



Module Specification

Global Histories 1450-1989

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Contents

Module Specification	1
Part 1: Information	2
Part 2: Description	2
Part 3: Teaching and learning methods	3
Part 4: Assessment.....	5
Part 5: Contributes towards	6

Part 1: Information

Module title: Global Histories 1450-1989

Module code: UPHNM9-30-1

Level: Level 4

For implementation from: 2024-25

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

College: College of Arts, Technology and Environment

School: CATE School of Arts

Partner institutions: None

Field: History

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: This Level 4 survey module guides students into the cutting-edge field of global history through a narrative history of the rise of global empires from the 15th to 19th centuries and the entanglement of the Global Cold War and decolonisation in the 20th century. With this foundation, students will be able to explore global histories at Level 5 and specialise in global histories at Level 6. The module includes a field trip to the British Museum to engage with the material and intellectual history of global and imperial exchange.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: This Level 4 module provides students with a foundation of global history from the early modern period through to the present. By looking at the rise of imperialism in a global frame in the first semester, students will be prepared to look at the complex international, regional, and national contexts of the 20th Century's Global Cold War in the second semester. Students are guided through a broad narrative through case studies which mirror each other in both semesters. Each of the case studies in the first semester (China, the US & Russia, Portugal, Persia, and Polynesia) matches with a case study in the second semester (the Chinese Revolution, Portuguese decolonisation, the U.S.-Soviet confrontation, the Iranian Revolution, and nuclear weapons testing in the Pacific). Moreover, students will work with material objects in a museum setting in the first semester, while working with digital archives in the second semester, allowing them to develop their historical skills by working with a broad range of sources and methodologies.

Outline syllabus: Early modern global empires (e.g., Portugal, China's Ming and Qing dynasties, Persia)

Modern settler colonialism and continental empires (e.g., the United States and Russia)

The 'new' imperialism of the 19th century

Orientalism and the ties of Enlightenment knowledge creation to colonial expansion

Material culture and museum studies, and their ties to colonialism

The outbreak of the Cold War in Europe

Decolonisation in its Cold War context in Asia and Africa

Revolutions and liberation struggles in the Global South (e.g., China, Vietnam, Cuba, Iran)

Use of online archives and document analysis

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: In lectures and seminars students are guided through a broad narrative through case studies which mirror each other in both semesters. Each of the case studies in the first semester (China, the US & Russia,

Portugal, Persia, and Polynesia) matches with a case study in the second semester (the Chinese Revolution, Portuguese decolonisation, the U.S.-Soviet confrontation, the Iranian Revolution, and nuclear weapons testing in the Pacific). Moreover, students will work with material objects in a museum setting in the first semester, while working with digital archives in the second semester, allowing them to develop their historical skills by working with a broad range of sources and methodologies.

Contact hours:

72 hours face-to-face learning (seminars & lecture)

228 hours independent learning:

Essential reading (4 hours per week)

Document workshop preparation (1 hour per week)

Assignment preparation (2 hours per week)

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Develop and demonstrate skills in critical reading

MO2 Summarise and critically evaluate the relative merits of alternative views and interpretations, and evaluate their significance

MO3 Demonstrate object-centred research skills in a museum context

MO4 Demonstrate the ability to use digital archives effectively

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 228 hours

Face-to-face learning = 72 hours

Total = 300

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/C977D69F-A327-F80F-9A24-3EA835A160C0.html?lang=en&login=1) via the following link <https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/C977D69F-A327-F80F-9A24-3EA835A160C0.html?lang=en&login=1>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Assessment will be in the form of a museum report based on a field trip to the British Museum in the first semester, and an individual essay based on digital archives.

In the museum report, students will engage with global history as a methodology and study and research a material object presented in a museum context. In the essay, students will use digital archives to engage with primary sources and use their knowledge to sensitively contextualise and interpret information.

In both cases, the specificity of the assessments (an object in the British Museum and a digital archival object) will make plagiarism difficult.

Assessment tasks:

Written Assignment (First Sit)

Description: Museum Report (1500 words)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Written Assignment (First Sit)

Description: Essay (1500 words)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO4

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: Museum Report (1500 words)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: Essay (1500 words)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO4

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

History [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2024-25

History [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2024-25

History {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2023-24

History [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2023-24

History {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2023-24