Module Specification

History in Practice

Version: 2024-25, v1.0, 09 Feb 2024

Contents

Part 1: Information

Module title: History in Practice

Module code: UPHNN5-30-2

Level: Level 5

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 core module is a practice-based introduction to research skills, methodological approaches, and ways of writing and presenting History. It includes input from both research-active university staff and external professionals working in, for example, archives, museums and heritage, education, and other public history contexts.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: This module supports students to explore and examine the use of different approaches and arguments in shaping historical research, and to develop the practical skills needed to successfully plan an individual research project.

Students will consider concepts and practice relating to public history and professional practice more broadly, working with external partner organisations, and will explicitly address employment possibilities and the skills needed to succeed in any career.

Students will also develop skills in critical thinking, analytical argument, the selection and deployment of evidence, and historiographical understanding. The assessments on the module enable students to demonstrate their ability to develop an original research project and consider effective and meaningful ways in which to communicate their research to the public.

Outline syllabus: The work for the module is organised in two parts, supporting the different assessment tasks, and cumulative development of different skills and approaches in the uses of historical knowledge.

Part one provides students with the opportunity to engage with concepts related to and examples of public history, developing their understanding of how to communicate their research effectively outside the academy. Students will also begin to develop an individual research project, utilizing both archival and digital primary materials alongside key historiographical texts, and consider the ways in which it could be shared with public audiences through collaboration.

The second part of the module concentrates on the completion of students' independent research projects, providing guidance on organising and presenting their research, and tutorial support to develop and refine their projects.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: The module is taught through a combination of lectures and workshops. Lectures will provide context, key ideas and approaches that underpin the longer, practical workshop sessions. The content of of both will be facilitated by both internal and external practitioners and experts.

Workshops will provide students with the opportunity to discuss relevant concepts, approaches and critical literature in depth, as well as developing their individual research projects through digital archival research, group discussion and individual tutorial support. Both the content-led and practical elements support students to complete the module assessment.

Contact hours:

72 hours face-to-face learning (workshops and lectures)

228 hours independent learning:

Essential reading (4 hours per week)

Assignment preparation (3 hours per week)

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

MO1 Demonstrate independent research skills, and the ability to work independently, with self-discipline and effective time management

MO2 Demonstrate the capacity to employ appropriate analytical and problem solving abilities

MO3 Reflect on and articulate the uses of history in the public domain, and related issues involved in disseminating history outside academia

MO4 Reflect on and articulate their individual skills and their utility in a range of contexts and employment beyond the university

MO5 Demonstrate their ability to communicate their research effectively in written and oral form to different audiences

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 via the following link https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/74A002A0-DD30-BFE5-2E37-0A47432EAF8D.html?lang=en&login=1

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The module and assessment are designed to increase students' confidence and ability in skills integral to historical research and public history. This supports more specialised and independent student work at level 6, and students' ability to articulate and demonstrate the skills they have acquired on the degree programme for future employment.

Much of the practical work is focused on the development of an individually conceived, designed and researched independent project, and students are required to consider how they would direct their research project into a collaborative partnership project outside of the university. The assessment will comprise a collaborative proposal and pitch. For the collaborative proposal students will prepare a written proposal for an external partner organisation, and include a CV and personal statement relevant to the partnership project and to develop a public profile, detailing their skills and experience. This proposal will be summarised and pitched in a short presentation with a supporting handout to a panel of internal and external practitioners, who will provide formative feedback on their proposals.

In the final assessment students will deliver their individually conceived, designed and researched independent project of 4,000 words. Students will be assessed on the quality of research, historiographical engagement, and written argument.

Assessment tasks:

Presentation (First Sit)
Description: Presentation (10 minutes)

Weighting: 15 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

Portfolio (First Sit)

Description: Portfolio (2500 words)

Weighting: 35 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

Project (First Sit)

Description: Project (4000 words)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO5

Presentation (Resit)

Description: Presentation (10 minutes)

Weighting: 15 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

Portfolio (Resit)

Description: Portfolio

Weighting: 35 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

Project (Resit)

Description: Project (4000 words)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO5

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

History [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2023-24

History {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2022-23