

## Nottingham Trent University

### Module Specification

Basic module information		
1	Module Title:	History: Theory, Method and Interpretation
2	Module Code:	HIST20112
3	Credit Points:	20
4	Duration:	First Half Year
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>
Pre	HIST10111	Into the Past (pre-requisite for SH/JH History)
Pre	HIST10412	World History (pre-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
		SW	MODL034	BA (H) Italian and History

**10 Overview and aims**

This core module provides valuable theoretical and methodological foundations for the study of History at honours level at NTU, and challenges you to examine critically the problems posed by the nature and limits of historical knowledge. It will introduce you to the key historiographical debates and traditions that have influenced historical thought over the past centuries: from Ranke and Marx through the Annales School and Social historians of the twentieth century to more recent trends in gender, memory and post-modern studies. It will then acquaint you with a key element of the historian's craft: how to envisage the theories, methods and approaches that underpin research and argument. It will do so by interrogating the (often competing) theories and methods that have underpinned historians' approaches to significant and established historical and historiographical themes, such as Urbanisation and Poverty, Race and Ethnicity, Religion, Colonisation, and Globalisation. The module also serves as the mechanism by which you are introduced to final year dissertation research in History – both single and joint honours – and to inform you on how best to identify a research topic, securing supervision, and conceptualise your research thesis.

**11 Module content**

Historiographical traditions:

Ranke

Marx

Weber

Durkheim

Annales School

Social History

Gender

Memory

Postmodernism

Theories and Approaches:

Urbanisation

Poverty

Race and Ethnicity

Religion

Colonisation

Globalisation

Introducing dissertation supervision and determining thesis focus.

**12 Indicative reading**

Berger, S et al *Writing History, Theory and Practice* (2003)

Black, J., *Historiography: Contesting the Past; Claiming the Future* (2011)

Black, Jeremy *Using History* (2005)

Budd, Adam, *The Modern Historiography Reader: Western Sources* (2008)

Cannadine, David (ed) *What is History now?* (2004)

Tucker, A., *Companion to the Philosophy of History and Historiography* (2010)

Spalding and Parker, *Historiography: An Introduction* (2008)

**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. Demonstrate awareness of the complexity of reconstructing and interpreting the past, the problematic and varied nature of historical evidence.

A3. Engage with and critically assess the historiographical development of core debates in history, and of the forces of historical change and the ways in which they are explained in historiographical debates.

A4. Demonstrate comparative understanding of the histories of different countries, societies or cultures, and analyse historical processes through the assessment of continuity and change over extended time spans.

A5. Demonstrate a critical awareness and understanding of the nature of history as a discipline, and its connections with related disciplines, and recognise its relevance in the contemporary world.

A6. Develop and sustain historical arguments, formulating appropriate questions and utilizing evidence in the presentation and communication of these arguments.

A9. Differentiate, comprehend and evaluate historical methods, theories, concepts, and critical skills in using evidence and testing the validity of statements and comprehend how these are applied to specific issues and topics.

---

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

B1. Assimilate material from a range of sources and use it to construct and sustain arguments in written exercises.

B2. Demonstrate effective written, oral, visual and electronic communication skills.

B3. Demonstrate an increasing ability to apply problem solving skills through the use

of contemporary historical evidence and secondary literature.

B4. Demonstrate some intellectual independence and judgement through the setting of appropriate research questions for a dissertation and through the solving of selected historical problems.

B6. Demonstrate some ability in the use of bibliographic and research skills in order to locate and evaluate sources of information, including online materials, reflecting an appreciation of the range of sources for historical study.

B9. Demonstrate increasing independence, resourcefulness, 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

Total contact hours:

39

##### *Range of other learning methods*

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

Directed reading and research tasks

Small group work

Independent study

Total non-contact hours:

161

#### 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>
-----------------------	------------------	-------------	--------------------

1	100%	Coursework	Essay
---	------	------------	-------

---

**Diagnostic/formative assessment**

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

**Further information on assessment**

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

Essay: Historiographical and analytical review of debates and themes (2,500 words)

**Document management**

16	Module Title:	History: Theory, Method and Interpretation	
17	Module Code:	HIST20112	
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:		