**History**

Module information for incoming Erasmus and Exchange students interested in modules in History.

For the academic year 2014-15, the following modules will be available

**0919676 A History of Modern Britain** (semester 1) 10 credits; (Wed 1-2 p.m)

This is a lecture course which analyses the development of Modern Britain since c. 1870, with particular emphasis on the forces producing social, economic and political change. There will be an hourly lecture each week. Assessment is by one 3000 word essay.

Staff contact and enrolment: Dr Armin Grünbacher a.gruenbacher@bham.ac.uk or Dr Steve Morewood s.morewood@bham.ac.uk

**0921387 The End of Empires** (semester 2) 10 credits (Wed 1-2 p.m.)

The module considers the reasons for the decline and fall of modern empires and the surrounding debates. The Ottoman, British, fascist (Italy and Germany), Soviet and American empires are considered as case studies. Some common threads are drawn in the opening lecture but empire-specific causes of decline and collapse are analysed such as British imperial overstretch, Adolf Hitler’s ideology, the failings of the Soviet system and the impact of Mikhail Gorbachev’s domestic reforms, perestroika and glasnost. The module concludes with an examination of the nature and reality of the so-called American Empire and whether or not it is exhibiting fatal signs of decline. The module is taught through lectures.

Assessment: one 3000 essay

Staff contact and enrolment: Dr Armin Grünbacher a.gruenbacher@bham.ac.uk or Dr Steve Morewood s.morewood@bham.ac.uk

**On the following modules, a limited number of places may be available**

**09 21976 Discovering the Middle Ages: An Introduction\*** (semester 1) 10 credits

(Wed 12-1 p.m. Thurs 12-1 p.m.)

This module aims to introduce students to a broad range of topics from the earlier part of the Middle Ages understood as part of global history, with a focus on staff areas of particular expertise in political, social-economic, religious, cultural history and material culture. The module will include introductions to further studies topics, each framed as a question about some person or concept with which students may be familiar. Students will examine these topics through lectures and analysis of relevant primary and secondary source material, including material culture, online resources and accessible locations, to gain first-hand experience of some of the issues involved in the scholarly study of this period. Assessment: one 3000 word essay.

Staff contact: Dr Armin Grünbacher a.gruenbacher@bham.ac.uk ,

**09 21979 Living in the Middle Ages: An Introduction\*** (semester 2) 10 credits

(Wed 12-1 p.m. Thurs 12-1 p.m.)

This module aims to introduce students to a broad range of topics from the later part of the Middle Ages understood as part of global history, with a focus on staff areas of particular expertise in social-economic, religious, cultural history and material culture. The module will include introductions to further study topics, each framed as a question about some person or concept with which students may be familiar. Students will examine these topics through lectures and analysis of relevant primary and secondary source material, including material culture, online resources and accessible locations, to gain first-hand experience of some of the issues involved in the scholarly study of this period. Assessment: one 3000 word essay.

Staff contact: Dr Armin Grünbacher a.gruenbacher@bham.ac.uk ,

**09 22628 Introduction to Modern History 1500-1800\*** (Semester 1) 10 credits

(Mon 3-4 p.m., Thurs 10-11 a.m.)

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| This module aims to introduce students to aspects of the early-modern world, including its social, economic, military, political, intellectual, religious and cultural history. The course will cover of the period from around 1500 with the discoveries of the new world and invention of printing, up to the late eighteenth century with the Enlightenment and the French Revolution. Though the focus will be primarily European (including the British Isles), the wider world will also be explored (e.g. interaction with the New World; American Revolution). Students will examine the developments of the period through lectures and directed reading, to gain awareness of key issues involved in the scholarly study of the period. |
| **Assessment:** |
| One summative essay of 3000 words (worth 100% of module assessment) |

**09 22821 Introduction to Modern History 1800-2000\*** (Semester 2) 10 credits

(Mon 3-4 p.m., Thurs 10-11 a.m.)

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| This module aims to introduce students to aspects of the late-modern world, including its social, economic, military, political, intellectual, religious and cultural history. The course will cover of the period from around 1800 with the onset of industrialisation up to the turn of the twenty-first century with the end of the Cold War and increasing concern with `globalisation’. Though the focus will be weighted somewhat towards Europe (including the British Isles), the wider world will also be explored (e.g. empire, decolonisation, modern nationalism). Students will examine the developments of the period through lectures and directed reading, to gain awareness of key issues involved in the scholarly study of the period. |
| **Assessment:** |
| One summative essay of 3000 words (worth 100% of module assessment). |

**Recognised History Exchange Students**

A wider range of modules is available to students participating in recognised exchanges (Rome La Sapienza; Besançon; Freiburg, Copenhagen, Vienna). Such students should make an appointment to see Dr Armin Grünbacher a.gruenbacher@bham.ac.uk , on their arrival in the University.

**International and Occasional Students (non-Erasmus)**

A wider range of modules may be available to students who hold confirmed offers of study places from the International Office. Such students should make an appointment to see Dr Armin Grünbacher a.gruenbacher@bham.ac.uk on their arrival in the University.

For further information contact:

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