

Lancaster
University



History

Undergraduate Degrees 2027

Welcome

There has never been a better time to study history. We study the past to unlock answers to the problems of the present and future, and here at Lancaster University, you will benefit from being part of a vibrant and supportive academic community that has been at the forefront of innovation in the discipline for 60 years.

We have long been regarded as a world leader in the fields of social history and regional heritage. More recently, we have gained recognition for our renowned expertise in fields such as the history of science and medicine, along with international and military history. What is more, we are internationally esteemed as a leader in the pioneering field of digital humanities. These areas of expertise shine through in our teaching. One day, you might be debating the relevance of historical conflicts to today's global crises; the next, you might be exploring how new technologies are transforming the way we understand and study the past.

Our teaching also reflects our commitment to supporting your professional development. The knowledge and skills you'll gain will help you stand out in an increasingly competitive job market. Our graduates are highly sought after by employers in an extraordinary range of sectors, from museums to marketing, and not just for their skills in problem solving and analysis. They are also sought after for the intellectual rigour they bring to decision-making and strategy. We could not be prouder of the successful careers our graduates have developed with companies and organisations ranging from English Heritage and the National Trust to Santander and HSBC.

I hope that you enjoy learning more about our degrees. Please do get in touch if you have any questions.



*Programme Lead
BA Hons History*

Dr Alex Wragge-Morley



Degree title		Degree (Hons)	UCAS code	Course duration (years)	Typical A level offer
History		BA	V100	3	AAB
History (Placement Year)		BA	V101	4	AAB
History (Study Abroad)		BA	V103	4	AAB
English Literature and History		BA	QV31	3	AAB
English Literature and History (Placement Year)		BA	QV32	4	AAB
English Literature and History (Study Abroad)		BA	QV33	4	AAB
History and International Relations		BA	VL12	3	AAB
History and International Relations (Placement Year)		BA	VL13	4	AAB
History and International Relations (Study Abroad)		BA	VL14	4	AAB
History and Politics		BA	LV21	3	AAB
History and Politics (Placement Year)		BA	LV22	4	AAB
History and Politics (Study Abroad)		BA	LV23	4	AAB
Chinese Studies and History		BA	T1V1	4	AAB
French Studies and History	or	BA	RV11	4	AAB
German Studies and History	or	BA	RV21	4	AAB
Spanish Studies and History	or	BA	RV41	4	AAB
History and Philosophy		BA	VVC5	3	AAB
History and Philosophy (Placement Year)		BA	VVC6	4	AAB
History and Philosophy (Study Abroad)		BA	VVC7	4	AAB
History, Philosophy and Politics		BA	VOL0	3	AAB
History, Philosophy and Politics (Placement Year)		BA	VOL1	4	AAB
History, Philosophy and Politics (Study Abroad)		BA	VOL2	4	AAB

Visit our website for more information on degree options, scholarships and entry requirements [lancaster.ac.uk](https://www.lancaster.ac.uk)



Made for *learning*



- Our teaching takes place in lectures, group seminars and workshops.
- Lectures introduce important 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.
- You will divide your time between timetabled teaching, individual consultations with academic staff and independent study, resulting in a full study schedule.
- 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 approximately 50% of assessment overall. Coursework includes essays and primary source analyses, as well as innovative assessments, such as creating podcasts and multimedia presentations.



Evangeline, second year

BA Hons History

I have really enjoyed the course so far. You get to explore a huge range of history. It definitely pushed me out of my comfort zone, and taught me so much that I wouldn't have otherwise chosen to learn but which I am grateful to have learned.

The lecturers are all really passionate and knowledgeable, I'm learning new things every day and always being pushed. I think the course has a really good balance between coursework and exams to accommodate as many people as possible with their different needs.

Everyone is always really understanding if you need extra support or something explained, and the office hours that the faculty keep are a huge part of this. I have really enjoyed everything available for me to learn this year and cannot wait to see what is happening next year.

