

Students in Public exemplar details

Faculty, School and Subject Area: Humanities, SALC, History

Course Unit/activity: HIST21151 History of Europe in 100 Objects: Material Culture and Daily Life, 1450-1800 [discontinued]

Course Unit Director/activity leader: Sasha Handley and John Morgan

What is the assignment/knowledge product?

The students produce a short 1500 word assignment entitled 'A Day in the Life' – based on a particular type of person that lived in early modern Europe (e.g. clergyman; baker; butcher; servant). They are asked to reconstruct the material life of this person using museum artefacts appropriate to their chosen character.

Why was it introduced?

This assignment tests students' knowledge of the period, context, and building their familiarity with historic collections and a material culture methodology.

Where is/could it be published?

These assignments are not currently published but they could be published in a blog-style format and linked to some of the collections that the students draw on for their artefacts.

What are the challenges (e.g. copyright)?

Yes, copyright – but web publication is also not allowed before all marks have been confirmed by external examiners. This means there is a significant time delay between the students writing their assignments and seeing the fruits of it online.

What are the student perceptions/responses/attainment?

Students appear to enjoy the assignment because it allows them creative licence to find their own place and people within this time period. They respond particularly well to the use of historic collections and one or two of them have asked for specific work experience linked to museums, galleries and exhibitions – this was possible to arrange this year at the John Rylands Library.

If published, how do you monitor use of the resource/s?

n/a

Any other comments