The University of Manchester

Faculty of Humanities

School of Arts, Languages and Cultures

MA Handbook 2026-27

History

Please Note:

Information relevant to all postgraduate taught programmes in the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures (SALC) can be found in the Student Handbook, which should be read and used as a reference in conjunction with this Handbook. The SALC Student Handbook is available at:

https://livemanchesterac.sharepoint.com/sites/UoM-SALC-STUDENT-COMM/SitePages/School-of-Arts,-Languages-and-Cultures-Handbook.aspx

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History

KEY SUBJECT AREA CONTACTS AND RESPONSIBILITY

1. In the first instance, please contact the **Teaching and Learning Office**
   email: salc.courseunits@manchester.ac.uk

The administration for your degree programme is provided by the School's Teaching and Learning Office. They are the main contact for all enquiries relating to the administration of your programme of study, and can be contacted via the Student Hub. Your Student Support Hub is based in the South Foyer of the Samuel Alexander Building and can help support you with any queries you may have.

Student Hub opening hours are: 9am – 5pm, Monday – Friday (10am - 4pm outside of teaching weeks and exam periods). For more information see the Student Support Hub page.

Samuel Alexander Building
School of Arts, Languages and Cultures
Samuel Alexander Building
University of Manchester
Oxford Road
Manchester M13 9PL

Web address: http://www.alc.manchester.ac.uk/study/masters/courses/list/history-ma/

2. **Postgraduate Programme Director for History:**

Professor Christian Goeschel email: christian.goeschel@manchester.ac.uk;
Office hours during teaching weeks in Sam Alex N2.9 TBA.

The Programme Director's role is to ensure the smooth running of the MA degree. This involves overseeing the student course evaluation process, considering changes and improvements to the courses offered, and ensuring adherence to the guidelines set out in the University's Academic Standards Code of Practice. Every History Student will be assigned an Academic Advisor. The Programme Director supports Academic Advisors, and oversees the welfare, conduct and progress of students on the History MA.

3. **Head of Department for History**: **Prof Philipp Roessner;** email:
   philipp.roessner@manchester.ac.uk

The Head of Department is responsible to the Head of School for academic staff and the staffing of academic activities within his subject area. Prof Roessner is available by appointment.

WELCOME NOTE FROM THE PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

Dear Students,

A warm welcome to the MA in History in the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures.

Please read this handbook, as it provides you with important information regarding registration, course unit selection and programme regulations. The schedule for Welcome Week events will be circulated to you in due course, and you should keep that week free.

We are one of the UK's top-ten History departments (QS World University Subject Rankings 2026) and have a distinguished record in research and teaching. As one of the largest departments in the UK, our colleagues who will be teaching you are leading historians in fields which range chronologically from the early medieval period to the present. They study global history, social, economic and cultural history, political history, histories of war and conflict, race, humanitarianism, urban studies, film history, and histories of gender and sexuality – to name only some of our specialisms.

You will have the opportunity to explore the exciting range of our courses and receive expert advice about your academic progress and your MA dissertation from teaching staff.

The MA is taught through seminars and interactive classes. There are no formal lectures.

You will find the MA in History demanding and challenging.

Regular attendance, in-depth seminar preparation involving the reading of challenging texts, and written assignments are required from you throughout the academic year.

We want you to become active members of our research community and expect you, on top of your classes, to attend the departmental research seminars (more details will be circulated in due course).

In return for our dedicated teaching and supervision we expect professional courtesy and respect from you when you interact with your peers, lecturers and professional staff and when completing course unit surveys.

I can normally be contacted during my office hours (details to be circulated in due course).

For questions concerning course registration, timetabling and other administrative queries, please get in touch with the Teaching and Learning Office by email or in person (see above for contact details).

I greatly look forward to meeting you in Welcome Week and during your time with us at Manchester.

