



University of the
West of England

Programme Specification

Section 1: Basic Data

Awarding institution/body	UWE
Teaching institution	UWE
Faculty responsible for programme	Humanities, Languages and Social Science
Programme accredited by	Not applicable
Highest award title	MA Regional Histories
Default award title	
Interim award title	Postgraduate Diploma in Regional Histories
Modular Scheme title (if different)	Postgraduate Certificate in Regional Histories Humanities Postgraduate Modular Scheme
UCAS code (or other coding system if relevant)	TBA
Relevant QAA subject benchmarking group(s)	History
On-going/valid until* (*delete as appropriate/insert end date)	Ongoing
Valid from (insert date if appropriate)	September 2007

Authorised by...Academic Registry

Date:... Sep 2006

Version Code

1

For coding purposes, a numerical sequence (1, 2, 3 etc.) should be used for successive programme specifications where 2 replaces 1, and where there are no concurrent specifications. A sequential decimal numbering (1.1; 1.2, 2.1; 2.2 etc) should be used where there are different and concurrent programme specifications

Section 2: Educational aims of the programme

- Students on the Regional Histories postgraduate programme will develop an advanced understanding of the assumptions, aims and conceptual framework that have characterised the discipline as a whole and the particular field of regional historical studies, which deal with the ideas, motivations, and interactions between individuals, organisations and societies in the past.
- They will develop the kind of critical, conceptual and analytical skills expected of postgraduates at UWE.
- They will have a detailed and critical knowledge of the importance of region, place and locality in the study of history and will be able to apply that critique to case studies in the South Western region.
- They will be able to engage in close reading and critical evaluation of primary historical sources of various kinds; to feel confident in contributing to intellectual debates; to analyse and evaluate the arguments of others; to formulate and effectively communicate their own arguments in both oral and written modes; and to undertake independent research.
- The students' work on this programme will prepare them for future careers which require postgraduates with a high level of analytical and communication skills and who are able to pursue complex tasks in an independent and self disciplined manner.

Section 3: Learning outcomes of the programme

The award route provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, qualities, skills and other attributes in the following areas: ...

A Knowledge and understanding

Learning outcomes	Teaching, Learning and Assessment Strategies
<p>A Knowledge and Understanding of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. major forces that have shaped the historical understanding of societies in the long term; 2. the conceptual discussions of locality and regionality in history; 3. the methodologies of local and regional history and the problems of archival sources; 4. the role and definition of "public history"; 5. a range of topics which have been central to the recent practice of the discipline, such as race, ethnicity and gender; 6. key historical concepts, secondary and primary sources, debates, research techniques and historiography. 	<p>Teaching/learning methods and strategies:</p> <p>The strategies employed on this programme to achieve these outcomes are a combination of lectures, seminars, workshops, field-trips, visits to archives, one-to-one meetings and web-based learning.</p> <p>Also reading, which is at all stages independent, although still structured, with encouragement for students' own initiative in finding supplementary sources. Students will expand their reading to cover a wide range of literature, with intensive study of primary sources, culminating in research for the Dissertation. The module handbooks provide guidance on both essential and further reading.</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <p>Assessment in all modules is achieved through a mixture of coursework and controlled conditions. Examples of coursework are shorter pieces (normally between 1000 and 2000 words) taking the form of book reviews or document exercises relating to regional sources, through conventional essays (2000 to 3000 words) discussing questions of public history and its role and aspects of regional studies, IT (database) analysis of serial data of local and regional interest, presentations based on studies of regionality and public history and, for controlled conditions, a two-hour examination testing the knowledge and understanding of aspects outlined above.</p>

B Intellectual Skills

<p>B Intellectual Skills</p> <p>Students should have the ability</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To read academic and other complex texts closely and critically; 2. To analyse texts and other historical sources with rigour and insight, 3. To construct coherent and defensible arguments, 4. To present complex ideas with clarity in writing and verbally 5. To understand, apply and develop a broad range of concepts and ideas. 	<p>Teaching/learning methods and strategies</p> <p>Intellectual skills are developed as an integral part of the learning and teaching strategies outlined in Section A above.</p> <p>Assessment</p> <p>A variety of assessment methods is employed. Those centred on writing test all of these skills. In addition, students' seminar presentations particularly test skills 4 and 5.</p>
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C Subject, Professional and Practical Skills

<p>C Subject/Professional/Practical Skills:</p> <p>Students on the programme will demonstrate the capacity to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. research topics using electronic and hard-copy sources; 2. make concise and structured presentations; 3. evaluate critically the wide range of historical sources, primary and secondary data, and to present conclusions in a clear written form; 4. formulate questions and design a substantial independent and original piece of historical research or essay in historiography, making extensive use of primary sources; 5. adhere to correct practice in the use of scholarly conventions (including citations and bibliography) and how this helps to communicate information. 	<p>Teaching/learning methods and strategies</p> <p>These skills are acquired accumulatively through seminar discussions, tutorial guidance and feedback on essays and other coursework and through supervision of the student's dissertation.</p> <p>Assessment</p> <p>These skills are assessed through the writing of extended essays and other forms of both written and verbal assignments.</p> <p>Skill 2 is assessed particularly through seminar presentations. Skill 4 is assessed particularly through the dissertation.</p>
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D Transferable Skills and other attributes

