History
Our highly rated and vibrant History department offers a wide variety of modules, ranging from ancient to modern, and the histories of Europe, Asia and the Americas. All our teaching is informed by internationally recognised research, embracing socio-economic, environmental, cultural, political, religious and intellectual history. We also have a reputation for being a world-leading centre of excellence in Digital Humanities.

Studying with us, you will have flexibility to select modules that fascinate you and tailor your degree to your own individual interests. We support you in developing strong research skills throughout your degree, preparing you for final year projects involving intensive primary research, such as the Special Subject module and dissertation.

We will equip you with transferrable skills that will help you stand out in an increasingly competitive job market. The latest Complete University Guide (2019) placed the Department joint 4th in the UK for graduate prospects. Our department’s Regional Heritage Centre supports a programme of heritage placements that provides you with opportunities to gain valuable work experience with organisations such as The National Trust and the Duchy of Lancaster.

We pride ourselves on the strong sense of community in our friendly Department. Our students reported 98% satisfaction in the 2017 National Student Survey, and our active student society organises a fun and exciting variety of course related and social activities throughout the year.

We hope you enjoy learning more about History at Lancaster. Please do contact us if you have any questions, we’d love to hear from you.

Professor Ian Gregory
Head of History
WHY STUDY HISTORY AT LANCASTER?

BECOME A SPECIALIST
Follow your interests with our wide range of specialised courses on areas in ancient, medieval, early modern, or modern and contemporary history. Dive deeper into your research in the final-year Special Subject module and dissertation.

GAIN EXPERIENCE
Gain valuable work experience in the heritage sector with our placement programme. Through our Regional Heritage Centre, you can apply to work with museums and archives in your second year. You can also undertake a year-long placement with our four-year Placement Year degree.

UNIQUE TO YOU
Make your degree your own; study History as a joint degree with English Literature, French, German, International Relations, Philosophy, Politics, Religious Studies, or Spanish. Flexible subject options in Year 1 are another way to broaden the scope of your studies.

EXPLORE THE WORLD
You have the opportunity to study abroad in North America, Australia, New Zealand or Europe. Shorter study trips can be made in vacation time; recent destinations include China, India, Malaysia and New York.

98% overall satisfaction and 98% agree staff are good at explaining things (National Student Survey 2017)

#7 in the UK for History (Guardian University Guide 2019)

#4 Joint 4th for graduate prospects (Complete University Guide 2019)

#1 Joint 1st for library quality and opening hours (Times Higher Education Student Experience Survey 2018)
DEGREES AND ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Degree title</th>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Degree length</th>
<th>UCAS code</th>
<th>Typical offer</th>
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<tr>
<td>History</td>
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<td>3 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medieval and Renaissance Studies</td>
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<td><strong>Combined Honours</strong></td>
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**PLACEMENT YEAR DEGREES**

All of our degrees can be studied as a four-year long Placement Year degree. You can either apply specifically for a Placement Year variant, or switch on to the programme when you arrive at Lancaster. See page 22 for further details about placements and internship opportunities.

TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT

- Our teaching takes place in lectures, small group seminars and workshops.
- Lectures introduce key historical questions and provide an overview of the key materials and themes on each module.
- Seminars and workshops are interactive. They give you the opportunity to discuss specific questions and debates.
- Students of History are expected to work a 40-hour week, dividing this time between timetabled teaching, individual consultations with academic staff and independent study.
- Every module has a dedicated Moodle website as part of the University’s Virtual Learning Environment. This is used for posting resources and communicating with other students in the group.
- Most modules are assessed by a combination of coursework and examination, with coursework making up 53% of assessment overall.

Lancaster University has been awarded the highest possible score in the UK government’s 2017 Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) ratings. Our TEF Gold rating is based on high quality teaching, excellent teaching facilities and the good careers our graduates go into.

The first year course offers a broad overview, which is a great way to start studying History at university, because it allows you to cover everything from Ancient Greece to twentieth-century America. It has allowed me to discover new areas of History that I have never had the chance to study before.