Best wishes,

Professor Christian Goeschel Programme Director of the MA in History

TEACHING STAFF IN HISTORY

For the most up-to-date list of academic staff in History, please visit:
https://www.alc.manchester.ac.uk/history/about/people/

MA HISTORY PROGRAMMES

MA HISTORY

The MA in History is designed to offer students the flexibility to devise their own personal pathway in graduate history through a range of research specialisms. The History MA programme is based on 180 credits acquired through the following structure:

- Subject specific research training courses 1 & 2 (2 x 15 credits)
- Core course (30 credits)
- Optional courses (60 credits, made up from 15 and 30-credit course units)
- 12,000-word dissertation (60 credits)

This structure allows students to pursue their own research interests from a diverse range of courses, culminating with the dissertation. Mandatory research training prompts students to start thinking about their dissertation topic from the start of the programme. You will be assigned a dissertation supervisor towards the end of semester 1 and the beginning of semester 2 after a dissertation supervision survey. Details will be circulated in due courses.

Each core course integrates the studies of the optional courses, usually by engaging critically with historiographical, methodological and theoretical issues in the field. A systematic understanding of major theoretical and methodological approaches is achieved through the requirement that each student must subscribe to one of the core courses. The Programme Director and academic advisor can advise you on the selection of a balanced and feasible set of courses.

HISTORY - BASED RESEARCH TRAINING ELEMENTS

All MA students on history programmes are required to complete discipline-specific research training.

Historical Research 1 (15 credits)
HIST 64181 is part one of the History research training unit. The course investigates various aspects of historical research. Seminars will be facilitated by members of the History department who are specialists in particular approaches to History and methodologies. Each seminar will investigate the methods used by scholars to interrogate a range of historiographical problems. The course seeks to be inclusive and address archives covering a

broad chronology, geography and form. This course offers students key transferable skills in identifying, using and interpreting different forms of data.

Historical Research 2 (15 credits)

HIST 64282 is part two of the History research training unit. The course familiarises students with essential skills for developing and designing original historical research. Each seminar will be workshop-based and involve group-based problem-solving exercises that encourage students to design and develop historical research. This course offers students key transferable skills in developing plans and proposals for transforming ideas into completed projects.

MA PROGRAMME CORE AND OPTIONAL COURSES

Students can choose from a wide range of dedicated Level 4 courses. Courses can be chosen from a range of subjects provided by History, as well as from other courses appropriate to MA students offered within the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures. In some cases, graduate courses offered by the School of Social Sciences may be appropriate. Please also note in particular the courses offered by the Centre for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine. Students may also take a language course.

Full course unit information can be found via the Course Unit Information Portlet (which can be accessed through My Manchester).

The programme structure can be found at: https://documents.manchester.ac.uk/display.aspx?DocID=44361

ACADEMIC ADVISORS

A member of staff (not necessarily an expert in your field) will be appointed as your academic advisor at the beginning of the academic year. Your academic advisor is concerned with your general welfare and is available to give you help and advice on all matters, whether academic or personal. You are strongly encouraged to meet regularly with your academic advisor during their weekly consultation hours, and to attend any other meetings or activities scheduled by your advisor. If you cannot make the scheduled consultation hours, then you should contact your advisor to request to meet at another suitable time.

Students will have a meeting with their academic advisor at the beginning of semester 1 and then at least three other times during the year. Please contact your academic advisor to set up meetings.

You can consult your academic advisor about anything that concerns you, including personal, domestic, medical, financial or legal problems. He or she will be able to put you in touch with expert professional help if you should need it, but you may rest assured that, except in formal academic matters, all communications with your academic advisor are privileged, and that anything you say to him or her is strictly confidential and will not be divulged to anyone else without your express permission. In academic matters your academic advisor will normally refer to your programme director. **It is essential that you keep your academic advisor informed of your progress and of any circumstances which may affect your work during the year or your performance in examinations**, as he or she may be able to help you resolve your problems or to act as your 'advocate', should this unfortunately prove necessary.

Students can request a change of academic advisor at any time. If you are experiencing problems with your academic advisor, you should contact the MA programme director.