“
*I'm learning
new things
every day
and always
being pushed.*
”

Gain *real-world* experience

We know you want to graduate confident and ready to progress into your career. That's why we make it easy to incorporate work experience into your time at Lancaster.

Your ambitions are important to us, and we will help you build the skills you need to succeed by offering a range of placement and internship opportunities.

Placement year

You can opt to study your degree with a placement year (also known as a year in industry). On this degree you spend your third year working in a graduate-level, professional job in a sector of your choice before returning to complete your final year at Lancaster University. Securing a placement is a competitive process and we support you with personalised coaching and professional guidance provided via a series of preparatory workshops and 1:1 appointments with our Placements Team.

Faculty of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences Internship Scheme

You'll gain sector-relevant work experience with these internships. Apply in all years of study for opportunities in areas such as public affairs, marketing, business development and events. The scheme offers you an opportunity to gain access to direct work experience while you study.



The Lancaster Award

The Lancaster Award is a non-academic certificate developed in partnership with employers to help you make the most of your time at Lancaster and to demonstrate the skills you have developed along the way. It is designed to reward the wide range of volunteering activities and placements undertaken by many of our undergraduates. Potential employers increasingly value a profile that includes more than just strong academic results, and the Lancaster Award recognises and validates this.

“

It helped me develop my presentations skills and my attention-to-detail.

”



Rachel, recent graduate

BA Hons History (Placement Year)

I undertook a placement at Honda Motor Europe as a Human Resources Generalist Undergraduate, working within the HR Operations Team. In my job role, I was involved in onboarding and offboarding employees, payroll activities, the undergraduate recruitment process, policy work, managing the HR system, and so much more! I thoroughly enjoyed working in HR due to the wide variety of work– no two days were ever the same.

My role also helped me develop my presentations skills and my attention-to-detail, both of which came in handy whilst doing a history degree. The University placements team supported me both in my search for a role, and whilst I was on placement – they held mock interviews and mock assessment centres which helped prepare me for the application process, and I also had regular check-ins with my placement supervisor during the year.

My team at Honda were super supportive and valued the work I did, which had a huge impact on my enjoyment of my time there. My placement highlighted to me that I would like to pursue a career in Human Resources.



Your global *experience*

Lancaster is a truly international university, with students and staff from over 100 different countries and partner institutions around the world. Your global experience is about living and learning with people from different cultures whether through your course, your college or your students' union.

Study abroad

You can choose to study your degree with a study abroad year. On these four-year degrees, you spend your third year studying at one of our partner universities abroad. Our current partners are in Amsterdam, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Germany, Hong Kong, Singapore and the USA, although availability of destinations varies each year.

Living in another country and studying history from a different perspective enhances your subject knowledge and develops resourcefulness for life after university.

Vacation travel

You can also discover the world during your vacations. Our Global Experiences team run vacation travel trips to Malaysia which include a mix of academic study and cultural discovery. These trips range from cultural exchanges to studying sustainable practices with world leading experts.

Overseas summer schools

During summer vacation, you can apply to attend a summer school at one of our international partner universities all around the world. Destinations are varied – from Singapore to Italy, Hong Kong to Canada. Explore where you could go: lancaster.ac.uk/overseas-summer-schools

Follow us on Instagram @GlobalLancaster

Find out more at lancaster.ac.uk/your-global-experience



“

*I gained
experiences
I know
I'll carry
with me
long after
university.*

”



Dylan, third year

**BA Hons History and International
Relations (Study Abroad)**

This past year, I've had the opportunity to study abroad at The University of Hong Kong as part of my History and International Relations degree at Lancaster University, and it's genuinely been one of the coolest experiences of my life so far.

Studying abroad gave me the chance to experience a completely different academic environment and learn from lecturers with very different perspectives on global affairs. Some of my favourite modules included political transitions in Africa, international relations in the Middle East and North Africa, and Christianity in Asia. These courses really challenged the way I think about international politics and helped broaden my understanding of the world beyond a Western perspective.