My favourite part of first year has been undertaking the role of History Representative because it has allowed me to communicate student opinion about the course and university life to staff. This process ensures that we have a say about how we are taught at Lancaster which I feel makes the course more engaging and enjoyable.

The University is a great place to live and work. The campus feels safe and the facilities, such as the 24-hour library, are fantastic for research.

Emerson Doore, BA Hons History, Year 1
HERITAGE PLACEMENTS

In your second year, you can opt to take a credit-bearing, voluntary work placement module, coordinated through the department’s Regional Heritage Centre. These range from prominent multi-site organisations such as the National Trust to small independent museums, county archives, and heritage consultants. Our placement providers include Lakeland Arts (Kendal and Windermere); the Keswick Museum & Art Gallery; the National Trust (Gawthorpe Hall and Sizergh Castle); the Greater Manchester Museums Group; and the Norton Priory Trust (Runcorn). Students on work placements might find themselves analysing data on visitor experiences, writing text for exhibitions or researching world-class collections. The module aims to foster awareness of, and reflection on, career opportunities in the heritage sector and elsewhere.

Examples of recent placements undertaken:

**Cumbria Archive and Local Studies Centre**
Enhancing the Local Studies Photograph Collection
This placement involved the careful preservation of archival photographs in conservation-grade materials, unique referencing, cataloguing and digitisation of the archive holdings. It developed skills in collection care, conservation and specialist software (CALM).

**The Fusilier Museum, Bury**
Collection and Learning Resources Development
Developing learning resources with an emphasis on expanding access to the museum’s digital collections online was a major part of this placement. Family activities were devised and delivered, such as museum handling boxes, museum trails and other specialised school holiday activities.

**Keswick Museum & Art Gallery**
Picture This! Curating two Interactive Digital Albums of Historical Keswick Images
A chance to develop curatorial and museum skills, this placement entailed first-hand research in the collection to create two interactive presentations for the social history gallery. The aim of the new digital albums was to better engage audiences, both young and old, by diversifying how the collections were presented, as well as to encourage visitors to get involved by volunteering or contributing to the collection. The placement honed valuable skills in writing, image selection and sequencing as well as understanding audiences and presenting content using new digital technologies.

**Some of our placement providers include:**

I would recommend undertaking a heritage work placement, particularly to students who want to get experience of research with primary source materials.
*Student feedback, Cumbria Archives Service Placement*

I recommend this module and this placement, particularly to students who want to get practical experience of using historical skills.
*Student feedback, The National Trust at Sizergh Castle*

This placement was a really good experience, and I recommend both Tullie House as a placement provider and the work placement scheme in general. It is a pity that you can’t take the module twice!
*Student feedback, Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery placement*

Please note – we cannot guarantee that all students will be offered a placement. Non-credit-bearing placements are also available. These are advertised by the University’s Careers Service to students at all stages of their studies, and include a wide range of opportunities across a variety of employment sectors. You can also apply to undertake a year-long paid, professional work placement as part of your degree. See page 22 for more details.
I travelled to India with Lancaster University Students’ Union overseas for three weeks in summer 2017 having been inspired by a history module I completed in my second year on colonial India.

I was extremely interested in exploring a new, and completely different culture and further exploring the history of India. During my visit, I spent time in Manipal, Goa and Jaipur, primarily staying in the campus accommodation of Indian universities which had partnered with Lancaster University.

During these unforgettable three weeks I participated in various cultural activities including Indian folk dancing and traditional Indian theatre workshops. I also participated in educational sessions with Indian university students and visited local non-governmental organisations.

The experience enabled me to stay in traditional Indian villages, visit ancient Hindu temples, and I even got to see the Taj Mahal! Overall, I learnt a lot about the culture, history and politics of India, and having the opportunity to forge relationships with the people there was invaluable. I also developed significantly on a personal level, broadening my horizons and experiencing something completely new to me. The trip provided a variety of once-in-a-lifetime experiences and truly made my university experience global.

Jamie Maddison, BA Hons History, Year 3
YOUR DEGREE

At Lancaster you can study History or Medieval and Renaissance Studies as a single honours degree. In your first year, you will study one or two additional subjects, called flexible subject options. This interdisciplinary approach enables you to explore the links between History and other subjects such as literature, languages, philosophy or politics.

