

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

for the award of

BA Hons History

Managed by the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

delivered by School of History, Philosophy and Culture

Date approved:	23/3/2018
Applies to students commencing study in:	September 2018

RECORD OF UPDATES

Date amended	Nature of amendment	Reason for amendment
23/3/2018	Section 2: Removal of 'history of Britain' from areas in which students can specialize	Changing balance of modules as described under changes to section 4.1 below
23/3/2018	Section 3: Reduction of programme learning outcome from 19 to 12, and the shortening of outcomes nos 3.1.1 and 3.2.1 (in revised version)	To rationalize the programme learning outcomes and to ensure that all can be satisfactorily assessed.
23/3/2018	Section 4.1: Revision of level four modules: Deletion of: U67502, U67503, U67505, U67506 Addition of: U67512, U67513, U67514, U67515, U67516, U67517 Changing of titles of U67501, U67504, U67900	To reflect better the current profile of research staff specialisms, to give students and applicants a more attractive suite of level four modules, to give History students at level four a degree of choice and to make the most of our Oxford location.
23/3/2018	Section 4.1: Deletion of U67542, U67822, U67885	Changing staff profile

23/3/2018	<p>Section 4.2: Changes to progression and award requirement in the light of the changes to Section 4.1 above.</p>	Consequent from the changes to level four provision described above.
23/3/2018	<p>Section 5: Clarification that the Dissertation modules (U67590 and U67599) now offer 15 hours of contact time, rather than 10 and that History and Documents now offers 8 hours of contact rather than around 20. Addition of the Work Based Learning module to the list of modules which are exceptions to those with the standard number of contact hours.</p>	<p>To reflect the addition of lectures into the teaching of the Dissertations modules and the replacement of lectures and seminars with lectures and tutorials in History and Documents. The Work Based Learning module has always been taught through tutorials but it was erroneously omitted from this section in earlier editions of the Programme Specification.</p>

SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

Awarding body:	Oxford Brookes University
Teaching institution and location:	Oxford Brookes University, Oxford
Language of study:	English
Final award:	BA Hons
Programme title:	History (single and combined honours)
Interim exit awards and award titles available:	CertHE, DipHE, BA
Brookes course code:	HT (single honours), HI (combined honours)
UCAS code:	V100 for single honours; for combined honours codes see the UCAS website at: http://www.ucas.com/students/coursesearch/
JACS code:	V100
HECoS code:	100302
Mode of delivery:	Full-time (face to face/on-campus) Part-time (face to face/on-campus)
Mode/s and duration of study:	Normal expected duration of study, full-time: 3 years Normal expected duration of study, part-time: 6 years Maximum possible duration of study, full or part-time: 8 years.
QAA subject benchmark statement/s which apply to the programme:	History (2007)
Professional accreditation attached to the programme:	Not applicable
Apprenticeship Standard:	Not applicable
University Regulations:	The programme conforms to the University Regulations for the year of entry as published/archived at: http://www.brookes.ac.uk/regulations/

SECTION 2: WHY STUDY THIS PROGRAMME?

History at Brookes has established an outstanding reputation for its exciting research-led teaching. The department has a dynamic research programme and the teaching staff includes some of the most distinguished researchers in their fields. To see staff profiles click on

<https://www.brookes.ac.uk/hpc/staff-and-students/academic-staff>

All teaching staff are passionate about their subject and about imparting their specialist knowledge to their students, with the result that students come into direct contact with the latest developments in the specialist areas covered by their lecturers. Many of the modules are based on the specific research interests of members of academic staff. The course also stands out for the broad choice of modules on offer and the excellent grounding it gives students interested in pursuing their studies at postgraduate level. Within the period covered (1500 to the present day) particular strengths lie in the history of medicine, the history of ideas, modern political history, the history of crime, early modern history, the history of Britain, social history and modern American history. Oxford Brookes has invested in new Library facilities and offers over half a million books, DVDs and CDs, and a vast range of databases, e-journals and reference materials. All the resources needed for the study of history are easily accessible. Once students reach the stage of writing their dissertation they also have access to the world famous Bodleian Library. In line with the research orientation of the course students are strongly encouraged to undertake original research projects themselves through the Independent Study or Dissertation modules.

