Nottingham Trent University
Module Specification

	Basic module information	
1	Module Title:	History in the City 1800-1960: Archives Training and Research Practice
2	Module Code:	HIST26706
3	Credit Points:	20
4	Duration:	Second 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

Pre, Co, Post	Module Code	Module Title
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

Level	Core/Option	Mode	Code	Course Title
		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
SW	MODL052	BA (H) Spanish and History

10	**Overview and aims**

This module aims:

- to provide practice-based training in archival study and structure, delivered though one three week and one four week study block in local Nottinghamshire archives;
- to introduce you to schemas of intensive archival method in recording and analysing data, using a variety of archival sources from the 19th and 20th centuries (written, visual, oral). The primary aim is to offer actual hands on experience to engage you actively in the research process;
- to explore the idea of the research case study, from which broader trends and conclusions will be extrapolated and drawn;
- to promote further the inter-locking skills in the management and analysis of primary and secondary material;
- through whole group, seminars and tutorial approaches, to develop the your ability to analyse theoretical approaches and academic interpretations of history when tested against empirical data;
- to develop your understanding of different research methodologies.

The module is designed to train you in the techniques and practices of independent, off-campus primary research. The writing of history is a complex task involving a number of overarching processes. Schematically, this will involve you on this module in the following five key tasks:

- the location of individual sources on a given topic;
- the critical evaluation of this source material (using the techniques to which you were introduced in level one modules);
- the recording of data in a systematic and accessible format;
- the organisation of this material to produce an interpretation – usually by drawing on, or engaging with, one or several academic theories of explanation;
- and, finally, communicating this interpretation to a wider audience, orally and in the form of a written paper.

This module will set research within the context of the urban experience. It demands that you work beyond those existing narrative structures common in localised case studies to offer instead an individual interpretation which has an intellectual direction and purpose: that is to construct argument, exploring the previously unexplored; seeking to refute or confirm existing explanations through the use of new material; or reinterpreting previously used sources through an alternative theoretical perspective.

11	**Module content**

<u>Archival Practice and Theory:</u> how to use an archive, what type of evidence is available; recording evidence and interpreting your findings;

<u>Communicating your results</u>: interlocking narratives: the construction of responses and argument; the imperfect nature of history; conventions and writing up;

<u>The case study</u>: an exercise in empiricism; its function; theory, historiography and evidence coming together; expanding outwards to the national.

<u>Case Study Options will include:</u>

Civic Government and Civil Society, Services, Improvements, Participation;

Class formation: Working Class, Middle Class;

Civilising the City, Policing, Watching, Surveillance;

Employment and Unemployment, Transport, Industry; Shopping;

Homes for Heroes, Slums and Slum Clearance, the Rise of Suburbia;

Life and Leisure, Voluntary Associations, Clubs, Societies;

Medicine and Health, Hospitals, Asylums, Dispensaries;

Media: the Newspaper as Civic Diary; Storytelling: Imagined Communities; Biography and Compendiums; Directories;

Poverty and Social Welfare;

City Rituals, Exhibitions, the Public Face of the City.

An indicative bibliography and starter pack of archival references will be provided to guide you.

12	**Indicative reading**

Bastion, J. et al, *Community Archives: The shaping of memory (Principles and Practice in Records Management and Archives): Creating and Sustaining Memory* (Facet, 2009).

Feinstein, Charles and Mark Thomas, *Making History Count: A Primer in Quantitative Methods for Historians* (Cambridge, 2002).

Gunn, Simon, *The Public Culture of the Victorian Middle Class: Ritual and Authority in the English Industrial Town 1840-1914* (MUP, 2000).

Hayes, Nick, 'Civic perceptions: housing and local decision-making in English cities in the 1920s', *Urban History* 27 (August, 2000), pp. 211-233.

Millar, Laura, *Archives: Principles and Practices* (Facet, 2010).

Ramsey, Alexis E. et al., *Working in the archives: practical research methods for rhetoric and composition* (Southern Illinois University Press, 2010).

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:

A1. Demonstrate a solid knowledge and understanding of the past and its interpretation, and of how societies and cultures perceive their own past and are influenced by it.

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

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

A8. Draw reasoned, informed conclusions about the past from incomplete, ambiguous and often contradictory evidence.

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.

A10. Conceptualise an appropriate research project to investigate selected historical topics.

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

A2. Demonstrate effective written, oral, visual and electronic communication skills.

A3. 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 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.

B7. Access and reflexively use IT to support your historical studies, including using IT for bibliographic and archive searches, data analysis, written/visual presentation of evidence and argument, and for electronic communication to and with others.

B8. Demonstrate skills in time management, including the ability to work productively alone and in groups.

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

Block One: 3 weeks campus-based intense lecture and seminar programme, offering an introduction to urban history, and introduction to archival research and methodology, and exemplar contexts and case studies to guide towards project selection. Selection will be supported by one individual tutorial.

Block Two: 3 week archival placement – Finding Out About Archives and Sources - , supplemented by a seminar and two individual tutorials.

Block Three: 2 week block of lectures, seminars and individual tutorials, focussing upon planning, project design and literature review.

Block Four: 4 week archival research block, supplemented by a seminar and two individual tutorials.

As the module provides an opportunity to gain practical experience of research within an archive, a significant portion of your time will be spent working in an archive particularly in blocks two and four. This work is supported by a programme of lectures, seminars, tutorials and online directed study. This programme has been designed to be as interactive as possible and you will have the opportunity to learn and examine critically the theoretical concepts associated with the indicative content through private reading, consideration of lecture material and seminar papers, and

the archival research which is the central component of this module.

Total contact hours:	23.5

Range of other learning methods

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

directed reading, research

Students will be expected to undertake archival work in blocks two and four. It is expected that students will spend a **minimum** of **30 hours** undertaking archival research within these two blocks of the module.

Total non-contact hours:	176.5

15	**Assessment methods**

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

Element number	Weighting	Type	Description
1	100%	Coursework	Research Essay 3000 Words

Diagnostic/formative assessment

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

mark

1 x 1500 essay/report on archival topic and sources. This will be submitted at the end of Block Two. You will receive both written and verbal feedback on this through a tutorial in Block Three.

Further information on assessment

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

The coursework for this module accounts for 100% of the assessment:

Formative Case Study One: a 1500 word report on the use of evidence (its strengths and weaknesses) and the construction of a narrative-interpretative account in regard to one case study. This will be submitted at the end of block two. You will receive both written and verbal feedback on this through a tutorial in Block Three.

Summative Case Study: 3,000 word interpretive research essay based on the student's primary

research that links to and informs directly the existing historiography. This will be submitted at

the end of Block Four. You will receive written feedback on this at the end of the academic year.

	Document management		
16	Module Title:	History in the City 1800-1960: Archives Training and Research Practice	
17	Module Code:	HIST26713	
18	Subject (JACS) Code		
19	Cost Centre	139	
20	School:	AAH	
21	Academic Team	HLI	
22	Campus	2 (Clifton)	
23	Other institutions providing teaching	*Please complete in box 23 a-d - if applicable*	
		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:		