Outside of university work, living in Hong Kong took me out of my comfort zone in the best way possible, from having never lived in a big city to suddenly being in one of the busiest cities in the world. I was able to travel around Hong Kong as well as Cambodia and Japan during the holidays. Experiences like visiting the S-21 Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum in Phnom Penh left a lasting impression on me. Sport also became a massive part of my time abroad through playing rugby for both HKU and Hong Kong Football Club Expendables, where I made friendships that quickly made Hong Kong feel like home.

Overall, my year abroad has not only broadened my mind academically but also allowed me to meet incredible people, and gain experiences I know I'll carry with me long after university.

History

BA (Hons)

Build the knowledge and skills to address the challenges of our world – past, present, and future. Our expert historians will guide you through hands-on training to prepare you for ambitious careers.

In your first year, you'll discover the fundamentals of historical practice, learning how to analyse evidence, how to conceptualise historical change, while developing your knowledge of key times and places.

As you move into the second year, you'll take on more ambitious challenges, learning how to make historical arguments, and discovering rich new historical themes. These themes include the history of the body, how the environment has shaped human life, and the role of war in changing society.

In your final year, you'll be ready to make your own history. You'll develop your own dissertation – a personal research project. And you'll be able to choose from a wide range of in-depth special subjects, mastering fascinating fields of historical study.

Enhancing your curriculum

We continually review and enhance our course curricula to ensure we are delivering the best possible learning experience, and to make sure that the subject knowledge and transferable skills you develop will prepare you for your future. Information within this publication with respect to courses and modules is correct at the time of publication, and the University will make every reasonable effort to offer courses and modules as advertised. In some cases, changes may be necessary and may result in new modules or some modules and combinations being unavailable, for example as a result of student feedback, timetabling, staff changes and new research.

Year 1

Core Modules

Handling Historical Evidence

Begin your historical training with the cornerstone of historical research: evidence. Question a range of sources and discover how they can illuminate past worlds. Guided by our expert historians, you will build your skills in drawing value from historical evidence.

Revolutions in History

Explore a concept fundamental to history: historical change. We discover what it looks like and how it happens. You will investigate a series of political, economic, social, environmental, and cultural events that have been identified as revolutionary.

Controversy in History

In the big debates of history, historians can place different values on certain evidence or interpret evidence differently—or miss evidence all together—and build their arguments to come to alternative conclusions. Your training as a first-year historian continues as our experts introduce you to real-life examples of historical debate in this module.

Medieval and Early Modern Worlds

Discover the key themes, sources, and methods for understanding the world over a period of more than a thousand years. You'll study the medieval and early modern periods through a wide range of themes, from environment to health and disease, gender, culture, media, politics, religion and science.

Modern Worlds

Explore the lived experience of peoples and nations in the modern age through the emergence of new ideas - including nationalism, capitalism, imperialism, racism and feminism. Discover how these were shaped by individuals, political movements and events in diverse regions of the world.

Optional Modules

- Doing Criminology
- Global Challenges in World Politics
- English across Space and Time
- History of Philosophy
- Parties, Populism and Protest
- Thinking Sociologically

Core Modules

Who Makes History?

Who makes history? You will meet the women and men who have helped shape the discipline of history, delving into their life and works. You'll explore how their experiences and opportunities shaped their careers and what questions spurred their curiosity.

War and Transformation

Discover how wars drive historical change and transformation. You'll examine war as a result of complex forces. You will learn how war has changed over time, how it has been shaped by ideas and how it's led to technological changes.

Human and Environment

Explore the links between humans and their environments around the world from the medieval period to the modern era. You will investigate climate change, environmental disasters, and landscape transformations. You'll explore case studies of environmental impacts on humans and environments.

Optional Modules

- Body, Mind and Society
- Inventing Rights
- Death: From the Fall of Rome to the Reformation
- Britain in the 20th Century
- Employability, Purpose and Social Impact
- Global Challenges and Collaborative Solutions
- Taking an Idea and Making it Happen

Study abroad degrees

You will study abroad at a partner university in your third year. The grades you achieve at your host university will be translated back and be credited to your Lancaster degree.