You can also study History as a joint degree combined with English Literature, French Studies, German Studies, International Relations, Philosophy, Politics, Religious Studies or Spanish Studies. We also offer a combined degree in History, Philosophy and Politics. For more information about the core and optional modules on these degrees please see our website.

All of our degree programmes can be studied with a placement year. Read more about placement years on page 22.

BA HONS HISTORY

YEAR 1

***CORE***
From Ancient to Modern: History and Historians

***Optional History modules***

***Flexible subject option***

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Optional History modules

- The Fall of Rome
- Reform, Rebellion and Reason: Britain, 1500-1800
- Histories of Violence: How Imperialism Made the Modern World
- From Great War to Total War
- Edges of Europe: Culture, Ethnicity and Identity, c. 1800-1950

Flexible subject option

Choose a subject from options including Politics, Philosophy, Economics, Literature, Psychology, or a language. Find out more in the Flexible Subject Options brochure: [www.lancaster.ac.uk/fass-flexible-learning](http://www.lancaster.ac.uk/fass-flexible-learning)

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YEAR 2

***CORE***
Making History: Contexts, Sources and Publics

***Writing History: Questions, Methods, Conclusions***

***Optional History modules***

***Flexible subject option***

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Making History: Contexts, Sources and Publics

This core module focuses on major historiographical case studies, offering an introduction to the theory and practice of the discipline of history: its good and bad practices, its methodologies and different genres, its relation to both past and present and its uses of primary and secondary sources.

Writing History: Questions, Methods, Conclusions

This module prepares you for your dissertation. You will develop a detailed research proposal, conduct a reflexive ‘feasibility study’ for your project, present your preliminary findings, and respond to feedback from experts in your prospective field of research.

Optional History modules

You can tailor your degree to your interests by selecting from the wide range of optional modules available (see page 16 for an indicative list). You may wish to choose the credit-bearing heritage placement module. Read more about this on page 10.

YEAR 3

***Optional History module***

***Special Subject***

***Dissertation***

Special Subject

You will select one Special Subject and undertake intensive, primary-source based research. The Special Subject is taught in three-hour weekly seminars. See page 17 for indicative options.

Dissertation

Your dissertation gives you the opportunity to work in depth, gaining the satisfaction of working independently and of developing a topic of your own. Working closely with your dissertation supervisor, you will research and write an 8,000- to 10,000-word study on a historical topic that fascinates you.
Ancient, Medieval and Early Modern

- The Making of Germany, 843-1122
- The Origins and Rise of Islam, 600-1250 AD
- Byzantine and Muslim Sicily, 535-1072
- Athens, Sparta and Alexander the Great, 403-31 BC
- Athens, Sparta and the Greek World, c. 800-404 BC
- Mapping Terra Incognita: Travel and Exploration in the Atlantic and Pacific Worlds 1492-1642
- Culture and Society in England, 1500-1750
- Nature and Culture 1500-1700: Themes from the Renaissance
- The English Civil War 1640-1660
- Virginia, 1585-1685: Adventure, War and Tobacco in the First American Colony
- Norman England, 1066-1154: Conquest, Colonisation and Conflict
- The Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade, 1500-1865
- Crusade and Jihad: Holy War in the Middle East, 1095-1254
- Medicine, Life and Death, 1800 to the Present
- Sex, Babies and the Reproduction of the Nation, 1800 to the Present
- Britain in the Twentieth Century
- New World Order 1919-1939
- Restless Nation: Germany in the 20th Century
- The Wartime Gender Contract & the Combat Taboo in 20th-Century Britain

