

HIST21182 **BACK TO THE FUTURE** **THE USES AND ABUSES OF HISTORY**

One of the reasons we study history is to make sense of the present. We often hear people invoking phrases such as 'learning the lessons of history.' But how can history inform problems in the world today? What are the challenges in using history in the policy process?

Indicative Topics

Combatting the Sleep Crisis

Racial Violence, Muted Voices and the Importance of Archives

History Writing and Attacks on Healthcare

Fake News? Past and Present Issues of Journalistic Responsibility

(full details for 2023/24 to be confirmed)



Drop-In Zoom Office Hour

11.00 – 12.00, Thursday 15 June 2023

<https://zoom.us/j/95909455158>

If you want to learn how knowledge of the past can be used to change the world today, then this course is for you!

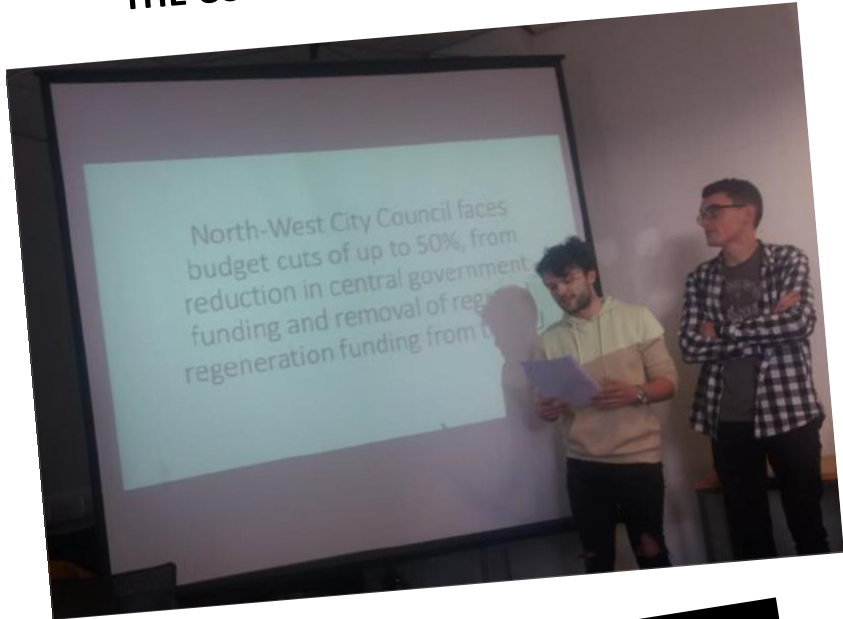


HIST21182 – 'Back to the Future: The Uses and Abuses of History' – is focused on current affairs, and is organised around the application of historical knowledge to inform the development of policy responses to contemporary issues.

Throughout the module, you will be introduced to several historical case studies, and then (working with others) asked to use your understanding of these case studies to help develop appropriate responses to problems facing the private, public or third sector.

The module is explicitly focused on helping you develop core skills from your degree, together with the ability to apply those skills effectively to real life situations regarding economic, social or political change.

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North-West City Council faces budget cuts of up to 50%, from reduction in central government funding and removal of regeneration funding from the

PLEASE NOTE
FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR
2023/24, THIS MODULE WILL
HAVE A CAP OF 30 SPACES

Background Readings

The following will give you a good starting point in thinking about the kind of approach that the module will take:

Alix Green, *History, Policy and Public Purpose: Historians and Historical Thinking in Government* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2016).

Harm Kaal and Jelle van Lottum, 'Applied History: Past, Present, and Future', *Journal of Applied History*, 3 (2021), 135 – 154.

Margaret Macmillan, *Dangerous Games: The Uses and Abuses of History* (Profile Books, 2009).

Pat Thane, 'History and Policy', *History Workshop Journal*, 67 (2009), 140 – 145.

If you are interested in historical perspectives on some of today's big policy issues, please take a look at the History and Policy website (www.historyandpolicy.org)

Method of Assessment

The assessment for this module is 100% coursework. This is structured as follows:

- 5-Minute Case Study Video Presentation, designed and delivered in conjunction with the University Careers Service (Weighting: 40%)
- 1500-Word Reflective Learning Journal (Weighting :30%)
- 1500-Word Case Study Essay (Weighting: 30%)

If you have any questions about the module, please get in touch.

Dr Chris Godden

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