The BA in History aims to provide a programme of academic study which will enable undergraduates to develop a high level of subject expertise, both in the subject in general and, according to student preference, in the specific areas of history of medicine, the history of ideas, modern political history, the history of crime, early modern history, social history and modern American history. Students are taught by scholars who are actively generating new knowledge and reshaping historical studies in their own areas. The large portfolio of subject-specific skills this involves are imparted through a variety of teaching, learning and assessment techniques, both formative and summative, which are introduced to the students progressively in a way which takes them from the highest level of A-level History encountered at school seamlessly to the threshold of postgraduate degree work. Students will thus emerge from their degree programme either with the possibility to pursue further (postgraduate) studies or to enter a wide range of careers and training programmes, in particular those that demand both a significant degree of autonomy and intelligence in researching and organizing data into a coherent, reasoned and substantiated narrative and a high level of communication skills, written, oral and interpersonal.

SECTION 3: PROGRAMME LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of the programme, graduates will demonstrate the following Brookes Attributes:

3.1 ACADEMIC LITERACY

1. Be able to assess critically the range of explanations that have been offered for historical change and continuity.
2. Be able to comprehend the nature and importance of debate and disagreement among historians, including the latest stage in the debate as reflected in current research
3. Be able to recognise, understand and use the principal modes of historical analysis.
4. Be able to formulate and communicate complex arguments, both orally and in writing, using an appropriate range of primary and secondary historical and theoretical material.
5. Be able to communicate knowledge and present arguments in a way which conforms in terms of style, organization and scholarly apparatus to the standards and conventions prevailing within the discipline of history.

3.2 RESEARCH LITERACY

1. Be able to select and deploy research methods and skills appropriate to a broad range of sources and media.

2. Be able to frame your own research questions and identify appropriate resources through which they may be investigated.

3.3 CRITICAL SELF-AWARENESS AND PERSONAL LITERACY

1. Be able to set and fulfil personal objectives, work to briefs and deadlines, and develop critical self-reflection through the process of responding to formative guidance and feedback.
2. Be able to apply knowledge, understanding and experience in constructing arguments, debating issues and identifying and solving problems.

3.4 DIGITAL AND INFORMATION LITERACY

1. Be able to select, synthesise and evaluate a range of primary and secondary historical sources, in accordance with their relevant historical contexts.
2. Be able to use libraries and ICT as tools for accessing information, in the form of books, articles, internet sites, databases, bibliographic search engines and other resources.

3.5 ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP

1. Be able to draw upon an understanding of, and sensitivity to, the diversity and complexity of contemporary societies, based on a comprehension of the historical events, processes and issues which have contributed to their formation and development.

SECTION 4: CURRICULUM CONTENT & STRUCTURE

4.1 PROGRAMME STRUCTURE AND REQUIREMENTS:

Code	Module Title	Credits	Level	Status	Coursework: Exam ratio
U67900	Making History: Core Concepts and Skills for the Historian	15	4	Compulsory for HT (single hon) and HI (combined hon)	100:0
U67913	What's the Big Idea: Adventures in the History of Ideas	15	4	Compulsory for HT (single hon) and HI (combined hon)	50:50
U67501	Europe and the World, 1450-1750	15	4	Compulsory for HT, Recommended for HI	100:0
U67512	A People's History of Britain	15	4	Compulsory for HT, Recommended for HI	100:0
U67514	World at War: A History of the First World War	15	4	Compulsory for HT, Recommended for HI	50:50
U67511	Superpowers: an International History of the Cold War	15	4	Compulsory for HT, Recommended for HI	50:50
U67504	Death, Disease and Doctors: Medicine and Society	15	4	Recommended for HT and HI	100:0
U67515	The Faiths of the West	15	4	Recommended for HT and HI	100:0
U67516	Bloody Histories: Crime and Violence in the West	15	4	Recommended for HT and HI	100:0
U67517	Oxford in History	15	4	Recommended	100:0

