

War Studies BA

Students from the BA War Studies talk about their experiences of the programme

Duration: 2:35

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Question: Why did you want to study war studies?

James Bryant: I was looking at doing a history degree as it's something I was always interested in, and I sort of then looked through the various types of history, beyond just a straight history course, and came across War Studies and to me that suited the fact perfectly that I was very much interested in military history, and that was the aspect that appealed to me more than any other type of history.

Question: Why did you choose to study at the University of Birmingham?

Dave Glenwright: Birmingham University is one of the big universities in this country that really drives forward research – forward thinking – combine that with academics in the department who are leading experts in their field and that really pays off on your education – you're getting the cutting edge, the new thinking in their fields.

Question: What do you like about the War Studies programme at Birmingham?

Caitriona McCartney: Just the wide range. One minute you can be talking about Soviet deep battle theory, then you can be looking into – for example, my dissertation is on childrens literature in the First World War. There's never a dull day, you always do something different each day.

Question: Did you have a favourite module?

Heather Ridgus: One I particularly enjoyed was Strategu and Operational Art this year. It was really good, we went from Naploean to the present. We're looking at the moment at counter-insurgency - looking at things in the news, so it doesn't mean you're studying just historical events, but you're looking at current affairs as well, but it's a good thing to get involved in to get to know your course-mates better, because we're a small course, so we all like to stick together

Question: Have you been involved in any student clubs and societies?

Heather Ridgus: I'm president of the War Studies Society, which was set up about three years ago. Basically it's there to help students not just academically but to do trips, have fun and go out. It's also for non war studies students as well .

Question: What do you plan to do after graduation?

Caitriona McCartney: I'm really hoping to go into politics, because my course is basically understanding how society works and how things inter-link and the politics and how countries are set up and how that affects them, so it's really prepared me for that