In principle, you can request a reference from your academic advisor for applications for jobs, further study etc. It is at your academic advisor's discretion to write a reference. As well as your academic performance, your contribution to broader departmental activities may be considered when your tutor writes your reference. You should always approach your academic advisor in advance before putting his/her name forward, **at least two weeks before any deadline.** This is partly in order that we do not infringe the provisions of the Data Protection Act by unwittingly releasing information to unauthorized parties, and partly because there may be circumstances in which your tutor is not best placed to act as a referee.

TIMETABLE

Timetable information can be found via: https://timetables.manchester.ac.uk/

NB: All timetables should be regarded as provisional until teaching begins.

PROGRAMME AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Aims:

- To offer a taught postgraduate programme that introduces a wide range of historical specialisms, combined with the coherence that springs from substantive core courses.
- To develop students' use of archives, and their handling of complex historiographical debates and issues.
- To enable students to realise their potential along a variety of career paths, including pursuing further research at doctoral level.
- Our programme seeks to develop a variety of learning experiences and outcomes. Students completing the programme would be able to:

i. Understand complex problems and communicate them clearly in oral and written form, with the help of visual or graphic aids, where appropriate. Familiarise students with an in-depth knowledge of recent path-breaking approaches in history across an extensive range of social science and cultural theories, especially through the designated core course.

ii. Support students' access to the expertise of a sizeable pool of international researchers working on historical themes across disciplinary boundaries in one of the country's largest centres of historical study and to involve students in a growing research community of staff and students.

iii. Enable the student to draw upon the significant collections of relevant source material in the University's archives, cultural institutions and partners (John Rylands Deansgate; the Manchester Museum; Whitworth Art Gallery; Platt Museum; Race Relations Archive and City Art Gallery) and other internationally recognised archives in Manchester, ranging from the People's History Museum archives, to Chetham's Library.

iv. Develop students' fluency in presenting sophisticated ideas, drawn from a number of periods or themes, both orally and in writing.

v. Enhance student employability by the work placements scheme in Semester 2, the Public History Option and by introducing issues re. the external impact of academic work where appropriate.

vi. Advance the ability of students to work as autonomous scholars and enable students to follow their own intellectual agenda by comparing methodological approaches, working across chronological periods and to develop confidence with transnational themes and approaches.

Self-directed learning

In addition to the elements of organised teaching and learning described above, you are expected to undertake your own programme of self-directed learning and skills acquisition. This may involve self-directed reading, languages, computer training, attendance at research seminars, visits to local

galleries and museums, voluntary work on excavations or in arts institutions, and many other forms of encounter.

You are encouraged to record and reflect upon these activities in various forms (e.g., a dedicated notebook or on computer). Particular attention might be paid to noting down difficult or stimulating ideas that prompt you to think about History in new (especially unexpected) ways. It would also be useful to produce commentaries on stimulating books, visits to museums or archaeological sites etc. Such self-directed learning will help you to develop intellectual independence, confidence and creativity.

RESOURCES

i) The University of Manchester Library was formed in the early 1970s out of Manchester University's library and the John Rylands Library, with its dazzling stock of manuscript and archival resources. Its size and scope rival that of the British Library and the Bodleian. It is the largest campus library in the United Kingdom with a book stock of more than five million volumes with extensive manuscript, archive and microfilm holdings plus huge digital resources. It operates on two sites:

- The **main university library** has very large holdings of old printed works, as well as of academic literature and journals pertinent to history collected over the course of 140 years, and constantly added to by staff of the School working in close collaboration with library staff. There are large runs of printed official documents, e.g. the *Documents on British Foreign Policy*, the *Foreign Relations of the U.S.*, and the *Akten der Reichskanzlei: Weimarer Republik*. Closely allied subjects in the humanities and social sciences are also well provided for. These are supplemented by large microform collections and digital databases, including the Goebbels diaries. Photocopying and inter-library loan services are readily available.
The main library also provides access to one of the most extensive collections of electronic resources for historical research of any UK university and offers an efficient and comfortable work place.