<p>D Transferable skills and other attributes</p> <p>- Students should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. communicate effectively in writing and verbally;2. work independently on complex tasks;3. organize and self-direct substantial projects;4. access and evaluate bodies of information from diverse sources;5. manage time and work effectively within given limits;6. appropriate information technology effectively for research, presentation and writing;7. work as a supportive member of a team or group.	<p>Teaching/learning methods and strategies</p> <p>These transferable skills and attributes are developed as an integral part of the learning and teaching strategies outlined in Section A above.</p> <p>Assessment</p> <p>The assessment of the acquisition and use of these skills is entailed across a range of assessment methods used.</p>
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Section 4: Programme structure

Use next page to provide a structural chart of the programme showing:

- Level and credit requirements
- Interim award requirements
- Module diet, including compulsory/core/optional modules

MA Regional Histories, - Part Time – Year 1

ENTRY
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Autumn Semester	Compulsory modules There are no compulsory modules at this stage of the award.	Optional modules One of the following modules will be offered: UPHP5M-30-M Britain's Involvement in the Atlantic Slave Economy, c. 1655-1838 UPHP5Q-30-M The Bristol Poor, 1850-1939 UPHP58-30-M Late Medieval Bristol, c. 1370-1540 UPHP55-30-M Town and Parish Culture in the Southwest, 1350-1689	Interim Awards: There are no interim awards at this stage.
	Core modules There are no core modules at this stage of the award.		
Winter Semester	Compulsory modules UPHP5A-30-M Approaches to History	Optional modules There are no optional modules at this stage of the award.	Interim Awards: Credit Requirements: 60 credits Postgraduate Certificate Other requirements: none
	Core modules There are no core modules at this stage of the award.		
Year out	<i>Use this space to describe optional/compulsory year abroad/placement/clinical placement</i> Not applicable for this award		
Summer Semester	No work is carried out during this semester for the award.		

MA Regional Histories, - Part Time – Year 2

ENTRY
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Autumn Semester	Compulsory modules There are no compulsory modules at this stage of the award.	Optional modules One of the following modules will be offered: UPHP5M-30-M Britain's Involvement in the Atlantic Slave Economy, c. 1655-1838 UPHP5Q-30-M The Bristol Poor, 1850-1939 UPHP58-30-M Late Medieval Bristol, c. 1370-1540. UPHP55-30-M Town and Parish Culture in the Southwest, 1350-1689	Interim Awards: There are no interim awards at this stage.
	Core modules There are no core modules at this stage of the award.		
Winter Semester	Compulsory modules UPHP5G-30-M Research Techniques in History	Optional modules There are no optional modules at this stage of the award.	Interim Awards: Credit requirements: 120 credits Postgraduate Diploma Other requirements: none.
	Core modules There are no core modules at this stage of the award.		
Year out	Use this space to describe optional/compulsory year abroad/placement/clinical placement Not applicable for this award		
Summer Semester and up to January	Compulsory modules UPHP5P-60-M MA History dissertation	Optional modules There are no optional modules at this stage of the award.	Prerequisite requirements Minimum credit/module requirements 120 credits
	Core modules There are no core modules at this stage of the award.		Awards: MA Regional Histories Default title: None Credit requirements: 180

→ GRADUATION

Section 5: Entry requirements

Candidates must be able to satisfy the general admissions requirements of the University of the West of England with specific requirements as detailed below:

Normally, a 2.1 Honours Degree or above in a subject with a significant History component or in a cognate discipline. Applicants considered for a place may be required to attend an interview.

Section 6: Assessment Regulations

a) **MAR** Yes

b) **Approved MAR variant (insert variant)**

c) **Non MAR**

Section 7: Student learning: distinctive features and support

- One week's Induction Programme for orientation, including study skills and library and IT resources.
- Detailed Student Handbooks and Module Outlines.
- A range of staged teaching and learning strategies and forms of assessment.
- Dedicated office hours for all teaching staff, student email system, trained counsellors for pastoral and academic support.
- Staff / student ratios for teaching of 15:1.
- Extensive collection of primary sources on microfilm.
- A wide range of teaching and learning strategies and an equally varied range of assessment modes across the award.
- Strong emphasis on the skills of the independent learner and researcher.
- Postgraduate student Saturday Schools
- Invitation to School Research Seminars (with particular emphasis on the Regional History Seminar).
- Graduate School with dedicated computers, printing and photocopying facilities, silent study areas and common room (Conifers, St. Matthias Campus).
- Link with the School's Regional History Centre and its expertise in research in the South West.
- Collaboration with other regional institutions such as the Victoria County History of Wiltshire, the Bristol Records Office, the VCH Immigrant and Minorities project and other academic and cultural institutions across the region.

Section 8 Reference points/benchmarks

- **QAA Subject benchmarks statement**
- **University teaching and learning policies.**
- **Staff research projects.**

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of individual modules can be found in module specifications. These are available on the University Intranet.

Programme monitoring and review may lead to changes to approved programmes. There may be a time lag between approval of such changes/modifications and their incorporation into an authorised programme specification. Enquiries about any recent changes to the programme made since this specification was authorised should be made to the relevant Faculty Administrator.