudal insularity to Renaissance expansiveness. The Reformations of the sixteenth century then helped to re-draw the political, spiritual and cultural maps of Europe, complementing such potent forces as centralisation, rising literacy levels, and a determination to explore and commodify the wider world. With the birth pangs of rationalism and secularisation challenging long established tenets of behaviour and sensibilities, Europe was now on the verge of modernity, and 'modern' man could look back and consign the 'vices' of medievalism – magic, persecution, violence and war, the subjugation of woman and the lower orders, misogyny and xenophobia – to the history books. Of course, 'modernity' would take such vices to new depths, but that is another story...

Thus, as well as offering you a good basis on which to develop your studies in medieval and early modern history, the module will provide you with a useful background for studying modern society. If you have studied medieval and early modern history before, this module will offer you the opportunity to explore specific themes in greater depth. If you have studied history, but not the medieval and early modern periods, the module will offer you a wider perspective for your previous studies. Alternatively, if you have not taken history at A-level, you will find the module serves as an ideal introduction to the period. The module works well in all these cases because of the way we blend general overviews with case studies and guided learning.

Additionally, the module is particularly useful for helping you develop your academic skills in areas like: interpreting primary sources, effective research, building an argument and academic writing. You will also be introduced directly to problems and issues in historical analysis and interpretation.

## 11 Module content

The module offers a range of topics, selected to give you an introduction to and developing knowledge of Europe from 800-1750. General overviews are combined with case studies illustrating specific themes.

Medieval world views

Overview of western European society

Feudalism and manorialism

Urban society

Medieval family and household

Natural and supernatural worlds

Religion in the medieval West

Culture and intellectual life

Empire, kingdoms, government and warfare

Outsiders and persecution

Revolt and dissent

Christendom viewing other cultures (Byzantium, Islam, Crusades, exploration)

Renaissance and Reformations

State Building and Absolutism

Literacy and Print

Civil Wars and Military Revolutions

## 12 Indicative reading

Barber, M. *The Two Cities: Medieval Europe 1050-1320* (London, 2004).

Bartlett, R. *The Making of Europe: Conquest, Colonization and Cultural Change 950-1350* (Harmondsworth, 1993).

Jordan, W.C. *Europe in the High Middle Ages* (New York, 2003).

Linehan, P. and Nelson, J. (eds) *The Medieval World* (London, 2001).

Lindberg, Carter, *The European Reformations Sourcebook* (Oxford, 2013)

Cameron, E. (ed.), *Early Modern Europe: an Oxford History* (Oxford, 1999).

Konnert, M., *Early Modern Europe* (Cambridge, 2006).

Kümin, B. (ed.), *The European World, 1500-1800: An Introduction to Early Modern History* (London, 2009).

Collins, J.B. & K. Taylor (eds.), *Early modern Europe: issues and interpretations* (Oxford, 2004).

Wiesner-Hanks, M., *Early modern Europe 1450-1789* (Cambridge, 2006).

### 13 Learning outcomes

Learning outcomes describe what you should know and be able to do by the end of the module

Knowledge and understanding. After studying this module you should be able to:

A2. Articulate an awareness of the complexity of reconstructing and interpreting the past, the problematic and varied nature of historical evidence.

A3. Demonstrate an appreciation and understanding of the contested nature of historical debate, and begin to build a critical, personal position in relation to historical debates.

A4. Demonstrate some understanding of the histories of different countries, societies or cultures, and articulate an awareness of continuity and change over extended time spans.

A6. Engage with questions demanding an understanding of relevant historical perspectives, debates and theories and their functions in historical interpretation.

A7. Develop and sustain historical arguments, utilizing evidence in the presentation and communication of these arguments.

Skills, qualities and attributes. After studying this module you should be able to:

B1. Develop, sustain and defend a reasoned argument based on evidence whether in written or verbal form;

B2. Show skills of analysis and their uses across a range of historical themes and problems;

B3. Demonstrate an ability to locate and evaluate, with guidance, research materials to address specific questions;

B4. Develop a sound foundation of study techniques appropriate to Higher Education and demonstrate their application to subject content.

B6. Use IT and e-learning resources to support your historical studies, including using IT for bibliographic and archive searches, written/visual presentation of evidence and argument, and for electronic communication to and with others.

B8. Demonstrate increasing flexibility and confidence in the organisation and completion of your work, and in the expression of your ideas.

### 14 Teaching and learning

#### *Range of modes of direct contact*

This indicates the range of direct contact teaching and learning methods used on this module, e.g. lectures, seminars

Lectures, seminars, workshops, tutorials

Total contact hours:

75

#### *Range of other learning methods*

This indicates the range of other teaching and learning methods used on this module, e.g.

directed reading, research	
Guided reading, research skills, preparation skills	
Total non-contact hours:	325

#### 15 **Assessment methods**

This indicates the type and weighting of assessment elements in the module

<u>Element number</u>	<u>Weighting</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Description</u>
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1	50%	Coursework	2,000 Word Essay
2	50%	Examination	Examination

#### **Diagnostic/formative assessment**

This indicates if there are any assessments that do not contribute directly to the final module mark

Participation and engagement in seminar work on a group and individual basis  
Preparatory whole group and seminar discussions on examining source evidence

#### **Further information on assessment**

This section provides further information on the module's assessment where appropriate

The Class Test will focus on an analysis of source evidence

#### **Document management**

16	Module Title:	Medieval and Early Modern Worlds
17	Module Code:	HIST10211
18	Subject (JACS) Code	
19	Cost Centre	139
20	School:	AAH
21	Academic Team	HLI
22	Campus	2 (Clifton)
23	Other institutions providing teaching	<i>Please complete in box 23 a-d - if applicable</i>
		Institution   %
23a	Other UK Higher Education or Further Education Institution-	

	Please name Percentage not taught by NTU	
23b	Other public organisation in the UK- Percentage not taught by NTU	
23c	Other private organisation in the UK - Percentage not taught by NTU	
23d	Any other Non-UK organisation - Percentage not taught by NTU	
24	Date this version was formally approved by SASQC/DAG:	