Modern History and Historical Methods

- Partisans and Collaborators: World War II in Occupied Europe
- Between Two Worlds: Russian History 1825-1914
- A History of Paris, c. 1730 to the Present
- The United States and the Vietnam War
- After Vietnam: Remembering, Representing and Refighting the ‘Bad War’
- The Making and Unmaking of Heroes in German History: from Warriors and a People’s Queen to Film Stars and a Football Team
- Slavery & Freedom: North America, 1620-1800
- The History of the United States, 1789-1865
- The History of the United States, 1865-1989
- Three Colours, One Flag, One Empire: the French Colonial World, 1781-1962
- In Search of the Underclass: Politics and Poverty in Britain, 1880-1970
- In Search of the Underclass: Politics and Poverty in Britain Since 1970
- Gandhi and the End of Empire in India, 1885-1948
- The Victorians and Before: Britain, 1783-1901
- The History of the English Lake District – Terror, Ecstasy and Environmental Change
- The Cold War in Europe
- Inventing Human Rights 1776-2001

OPTIONAL HISTORY MODULES
(YEARS 2 AND 3)

- Bede and His World, c. 660-740
- The Normans in Italy, 1050-1194
- Science and Society in England, 1640-1688
- Advertising and Consumerism in Britain, 1853-1960
- Private Lives and Public Policy: Evacuation, Memory and the Second World War
- Gender Identities in the People’s War: Experiences, Representations and Memories
- La Nouvelle Histoire: Twentieth-Century Historiography in France and Beyond
- Anarchy and Society in the Caribbean, c.1620-c.1720
- ‘The Shock of the New’: Modernity and the Modernisms of American Culture, 1877-1919

STUDYING A SPECIAL SUBJECT IN ‘GENDER IDENTITIES IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR’ IN MY THIRD YEAR WAS THE HIGHLIGHT OF MY HISTORY UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES. AS A 23 WEEK MODULE, IT REALLY ALLOWED ME TO EXPLORE THE PERIOD THOROUGHLY AND I ENJOYED WORKING WITH A VARIETY OF SOURCE MATERIALS, INCLUDING FILM, MUSIC AND ART. THE SUPPORT FROM MY TUTOR WAS EXCELLENT AND THERE WAS A FANTASTIC SENSE OF COMMUNITY AND FRIENDSHIP WITHIN OUR CLASS.

Sarah White
BA Hons History

SPECIAL SUBJECTS
(YEAR 3)

- The Politics of Memory: The Contested Past in Museums, Monuments and Minds
- The Third Reich and Film
- Vikings and Sea-Kings: Power and Plunder in the Irish Sea Region, 794-1079
- Society and the Divine in Ancient Greece
- ‘These Beastly Obscenities’: Monuments, Images, and Antiquities in Imperial India
- Poverty in England, c.1580 - 1780
- A Global History of the Cold War
- From Rebellion to Revolution: The War for the Throne, 1199-1265
- The East India Company: Merchant State, 1600-1857
- Battles of World War II: Resistance and the Holocaust

We keep our degree programmes under constant review, and also regularly introduce new modules. In any academic year, the list of modules offered may therefore differ from that presented here. Similarly, the structure of our degrees may change, following consultation with students and institutional approval, and in response to curricular developments and the emerging needs of the student body. Please check our website for the latest information.

lancaster.ac.uk/history
BA HONS MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE STUDIES

Our Medieval and Renaissance Studies degree allows you to study the political, cultural, social history and languages of the period between 300 and 1700. Medieval and Renaissance Studies draws on expertise from across the University and you will be taught by academics from the departments of History, English Literature, Languages and Cultures, and Politics, Philosophy and Religion.

**Year 1**

**CORE**
- From Ancient to Modern: History and Historians

**ELECTIVE**
- Reform, Rebellion and Reason: Britain, 1500-1800
- The Fall of Rome
- Flexible subject option

**Year 2**

**CORE**
- Making History: Contexts, Sources and Publics
- Writing History: Questions, Methods, Conclusions

**ELECTIVE**
- Byzantine and Muslim Sicily, 535-1072
- Culture and Society in England, 1500-1750
- History of Philosophy
- Mapping Terra Incognita: Travel and Exploration in the Atlantic and Pacific Worlds 1492-1642
- Nature and Culture 1500-1700: Themes from the Renaissance
- Norman England, 1066-1154: Conquest, Colonisation and Conflict
- Renaissance to Restoration, English Literature, 1580-1688
- The English Civil War, 1640-1660
- The Making of Germany, 843-1122
- The Origins and Rise of Islam, 600-1250 AD
- The Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade, 1500-1865
- Virginia, 1585-1685: Adventure, War and Tobacco in the First American Colony
- Flexible Subject Option