- The magnificent, renovated, neo-Gothic, Deansgate site of the original **John Rylands Library** houses rare books and extensive collections of archive material. These include primary source material ranging from early papyri, through medieval manuscripts, legal, manorial, family and estate records from the twelfth century onwards, to early printed books, broadsheets and pamphlets of the English Civil War and later seventeenth century, and collections of personal papers and correspondence relating to the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The site houses a tiny fragment of a manuscript of St John's Gospel, probably from the first half of the second century AD, and as such perhaps the earliest known fragment of the New Testament. Deansgate also houses very extensive archive collections in political, social and religious history, including for example the archives of the *Manchester Guardian* newspaper, a large section of the Labour Party archives, Methodist Church archives and important textile trade union archives, together with the papers and manuscripts of leading cultural, political and military figures from John Ruskin to Field Marshal Auchinleck. It has assembled formidable archives of business and labour history, particularly relating to the cotton industry. Its catalogues, calendars and archive lists constitute an invaluable basic research tool for work on most aspects of British and European history.

ii) The **Central Library** of the City of Manchester in St. Peter's Square is another great research library, complementing well the university libraries, particularly for Modern History. The social sciences

section contains a comprehensive collection of reference works, monographs and periodicals necessary for historical study. It has long runs of trade journals and important trade-union periodicals (e.g. the *Cotton Factory Times*). It houses fine Jewish and Local Studies libraries. In addition, it has an excellent collection of printed books and pamphlets with particular strengths in nineteenth-century British political, economic and religious writings, national and local newspapers on microfilm, and a full series of parliamentary papers and government publications. Its stack-service is swift and efficient. Microfilm reading, photocopying and photographic services are available here.

iii) **Chetham's Library**, still housed in its fifteenth-century buildings near the Cathedral in the city centre, has manuscript and printed collections of particular importance to those with interests in local or regional history, and an excellent collection of early books in Classics and Theology.

iv) **Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Race Relations Resource Centre**: Based in Manchester Central Library, this archive was founded specifically to combat racist ideas and contains leaflets, books and videos based on the lives and experiences of ethnic minorities the world over. The centre contains material documenting the contribution of ethnic minorities to British, European and American development, Black History and anti-imperialist struggles.

v) Also within easy reach of the campus are the **Portico Library** near St. Peter's Square, an early nineteenth-century private subscription library, and the Working-Class Movement Library in Salford, containing rare printed materials on British radical and labour movements since the late eighteenth century, trade-union records, and good series of Labour-Party documents and publications. There are also the extensive archives of the People's History Museum in Spinningfields. The archives of the Museum of Science and Industry in Castlefield contain much of interest not just to business and science historians and there are other more specialist archives such as that of Barclay's Bank.

vi) Finally, Manchester's central location makes important collections of printed and manuscript material in other civic, municipal, university and private libraries easily accessible: those of the Universities of Liverpool, Leeds, Salford, Sheffield, and Bolton are about an hour away, or less, by train. Private libraries in the region include St Deniol's Library at Hawarden and the William Salt Library at Stafford. Both have collections of particular relevance for the seventeenth and nineteenth-century historian. Within daily reach are also the National Lending Library at Boston Spa and the great libraries of London and Oxford. (London is about 2¼ hours away by train).

STYLE AND ASSESSMENT GUIDANCE FOR HISTORY MA STUDENTS

1. WORD LIMITS AND PENALITIES FOR COURSEWORK AND DISSERTATIONS

All subject areas have agreed assessment lengths for written assessments (such as essays, reports etc.) within their degree programmes. At each level the target word count or range for a written piece is indicative of the optimum length required to compose a successful essay at that level, and is designed to correspond as closely as possible to the weighting that the assessment has within the course unit.

The purpose of enforcing word limits is (a) to ensure parity and fairness by creating a level playing field, (b) to help students produce well-focused and cogent written work, (c) to instil the discipline essential for real-life writing tasks, where word limits are often rigid, and (d) to ensure that students acquire the ability to edit their writing effectively and cut away inessential material, skills invaluable both for academic work and the workplace.

• Students must observe the word limit specified for each assessment.

