HIST20392

Independent Research Project

➢ This module offers the opportunity to pursue an individual research project, closely guided by a member of academic staff. There will be an introductory lecture in week 1, and two group seminar training sessions to discuss the skills necessary to develop individual research projects - developing research questions and plans, and identifying and exploring key bodies of literature and collections of primary sources – before producing an extended piece of historical research on a topic (which will be selected in negotiation with your allocated supervisor) via a minimum of three individual supervisory sessions.

➢ This module will build on the skills gained during your first year of study by developing your abilities as an independent researcher. Working within the broad area of expertise of your supervisor, you will explore how fields of study develop, as well as learning to identify and engage with broad intellectual debates. Using this knowledge, you will develop an independent research project that engages with existing debates but employs your own voice and ideas, and draws on a range of research materials. The module will develop skills that are widely applicable to the rest of your degree and beyond, and that will prove particularly useful during the production of your dissertation at level three.

➢ Early in semester 1 you will be asked to complete a survey in which you can identify your two preferred broad subject fields in which to pursue your independent research project, and provide further comments about your preferences. You will then be allocated (according to staff availability and expertise) in time to commence the project in semester 2.

Assessment task	Formative or Summative	Length	Weighting within unit (if summative)
Title and Abstract	Formative	250 words	N/A
Independent Research Project	Summative	4000 words	100%

An indicative provisional list on the broad areas you will be asked to select from can be found on the following page:

Medieval:

Britain; Europe; Mediterranean; Cultural; Religion; Urban

Early Modern:

Britain; Europe; Mediterranean; Cultural; Economic; Religion

Modern European:

Cultural; Political; Russian and Eastern Europe; Migration and Refugees

Modern Britain C 19th:

Cultural; Economic; Political; Urban; British Imperial

Modern Britain C 20th:

Cultural; Economic; Political; Urban

World:

South Asia; East Asia; Africa; US; Latin America; Cultural; Political; Economic

For further information please contact Dr Paul Oldfield

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