**Year 3**

**CORE**
- Dissertation
- Special Subject

**ELECTIVE**
- Anarchy and Society in the Caribbean, c.1620-c.1720
- Bede and His World, c. 660-740
- Performing Death, Desire and Gender
- Poverty in England c.1580-1780
- Premodern Gothic
- Public and Private Performances of Self in Medieval Literature and Drama
- Science and Society in England, 1640-1688
- Shakespeare
- The Normans in Italy, 1050-1194
- The Prosecution of ‘Otherness’ in Europe: Witchcraft, Heresy and Inquisition
- Vikings and Sea-Kings: Power and Plunder in the Irish Sea Region, 794-1079

Being a member of the History Department at Lancaster has given me so much room to flourish. The staff are friendly and welcoming, and always happy to have a chat if needed.

The huge number of modules available has given me a chance to really study what I want to study, and helped me grow as a historian and an academic.

Dan Meldon, BA Hons History, Year 2
As Historians, we do spend a great deal of time in libraries and archives. However, there are numerous opportunities to get out and about. The first-year module, ‘Histories of Violence: How Imperialism Made the Modern World’, requires students to carry out intensive research of a fragment of the British empire in Lancashire. Recent field trips include visits to the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford, the British Museum in London, the Museum of Science and Industry in Manchester, and, closer to home, Lancaster Maritime Museum to learn about Lancaster’s history as a slaving port and to Heysham to see the early medieval archaeological remains like St Peter’s church and famous Heysham hogback stone.

Lancaster University Society of History (LUSH)

Lancaster University Society of History (LUSH) is exactly what it sounds like, a chance to bring together anyone with a passion for history, regardless of whether you are a history student or not. Working closely with the Department, we are a fun way for you and your friends to engage with history outside the lecture hall or library. With regular socials, such as trips to Manchester, our Christmas meal, movie nights… we really do have something for everyone! What’s not to love? You’ll have a LUSH time! #LUSHLife

George O’Brien
History Society President
@LUSocofHistory
Facebook Lancaster University Society of History
luhistsoc@gmail.com

The Lancaster Award

We actively encourage students to participate in the Lancaster Award, which rewards you for taking part in extra-curricular activities. This certificate enhances your future employment prospects by encouraging you to engage in college activities, careers workshops, work experience and volunteering. The new skills and experiences developed through these endeavours is recognised and valued by employers.

OUR STAFF

My research focuses on Atlantic history, particularly the trans-Atlantic slave trade and plantation slavery in North America and the Caribbean. My current project studies slave trading merchants in Britain, Africa, and the Americas, and explores how their profit-motivated decisions shaped the lives of the people whom they bought as captives and sold as slaves. I have performed archival research for the project in both the United States and the United Kingdom, where I’ve examined a plethora of papers belonging to slave traders. I also draw extensively on digital resources, principally Voyages: The Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade Database and a 3D model of a slave ship that I’m developing in collaboration with an international team of scholars. These digital and textual sources underpin my undergraduate modules at Lancaster, one of which examines the trans-Atlantic slave trade’s long history, and another that examines the intertwined histories of slavery and freedom in colonial America.

Dr Nicholas Radburn
Lecturer in the History of the Atlantic World 1500 - 1800

My research is focused on modern South Asian, principally Indian, history; spanning environmental, political and cultural history from the early-nineteenth century to the 1950s. I love archival research and have conducted research in many Indian archives from Chennai to Delhi and Mumbai to Bhubaneswar. My latest project is writing a book about the Hindu Temple; each chapter explores the different ways in which the temple was imagined and understood during the colonial period. Medieval temples, for example, were fenced in and protected as ancient monuments in India whilst in British literature they provided spaces of erotic and violent fantasy. I teach three modules in the Department that tie in closely with my research interests including a first-year module which examines the trans-Atlantic slave trade’s long history, and another that examines the intertwined histories of slavery and freedom in colonial America.

