

A Superb Course

Taught in one of the leading History faculties in the world, our course has been rated the best History degree in the UK for 2016 by both the *Guardian* and the *Times Higher Education Supplement*. Its wide-ranging structure allows you to study over three millennia of history across all parts of the world, but also to specialise in particular periods and places. As a student, you will read broadly, tackling both primary sources and secondary material, learning about past debates and keeping up to date with current controversies. But you will also write regularly. Students complete a c. 2000-word essay each week. The History single-track course is divided into two parts.

PART I (Years 1 and 2; examined at the end of Year 2)

Part I consists of six broad papers, one of which ('Themes and Sources') is assessed via a coursework essay of c. 5000 words.

All students take the following:

- A period of British political history from 380 to the present day
- A period of British social and economic history from 380 to the present day
- A period of European history from 776 BC to the present day
- One of a dozen or so 'Themes and Sources' options

and two further papers from the following:

- Additional British and European history
- World history from c. 1500 to the present day
- North American history from c. 1500 to the present day
- Political thought from classical times to the late nineteenth century

PART II (Year 3; examined at the end of Year 3)

All students choose one of a variety of 'Special Subjects', covering topics from the Angevin Empire to Indian democracy. Taught through a mix of mini-lectures and classes, these are based on careful study of primary sources and are examined through a coursework essay and an examination.

In addition, you can either take two 'specified' papers from a wide selection, ranging from the late Roman world to the Vietnam war, or one 'specified' paper and a dissertation. Although the dissertation is not compulsory, over half of our students choose to write one. It is often one of the most enjoyable aspects of their time here. All students also sit 'Historical Argument and Practice', a historical methods paper.



Exceptional Teaching

At Cambridge, you will be taught by historians whose research is at the cutting edge of our subject, and you will enjoy unrivalled access to their expertise. You will be taught in smaller groups, more frequently, and with quicker, more detailed feedback than in almost any other university in the world. The demands are rigorous; the benefits are incalculable.

- All students receive Faculty lectures from leading researchers in each of the papers they choose. For some papers, the Faculty also provides seminars and classes.
- Students also receive weekly 'supervisions' – Cambridge's unique, small-group (and often one-to-one) teaching style. For each of your papers you, will be allocated a supervisor who is an expert in the field. Each week, your supervisor will assign some reading and set an essay. The essay will form the basis for the supervision and you will receive detailed feedback on its contents, style and structure. You will also meet to discuss both the essay and the wider topic.
- Your academic development will be overseen by a Director of Studies, a historian based in your College. Your DoS will provide advice on choice of papers, arrange your supervisions, and offer guidance on revision and exams. Your DoS will also organise College-based events and classes in historical method. Most Colleges also have a lively History Society, with speakers, outings, and dinners, as does the History Faculty itself.



Outstanding Facilities

Our History students benefit from the University's world-class resources. They have access to a large number of incredibly well-stocked libraries, including:

- The Faculty's Seeley Library, which boasts one of the largest single collections of history books anywhere in the world
- The University Library, which receives a copy of everything published in the UK and holds many hundreds of thousands of foreign-published books and articles. It houses over seven million volumes
- Each College has its own library. Most have over five thousand history books.

As a consequence, you might well never have to buy a book during your time here, and you should be able to find copies of all the books you need for your course.

Computing resources in Cambridge are similarly outstanding. Almost all College student rooms have high-speed Internet connections, all Colleges have computer suites, and additional computing facilities are available in the History Faculty and the University Library.

Low Costs and Excellent Financial Support

Contrary to common perception, Cambridge is actually quite an affordable university to attend:

- The Cambridge Bursary Scheme is one of the largest in the UK
- Accommodation costs are low: almost all students live in College accommodation and consequently pay only 30 weeks' rent each year
- Transport costs are very low: Cambridge is a compact place and most students walk or cycle everywhere, and there is also a cheap University bus
- Library facilities are exceptional, so you will have to buy very few, if any, books
- Student clubs and societies are mainly free; all Colleges have their own dining hall, bar and other facilities

Great Career Prospects

If you graduate from Cambridge with a good History degree, you will have proven yourself and acquired a range of skills that will make you extremely attractive to top employers both in Britain and in the rest of the world. You will therefore have superb job prospects. In the latest surveys, 88% of our students were in graduate-entry jobs six months after graduating, a significantly higher percentage than any of **their** peers. Our graduates embark on a very wide range of careers including law, finance and consultancy, national and local government, international organisations, think tanks, journalism and publishing, teaching and many others. 40% of our students choose to complete further study, going on to take a Masters degree or doctorate.



Applying

If you are interested in studying History at university, curious about the modern world and how it came to be, and are one of the brightest students in your school or college, you should consider applying to us. We admit students from every sort of background and would be delighted to hear from you.

The standard offer is A*AA or 40-41 IB points, with 776 at Higher Levels. Though there are no general entry requirements, some Colleges may require an A-level/IB Higher Level in History. We typically admit between 180-200 students each year. More information can be found on our website: www.hist.cam.ac.uk/prospective-undergrads

Joint Degrees

It is also possible to study History in combination with another subject:

- A 3-year degree in History and Politics, taught jointly by the Faculty of History and the Department of Politics and International Studies
- A 4-year degree in History and Modern Languages, taught jointly by the Faculty of History and the Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages

Separate leaflets are available and more information can be found on the Faculty's website.