THE UPPER LIMIT IS AN ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM AND MUST NOT BE EXCEEDED (THERE IS NO '10% RULE')

• The word count for each piece of written work must be displayed clearly on the first page

• Word count is here defined as **including** quotations and footnotes, but **excluding** the bibliography or any appendices. Appendices are for supporting, illustrative material only; they may not be used to elaborate or extend the argument

• Material that exceeds the upper limit will not be read or considered in the marking

2. ASSESSED ESSAYS ON MA PROGRAMMES IN HISTORY

Layout of Text

In order for your work to be easily legible, and so that tutors can write comments on it, there are rules about how the work must be presented. Here is a simple checklist for you to work through:

- All work must be double-line spaced.
- Indent the first line of each new paragraph.
- Longer quotations and citations (four lines or more) should be single-line spaced and indented. Indented quotations do not require quotation marks.
- Pages should be numbered.
- We recommend you use Times New Roman font, size 12, for the main part of your essay and bibliography.
- Leave a large margin (about one inch, or 2.5 cm) around all work.

Many of these settings will be automatic on university computers, but some formatting will have to be done by you.

REFERENCING: BIBLIOGRAPHIES & FOOTNOTES

For guidance on how to reference please see the free, online Modern Humanities Research Association Style Guide: http://www.mhra.org.uk/style/download.html

MA History students submitting work in the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures are expected to use so-called Chicago footnote referencing style, not the Harvard author-date system.

Bibliographies and footnotes are prepared in a similar way. There are, however, slight differences between the two. This guide should be referred to as you get used to all the different rules and regulations.

Bibliographies

The bibliography needs to be prepared according to the following rules. There are variations to these rules which different historians may apply, but the key is for you **to be consistent** throughout your work. Pay attention to colons, commas, full stops, brackets and use of italics.

In terms of secondary sources, you will use three major types in your work: books, chapters in books, and articles in journals.

Books:

Poovey, Mary, *Making a Social Body: British Cultural Formation, 1830-1864* (Chicago: Chicago University Press, 1995).

Chapters in Books:

Frisby, David, 'The Metropolis as Text: Otto Wagner and Vienna's "Second Renaissance"', in *The Hieroglyphics of Space*, ed. by Neil Leach (London: Routledge, 2002), pp. 15-30.

Articles in Journals:

Gilloch, Graeme, 'The Heroic Pedestrian or the Pedestrian Hero? Walter Benjamin and the Flâneur', *Telos*, 91 (1992), pp. 108-117.

Footnotes

Footnotes are prepared according to similar rules to bibliographic references, but with three important differences:

- In footnotes, we list the forename before the surname: 'Mary Smith', not 'Smith, Mary'.
- An entry only appears once in a bibliography, but you may have to refer to the same work several times in footnotes. When you mention the same book, article or essay more than once in your footnotes, you use the full citation the first time, but thereafter you use what is called 'short form citation.' We no longer use ibid. or op. cit. or other devices.
- In footnotes, we usually need to indicate the specific page or pages we have taken our information from. This means that we end each footnote by specifying the exact page (signified by p.) or pages (signified by pp.) on which we found that specific piece of information or argument.

Books - First citation:
Mary Poovey, Making *a Social Body: British Cultural Formation, 1830-1864* (Chicago: Chicago University Press, 1995), pp. 18-22.

Books - Second and subsequent citations:
Poovey, *Making a Social Body*, p. 38.

Chapters in Books - First citation:
David Frisby, 'The Metropolis as Text: Otto Wagner and Vienna's "Second Renaissance"', in *The Hieroglyphics of Space*, ed. by Neil Leach (London: Routledge, 2002), pp. 22-24.

Chapters in Books - Second and subsequent citations:
Frisby, 'The Metropolis as Text', p. 28.

Articles in Journals - First citation:
Graeme Gilloch, 'The Heroic Pedestrian or the Pedestrian Hero? Walter Benjamin and the Flâneur', *Telos,* 91 (1992), p. 116. [The page on which the information can be found].

Articles in Journals - Second and subsequent citations:
Gilloch, 'The Heroic Pedestrian', p. 117.

THE MA DISSERTATION (please also see the important detailed guidance in the SALC Student Handbook. More detailed information will also be provided on Historical Research 1 and 2.