Dr Deborah Sutton
Senior Lecturer in Modern South Asian History and Director of Admissions

My main area of research is English history from the sixteenth to the eighteenth centuries. I am particularly interested in social relations, and in the ways in which they were imagined and understood in the past, which is also what I teach in my undergraduate courses: what concepts of family and friendship did people have? In what terms were social hierarchies imagined and justified: between servant and master, rules and ruled, rich and poor, women and men? I have worked a great deal on archival materials, both in the north of England and in the south, but much of my work is centred on the language of social description, and on the relationships between languages and historical realities. Alongside archival sources, I study religious and literary texts, and the law. I am currently finishing a book on poverty, migration, and state administration in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

Prof Naomi Tadmor
Professor of History

The Lancaster Award

We actively encourage students to participate in the Lancaster Award, which rewards you for taking part in extra-curricular activities. This certificate enhances your future employment prospects by encouraging you to engage in college activities, careers workshops, work experience and volunteering. The new skills and experiences developed through these endeavours is recognised and valued by employers.

lancaster.ac.uk/history
A Lancaster University History degree is a gateway to an exciting and rewarding career. History graduates are able to think critically, analyse evidence, structure an argument, and communicate effectively. A degree in History offers you the combination of specialised knowledge and a comprehensive understanding of the world in which we live. We are currently ranked joint fourth in the UK for graduate prospects in the Complete University Guide (2019).

Placement and Internship Opportunities

Placements and internships are great ways to gain work experience, make professional contacts and help you decide your career path. A wide range of opportunities is available, most are paid, and some (such as placement modules) provide credit towards your degree. Places are not usually guaranteed and we will help you prepare for the competitive application process. Voluntary activities are another excellent way to build work experience and make a positive impact on the world around you.

Heritage placements – these credit-bearing work placements can be undertaken in Year 2 as part of the optional module ‘From Education to Employment’. Find out more on page 10 of this booklet.

Faculty internships – these are typically 4-6 week paid placements that are available in the summer vacation or on a part-time basis during term time. They provide work experience in small and medium sized businesses as well as third sector and not-for-profit organisations. Past employers have included Carnegie Publishing, The Dukes Theatre, and the Ethical Consumer Research Association, with roles ranging from marketing and PR to specific research projects.

Placement year degrees – a year of paid, professional work experience between your second and final year of study. Lancaster University students have worked with companies as diverse as Johnson + Johnson, Warner Bros, Microsoft, Marks & Spencer, and Walt Disney. Typically placements are for between 9-12 months.

School volunteering placements – through Lancaster University Students’ Union you can volunteer for roles in local schools, such as a classroom assistant or reading buddy. There are also roles on campus such as organising activity days for school groups.

Future Careers

Our graduates go on to a wide variety of successful careers, including:

- Museums and Heritage
- Teaching
- Local Government
- Law
- Retail Management
- Human Resource Management
- Banking
- Insurance
- Hospitality
- University Administration

Since leaving Lancaster I have moved to London and I am training to become a Chartered Accountant at the National Audit Office. The key skills that employers look for in the recruitment process are your ability to project manage, analyse data and demonstrate sound judgement. These are skills that are developed throughout your time in the History Department at Lancaster, but are particularly developed through the Special Subject and dissertation modules. I found that the History degree at Lancaster allowed me to study a subject that I was passionate about whilst also equipping me with the key skills sought after by graduate employers.

Charlotte Larkin
Trainee Chartered Accountant, National Audit Office
BA (Hons) History, graduated in 2016

Postgraduate Study

Many of our graduate choose to continue their studies with postgraduate qualifications, including:

- MA History, Modern History, or Medieval History
- MA Museum Studies
- MSc Information Management and Preservation
- PGCE in Primary or Secondary Education
- Graduate Diploma in Law (GDL)
- MA Journalism
- MA Corporate Communications, Marketing and Public Relations
- MA Social Work

The University makes all reasonable efforts to ensure that the information in this booklet is correct at the time of printing (June 2018). Please see www.lancaster.ac.uk/compliance/legalnotice for further information.