

Module Code:	HUM565
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Module Title:	Research Methods in the Humanities
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Level:	5	Credit Value:	20
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Cost Centre(s):	GAHN	JACS3 code:	X210
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Faculty:	Arts, Science And Technology	Module Leader:	Dr Kathryn Ellis
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Scheduled learning and teaching hours	30 hrs
Guided independent study	170 hrs
Placement	0 hrs
Module duration (total hours)	200 hrs

Programme(s) in which to be offered (not including exit awards)	Core	Option
BA (Hons) Social & Cultural History	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
BA (Hons) Social & Cultural History & English	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
BA (Hons) Social & Cultural History & Creative Writing	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
BA (Hons) Creative Writing	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
BA (Hons) Creative Writing & English	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>

Pre-requisites
N/A

Office use only

Initial approval: 25/09/2018
 With effect from: 01/09/2020
 Date and details of revision:

Version no:1

Version no:

Module Aims

This module aims to:

- Explore the historiography and current scholarship of a range of literary/historical themes
- Examine the feasibility of a topic and sources to sustain an 8000 word dissertation/extended project

Intended Learning Outcomes

Key skills for employability

- KS1 Written, oral and media communication skills
- KS2 Leadership, team working and networking skills
- KS3 Opportunity, creativity and problem solving skills
- KS4 Information technology skills and digital literacy
- KS5 Information management skills
- KS6 Research skills
- KS7 Intercultural and sustainability skills
- KS8 Career management skills
- KS9 Learning to learn (managing personal and professional development, self-management)
- KS10 Numeracy

At the end of this module, students will be able to

Key Skills

At the end of this module, students will be able to		Key Skills	
1	Explain the state of scholarship in relation to a selected field of study	KS1	
		KS3	
		KS9	
2	Analyse primary and specialised secondary source material to synthesise and evaluate themes	KS1	KS5
		KS3	KS6
		KS4	KS9
3	Assess the strengths and weaknesses of methodological approaches to the source material under investigation	KS1	KS6
		KS4	KS10
		KS5	
4	Produce a balanced feasibility study for an independent project which is underpinned by appropriate scholarship	KS1	KS9
		KS5	
		KS6	

Transferable skills and other attributes

Students will be able to develop and demonstrate:

- Empathy and imaginative insight

- Structure, coherence and clarity of written expression
- Self-discipline and self-direction
- Communication skills, oral and written

Derogations

N/A

Assessment:

Indicative Assessment Tasks:

This assessment aims to provide students with a strong platform for the 8000 word dissertation. Students will be required to select a research area which may be suitable for investigation in a dissertation of this length. The study will include a review of relevant literature and identify the issues and questions with which scholars are engaged. This will aim to ensure effective contextualisation for the chosen topic. Consideration will be given to the availability of primary source material, appropriate research questions and the methodologies to be employed in the dissertation.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)	Duration (if exam)	Word count (or equivalent if appropriate)
1	1,2,3,	Presentation	30		10 mins
2	1,2,3,4	Research Proposal	70		2000

Learning and Teaching Strategies:

Tutor-led sessions at the start of the module will introduce students to key methodological approaches and introduce students to case studies in the discipline. Sessions will also focus on literature reviews and ways of utilising different categories of evidence. Alumni will introduce some group sessions in order to present different perspectives on research experience. Tutorials, both group and individual, will form a key part of the learning and teaching strategy for this module. Student presentations on their research area will also provide a platform for formative learning during the module.

Syllabus outline:

- Research frameworks in the disciplines
- Searching out gaps in scholarship
- Deconstructing research articles
- Research Practice
- Presentations of case studies in potential research areas: oral history projects,
- Importance of a feasibility study
- How to plan research questions
- Bibliographical searches and queries

Indicative Bibliography:

Richardson, B. (ed.), *MHRA Style Guide. A Handbook for Authors, Editors, and Writers of Theses*, 3rd edition (MHRA, 2013)

Other indicative reading

Berry, R., *Research Project: How to Write it*, 5th Edition (Oxford: Routledge, 2004)

Davies, M.B., *Doing a Successful Research Project: Using Qualitative or Quantitative Methods* (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007)

Griffin, Gabriele (ed.), *Research Methods for English Studies*, 2nd edition (Edinburgh: Edinburgh UP, 2013)

Gunn, S., & Lucy Faire, *Research Methods for History* (Edinburgh, Edinburgh UP, 2011)

Rudenstam, K.E. & Newton, R.R., (eds.), *Surviving Your Dissertation: A Comprehensive Guide to Content and Process*, 3rd edition (London: Sage, 2007)

Stevens, R.E., *How to prepare a feasibility study: A Step-by-step guide* (New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, 1982)

Thomas, Gary, *How to do your Case Study: A Guide for Students and Researchers* (London: Sage Pub. Ltd., 2010)

Electronic Sources

Dissertation Abstracts Ethos: <http://ethos.bl.uk/>