				for HT and HI	
U67920	History and Documents	15	5	Compulsory for HT and HI	100:0
U67923	Historical Writing	15	5	Compulsory for HT, Acceptable for HI	100:0
U67588	Brave New Worlds: Evolution and its Discontents	15	5	Acceptable for HT and HI	100:0
U67620	The Early Modern State	15	5	Acceptable for HT and HI	100:0
U67621	Conflict and Belief in the Early Modern World	15	5	Acceptable for HT and HI	100:0
U67721	Crime and Punishment through the Ages	15	5	Acceptable for HT and HI	100:0
U67723	Culture, Community and Family in Britain 1660-1918	15	5	Acceptable for HT and HI	100:0
U67724	Politics, Society and Culture in Modern Britain	15	5	Acceptable for HT and HI	100:0
U67725	Jack the Ripper and the Victorian Underworld	15	5	Acceptable for HT and HI	100:0
U67820	The Crisis of the West	15	5	Acceptable for HT and HI	100:0
U67821	A History of Modern Ideas	15	5	Acceptable for HT and HI	100:0
U67823	The Making of the American Giant, 1861-1945	15	5	Acceptable for HT and HI	50:50
U67921	History Work Based Learning	15	5	Acceptable for HT and HI	100:0
U67968	Independent Study I	15	5	Acceptable for HT and HI	100:0
U67969	Independent Study II	15	5	Acceptable for HT and HI	100:0
U67599	History Dissertation/Project	30	6	Compulsory for HT, Acceptable for HI	100:0
U67590	History Interdisciplinary Dissertation/Project	30	6	Acceptable for HI only	100:0
U67675	Advanced Study in Early Modern History	30	6	Acceptable for HT and HI	100:0
U67775	Advanced Study in the History of Medicine	30	6	Acceptable for HT and HI	100:0
U67779	Advanced Study in Social and Cultural History	30	6	Acceptable for HT and HI	100:0
U67780	Advanced Study in the History of Crime	30	6	Acceptable for HT and HI	100:0
U67781	Advanced Study in the History of Ideas	30	6	Acceptable for HT and HI	100:0
U67884	Advanced Study in Modern Political History	30	6	Acceptable for HT and HI	100:0
U67886	Advanced Study in the History of America	30	6	Acceptable for HT and HI	100:0

4.2 PROGRESSION AND AWARD REQUIREMENTS

To progress to stage 2 on the single honours History course (HT) students must pass at least two of the following modules:

U67900	Making History: Core Concepts and Skills for the Historian
U67913	What's the Big Idea: Adventures in the History of Ideas

U67501	Europe and the World, 1450-1750
U67511	Superpowers: an International History of the Cold War

To progress to stage 2 on the combined honours History course (HI) students must pass at least one of the following modules:

U67900	Making History: Core Concepts and Skills for the Historian
U67913	What's the Big Idea: Adventures in the History of Ideas

The following modules are compulsory for the single honours History (HT) CertHE:

U67900	Making History: Core Concepts and Skills for the Historian
U67913	What's the Big Idea: Adventures in the History of Ideas
U67501	Europe and the World, 1450-1750
U67511	Superpowers: an International History of the Cold War
U67512	A People's History of Britain
U67514	World at War: A History of the First World War

The following modules are compulsory for the single honours History (HT) DipHE and BA:

U67900	Making History: Core Concepts and Skills for the Historian
U67913	What's the Big Idea: Adventures in the History of Ideas
U67501	Europe and the World, 1450-1750
U67511	Superpowers: an International History of the Cold War
U67512	A People's History of Britain
U67514	World at War: A History of the First World War
U67920	History and Documents
U67923	Historical Writing

The following modules are compulsory for the single honours History (HT) BA (hons):

U67900	Making History: Core Concepts and Skills for the Historian
U67913	What's the Big Idea: Adventures in the History of Ideas
U67501	Europe and the World, 1450-1750
U67511	Superpowers: an International History of the Cold War
U67512	A People's History of Britain
U67514	World at War: A History of the First World War
U67920	History and Documents
U67923	Historical Writing
U67599	History Dissertation/Project

The following modules are compulsory for the combined honours History (HI) CertHE:

U67900	Making History: Core Concepts and Skills for the Historian
U67913	What's the Big Idea: Adventures in the History of Ideas

The following modules are compulsory for the combined honours History (HI) DipHE and BA:

