THE LITTLE BOOK OF HISTORY AT BROOKES
What will I study?

Year 1 will give you an overview of historical topics from the 16th century to the present day and help you to develop skills and tools that you will use throughout the course. Our modules cover topics such as the history of crime, the Cold War and the big ideas which have shaped history.

In year 2 you will specialise in the topics that interest you the most. We offer a wide-ranging syllabus which covers topics as varied as:

- Crime and violence
- The rise of America
- Medicine and gender
- Culture and community
- Religion and statecraft

Year 3 gives you the chance to focus on your own research, with extended modules and a dissertation so you can study your chosen topics in more depth.
Our proximity to London allows easy trips to inspiring museums like the Wellcome Collection of science and medicine or the Imperial War Museum. The history of medicine can be studied in all three years of the programme, while our **World at War** module looks at the First World War from the perspectives of social, military, political and cultural history.
History in Oxford

The Oxford region is rich in cultural, political and religious history. You can visit the very spot where the 16th-century Oxford martyrs were burned at the stake during the English Reformation, or discover the archives at the old Oxford Castle where the last recorded execution took place in 1952.

The first year Oxford in History module tells the varied and vibrant story of the city and its region through the people and places that have made it famous. There is a particular emphasis placed on visits to museums and other sites of historical importance in the Oxford area.

Pictured: The Martyrs’ Memorial, St Giles
Work placements

We offer an optional work placement module so that you can gain work experience and enhance your CV whilst you study.

Oxford offers many opportunities for history students and we can place you in museums, libraries, the heritage industry, schools, or local archives. Past students have completed placements at Oxford Castle, The Museum Resources Centre at Witney, and Combe Mill on the Blenheim Palace Estate.

Whatever placement you take on, we ensure that you are well supported to gain valuable experience.
“At Brookes I really developed my research skills and the ability to read around a topic relatively quickly; always useful when a producer asks you to find some interesting facts by the end of the day about a subject you’ve never heard of!”

SAM MITCHELL, HISTORY GRADUATE NOW WORKING AS A FREELANCE TELEVISION RESEARCHER
Research and expertise

You will be taught by tutors who are active researchers with strong reputations. They draw on their own research interests to create a programme that you’ll find stimulating and enjoyable.

Our current areas of staff research expertise include:

- Modern Political History
- Modern American History
- History of Britain
- Social and Cultural History
- History of Medicine
- History of Crime
- History of Ideas
- Early Modern History
Uncovering Criminal History

Bring violent crime through the ages to life, and explore why humans commit criminal acts and their effect on others.

The hugely popular module, **Jack the Ripper and the Victorian Underworld** examines the moral and cultural climate associated with the nineteenth-century underworld and the differing dynamics of Victorian society. A popular feature of the module is the ‘Ripper Walk’ field trip where you will (literally) get to follow in the footsteps of the infamous murderer around Whitechapel in London.

*Pictured: History students on the ‘Ripper Walk’ field trip*
A spotlight on Early Modern History

Explore the interplay between belief, magic and witchcraft over the broadly defined early modern period.

Look at historical social exclusion on our Deviants and Social Outcasts module or explore how European ‘rulers’ played upon cultural systems to ensure their reign of power was effective.

94% of History students were satisfied by the overall quality of the course

2017 NATIONAL STUDENT SURVEY
SOURCE: UNISTATS
Modern Political History at its finest

Explore the social, economic and political history of the modern world – from the rise of the United States to the Russian communist revolution and the resulting civil war.

“One thing I love about the course is the variety of modules available. Whether you like British, American, Russian, early-modern or modern history, there is something for everybody to enjoy.”

HANNAH COOPER, HISTORY GRADUATE
“I did Advanced studies in the History of Ideas with Professor Roger Griffin. We learnt all about the various ‘isms’ that have shaped the world we live in, such as fascism, totalitarianism, communism, capitalism, romanticism, patriotism and liberalism. Part of the assessment involved picking an ‘ism’ and researching a key individual connected with it. I chose Enlightenment Liberalism and the political activist Thomas Paine. I really enjoyed the research aspect of the project and seeing the impact one individual can have on a much larger ideology, and one that has ultimately shaped the world I live in today.”

JACK SUTTON, HISTORY GRADUATE

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**The History of Ideas**

How does divine providence relate to the shaping of modern history? From the time of the Enlightenment to the Holocaust, explore the debates of early modern history, question the philosophy of the actions of the past and critically examine the socio-economic and cultural origins of the early modern world.

In the **Evolution of Fascism** module, you will explore the definition of fascism and how it shaped events across interwar and postwar Europe. You will discuss the intense academic controversy that has grown about the definition of fascism, its genesis, causes, principal manifestations and location within modern history.
Healthcare through History

Debate issues in healthcare, past and present, explore forensic medicine in Western Society, and develop an in-depth understanding of how and why medicine has played such an active part in shaping legal, political and social change.

“History at Oxford Brookes offers a very wide range of fascinating subjects, taught by leading experts. The department offers a personal level of tutoring and one-to-one interaction between lecturers and students, providing very high levels of student satisfaction.”

DR HELEN BERRY, NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY (EXTERNAL EXAMINER)
Historians of Social and Cultural History

Through reconstructing the emotional world of different eras, we gain an insight into people’s identities, who they were, and how they lived. Explore how social class, wealth and employment affected the lives of everyday people and look at how ideologies such as masculinity have changed over time.

“I chose History as it’s a subject that has always interested me, even from a young age. I think it’s very important to understand our past in order to get an idea of how the world has formed into what it is today. To be able to study it in more detail and focus on specific areas of History is something that I always wanted to do – so completing a degree in the subject seemed to be the next logical step for me.”

RACHEL DAVIES, HISTORY GRADUATE
The History of Britain

Britain has a long and illustrious history, especially in regard to its relationship with the sea. Explore concepts such as the Atlantic slave trade, British Liberty, and the role naval warfare played in the development of banking and national finance.

78% of our research is either world leading or internationally excellent

REF 2014
Modern American History

Learn about the diplomatic and military history of the United States. You’ll discover the strategic rivalry between the U.S. and Britain during the post-war years, and the gradual emergence of America as one of the international superpowers of today.

Oxford Brookes is also home to the International History and Grand Strategy Research Group. They host high profile talks around campus which have included former members of the U.S. Congress.
Combination courses

You can choose to study History as a single or combined honours degree. Popular combinations with History include Politics, International Relations and History of Art.

The flexible module approach at Brookes means that both single and combined honours students can choose to study a module from outside their course. This feature allows you to tailor your degree to what interests you most, so take a language module, explore Art History around Oxford, challenge yourself with a creative writing module or study an introduction to politics – the choice is yours!