The most significant piece of work you will complete during your MA is the dissertation. This is a piece of original research, due in September 2027 (see below for the deadline). The maximum length is 12,000 words, including notes but excluding the bibliography.

You will be guided through the process of developing your MA dissertation project during the compulsory Historical Research 1 & 2 training units.

Some students arrive in September with clearly defined research projects, but most do not, and the MA History programme is designed to allow students to develop their dissertation project during Semester 1. Many students wait to finalise their dissertation project until they have been assigned a dissertation supervisor.

Over the course of semester 1, you will begin to identify the area of your dissertation topic while taking Historical Research 1 (which introduces you to approaches and methodologies) and your optional course(s).

Towards the end of semester 1, there is a dissertation survey where you are invited to nominate potential supervisors by a deadline to be announced.

The History department is unable to guarantee that you can work with a particular supervisor, although we always try to consider your preferences.

Once you have been matched with a dissertation supervisor, you are expected to contact them to set up supervisions.

Historical Research 2 (which runs in semester 2) is entirely dedicated to introducing you to the dissertation research and writing process. You will write the Research Outline (see next section) as part of the assessment for Historical Research 2. You are expected to contact your dissertation supervisor before you begin work on the Research Outline.

Though work on the research outline and the dissertation begins earlier in the year, progression to the Dissertation is officially confirmed at the examination boards in Summer and is dependent upon successful completion of the taught stage of the Master's, either at first attempt or by resit/resubmission in August.

MA dissertation supervisions

The initial supervision should take place towards the end of semester 1/the beginning of semester 2 so that you can discuss your research outline.

You are entitled to three 30-minute supervisions. Some History MA dissertation supervisors offer a fourth supervision.

It is your responsibility to set up a supervision schedule with your dissertation supervisor.

MA thesis supervisors are happy to read a first draft of your thesis (maximum length: the introduction and a draft chapter). Again, it is your responsibility to agree the submission deadline for the dissertation draft with your MA thesis supervisor. Please bear in mind that many staff members are away for research/holidays after c. 15 July.

RESEARCH OUTLINE GUIDANCE FOR HISTORY MA STUDENTS

Successful completion of the Research Outline is the compulsory pre-requisite for the completion of the MA Dissertation. It is assessed as part of the assessment portfolio for Historical Research 2 (HIST64282). Students are required to submit a written research outline (*see key dates at end of this Handbook*) that will be assessed by their dissertation supervisor.

Students will be guided through the process of developing their MA dissertation project during the compulsory Historical Research 1 & 2 training units. Some students arrive in September with clearly defined research projects, but most do not and the programme is designed to allow students to develop their dissertation project during Semester 1. Many students wait to finalise their dissertation project until they have submitted their Semester 1 course work in mid-January and until they have been assigned a dissertation supervisor.

Though work on the research outline and the dissertation begins earlier in the year, progression to the Dissertation is officially confirmed at the examination boards in Summer and is dependent upon successful completion of the taught stage of the Master's, either at first attempt or by resit/resubmission in August.

We **strongly recommend** that students should contact their dissertation supervisor (to be assigned towards the end of semester 1) for advice and feedback on the proposed research before submitting the written proposal.

Aims:

- To help structure the second semester of the MA leading to the writing of a significant research-based dissertation
- To invite students to plan their project in a concise manner with a clear timetable and concrete attainable research objectives
- To enable students to present orally and in written form their research ideas in order to enable them to obtain rapid feedback at an early stage
- To give students the opportunity to develop skills in research design, project management and other transferable skills essential for their future career

Intended Outcomes:

- A well-defined research question
- A clear awareness of sources available to address the question

- A clear awareness of the methodological issues that need to be addressed in the research
- A clear awareness of research planning and timetabling
- Correct use of bibliographical conventions applied in the discipline

The Written Research Outline

Written research outlines should be submitted following the same guidelines as for other pieces of course-assessed work.