U67900	Making History: Core Concepts and Skills for the Historian
U67913	What's the Big Idea: Adventures in the History of Ideas
U67920	History and Documents

4.3 PROFESSIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Not applicable.

SECTION 5: TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT

Teaching and Learning

The course structure is strongly progressive, presenting History to students within broad team-taught survey courses in level four, more focused courses taught by small teams of specialists in level five, and in modules taught by specialists in level six. This progression is reinforced by compulsory modules imparting historiographical skills and techniques which are essential to the dissertation in the final year in which the student has the chance to display to the full both presentational and research skills, as well as the capacity for original scholarship and passion for the subject that has been fostered since year one. Students encounter a variety of learning contexts which promote the ability to identify and appraise personal learning strategies. Teaching and learning is conducted through a wide range of approaches:

- lectures, seminars, and tutorials held by individual members of staff on specialized topics.
- team teaching on core and dissertation modules.
- group discussions and student-led presentations.
- private research and study, supported by directed reading.
- preparation of assignments which demonstrate conceptual and research skills.
- feedback tutorials on written assignments.
- the preparation of a research dissertation, supported by individual tutorials with a supervisor and by group workshops.
- attendance at optional specialized training sessions with subject librarians and learning resources specialists.
- visits to archives, specialized libraries, and, where appropriate, sites associated with particular modules.
- e-learning designed to support the use of ICT as a communication and learning tool as well as a tool for accessing and managing information and for presenting this information and related ideas.

In single (15-credit) modules students can expect at least 20 hours of contact time with teaching staff during the teaching semester, with the remaining 130 hours spent on independent study.

In double (30-credit) modules students can expect around 30 hours of contact time with teaching staff during the teaching semester, with 270 hours of independent study.

The Dissertation modules and History and Documents are taught through a mixture of lectures and tutorials. Students experience up to 15 hours contact in the Dissertation modules and up to 8 hours contact in History and Documents (respectively 285 and 142 hours independent study).

The Independent Study Modules are taught entirely through tutorials and students can expect up to 5 hours contact in these modules (145 hours independent study).

The Work Based Learning module is taught via a workshop and tutorials and students can expect up to 6 hours contact in this module (144 hours independent study).

Assessment

Assessment is conducted through a variety of methods: coursework essays and other exercises (for example literature reviews and reports); exams; and presentations (individual or group). The essay, whether in the form of coursework or the context of an exam, remains the core mode of assessment. Students are provided with both assessment and skills grids in the History Programme Handbook and feedback makes use of written feedback using assessment grids and one-to-one tutorials.

Adherence to the Brookes Assessment Compact is ensured through the following:

- The inclusion of the Compact in the Programme Handbook.
- The emphasis placed on in-class preparation for assessed tasks.
- The emphasis placed on feedback.
- The production of schedules of assessment deadlines, published in the Programme Handbook, with the aim of avoiding deadline clashes other than those that are unavoidable at the end of the semester.
- The continuous review of assessment in consultation with both the external examiners and student representatives and in light of student evaluations and other forms of student feedback.

SECTION 6: ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAMME

6.1 ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Minimum entry requirements are given here:

<https://www.brookes.ac.uk/studying-at-brookes/how-to-apply/entry-requirements/undergraduate-courses/>

6.2 DBS AND OTHER PRE-COURSE CHECKS REQUIRED

Not applicable.

SECTION 7: PREPARATION FOR EMPLOYMENT

The Brookes History course develops a range of skills and attributes which results in graduates who are both well-rounded and highly employable. These skills and attributes include academic writing skills; digital literacy; the ability to carry out research and use the research of others; a capacity for critical self-reflection and teamwork; and an awareness of diversity gained through the study of other cultures and time periods.

Recent Brookes history graduates have embarked on careers in a wide range of spheres, including IT, advertising, publishing, teaching, business, the civil and diplomatic services, public relations, law, sales and marketing, and the heritage industry. Oxford has the highest proportion of 'knowledge intensive' employees of any English city, so students are in an excellent position to pursue professional development opportunities in the region. A number of graduates also go on to study at masters and doctoral level.

Module U67570, Work Based Learning, offers students the opportunity to apply and develop transferable skills gleaned from the History programme while working with employers or with Brookes lecturers engaged in special projects.