The Research Outline must consist of a **core document** of 1,500 words max. followed by an appendix. The core document should state clearly:

- Your reasons for undertaking this project
- The research problems or questions you intend to address
- The research context in which those problems or questions are located. In describing the context, you should refer to the current state of knowledge and any recent debate on the subject.
- The particular contribution to knowledge and understanding in this area that you hope to make. You should explain why the work is important. The fact that an area has not been studied previously is not, on its own, a reason for doing it.
- The methods and critical approaches that you plan to use to address the problems or questions you have set. We don't just need to know what you are going to work on, we need to know how you plan to go about it

In the **appendix** you should provide supporting information:

- A brief breakdown of the chapters of the thesis (one page maximum)
- A timetable of research and writing (one page maximum)
- Additional training and preparation you may need, indicating any ethical issues which may arise and could require clearance from the Ethical Committee (one page maximum)
- A working bibliography of sources that you intend to use. In the case of unpublished or rare materials you will need to state where these sources are located and how these will be accessed. For example, if you are undertaking an archaeology project, do you need a permit to access a particular site and how will this be obtained? It is sometimes helpful to put forward alternative strategies or approaches if you are aware that problems might arise. (Two pages maximum).

GUIDANCE FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF THE RESEARCH OUTLINE

A successful research outline will contain all the elements specified above and will demonstrate satisfactorily that this is a viable project capable of being brought to completion in the time available. Successful completion of the Research Outline results in an agreement in principle to proceed to the Dissertation.

CANVAS

Canvas is the University's web-based virtual learning environment. Many of the learning resources you will use during your degree programme will be accessed through Canvas.

- Course units – every course unit you take at Manchester will have a dedicated set of Canvas pages, which direct you to learning resources for the course unit.

- Coursework submission - all assessed MA coursework should be submitted online through the course unit Canvas site.

Coursework marks and feedback: Marks and feedback on coursework will also be provided through Canvas. We aim to provide provisional first marks and written comments on MA coursework within 15 working-days of submission.

You can access Canvas through My Manchester: http://www.studentnet.manchester.ac.uk/. To ensure that you have access to all of your courses within Canvas, you must be correctly enrolled on them through the Student Records system. Please contact salc.courseunits@manchester.ac.uk, not the teaching staff, if you experience issues.

If you change your course enrolments, there will also be a delay of up to 24 hours in acquiring your new courses and removing those you are no longer taking.

- To enable anonymous marking, your coursework must not have your name on it.
- To avoid the risk of material being lost, your coursework should carry a header on each page, which should include your student registration number (found on your library card) and the code and name of the course.
- Upload your coursework through the link in the course unit Canvas site. You must upload your work using your student registration number and the question number/title (e.g. 8000000_Q3) in the title field.
- You are responsible for ensuring you upload the correct document.
- You are responsible for successfully uploading your coursework before the deadline set.
- The failure of individual computing equipment does not provide mitigating circumstances for late submission. Only a system failure confirmed by the University of Manchester IT team provides mitigating circumstances for late submission.

KEY DATES FOR FULL TIME STUDENTS

Semester One Coursework
TBC by directors of individual course units

Submission of Written Research Outline
March 2027 (date TBC)

Semester Two Coursework
TBC by directors of individual course units

Resubmitted Coursework
August 2027 (date TBC)

MA Dissertation Submission
Wednesday 1st September 2027

KEY DATES FOR PART-TIME STUDENTS

Semester One Coursework
TBC by directors of individual course units

Submission of Written Research Outline (for part-time year 2 students only)
March 2027 (date TBC)

Semester Two Coursework
TBC by directors of individual course units

Resubmitted Coursework
August 2027 (date TBC)

MA Dissertation Submission (for part-time year 2 students only)
Wednesday 1st September 2027

Please note that all work should be submitted by 2pm on the deadlines listed above - otherwise late submission penalties are enforced

***Please also note that some course units may have alternative coursework deadlines to those listed above. Please see the individual course unit handbooks for confirmation.**

Late Submission
Please see the School's late submission penalty information in section 9.7 of the SALC Student Handbook

If you are registered on units outside of the School, you should ensure that you are aware of the penalties that will be imposed for late course work submission for that School. Schools may operate different penalty schemes for late submission.