Placement year degrees

Your third year is spent in a graduate-level work placement and assessed via assignments reflecting on your experiences.

Final Year

Core Modules

History Dissertation

Identify a historical topic that excites you and make your own contribution to historical understanding. You'll gain the satisfaction of forging your own research project on a challenging historical problem. You will be guided by an expert historian supervisor.

The Use and Abuse of History

Why does history matter? This module challenges you to consider how our discipline is applied and what it contributes. You'll discover the wide range of roles historians play in society and articulate the significance of history in our world.

Optional Modules

Choose two modules from a choice of eight. Examples include:

- From Rebellion to Revolution: The War for the Throne, 1199-1265
- Participation, Splendour and Violence: The Italian City-States, c.1100-1350
- Intelligent Design? Science, Religion and the Idea of Design in Nature, 1450-1800
- Paradise Lost: Colonisation and the Jamaican Environment, 1655-1838
- Beyond Captives and Commodities: Life-making in Portuguese West Africa (1450-1800)
- Victorian Bodies: Sex, Gender, Race and Power in Global Britain
- Big Data and Dead People: Digital Histories of Crime, Justice and Punishment, 1760-1925
- Forging India: South Asia from Empire to Nation, 1829 – 1964
- Queer Futures
- People Power and Collective Action
- Confronting the Climate Crisis
- Artistic Fusions

See website for the latest information.



Combined *honours degrees*

You can combine your study of History with a range of other subjects through a combined honours degree. You'll study core modules from each subject, which will enable you to develop the essential knowledge needed for both.

You will also have the freedom to tailor your degree further by choosing from a selection of optional modules from both disciplines and the wider Faculty.

Our combined honours programmes offer you the flexibility to explore multiple interests within one degree, and understand how different subjects interact to enhance your learning. You will develop a range of subject and career specific skills as well as transferable skills essential to all career pathways.

History and International Relations

Explore the intricate relation between past and present, analysing how the geopolitics of today were influenced by historical events. You will gain a unique understanding of historical perspectives, the ever-changing global landscape of today and the complexities of our interconnected world. Develop analytical and critical thinking skills that will enable you to tackle key challenges on an international scale.

History and Philosophy

Address the challenges of our world's past, present and future, analyse historical evidence and apply philosophy to both real and theoretical global issues. Studying History and Philosophy enables you to engage with texts and artefacts from a range of time periods, while also drawing from a vast array of philosophical traditions to understand their impact on a social, cultural and global scale.

History and Politics

Immerse yourself in the study of key historical periods, political systems and ideas. You will explore historical and political factors that have influenced the modern world, analysing how politics, environments and societies have changed over time. Actively engage with historical research and discuss challenging political questions of the past, present and future.

History, Philosophy and Politics

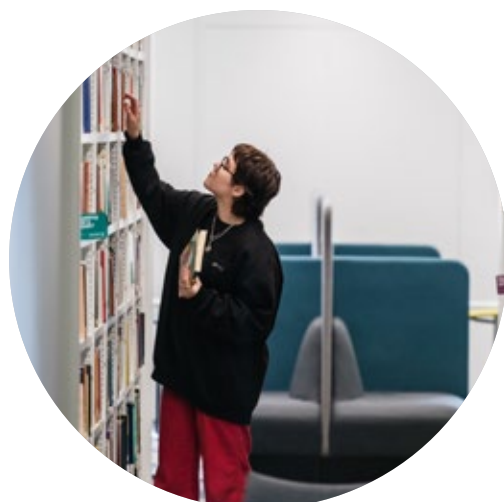
Examine our world through the lenses of history, philosophy and politics. You will analyse historical evidence from a range of sources and time periods, explore key political themes and discuss philosophy's role in addressing global, social and political challenges.

Chinese, French, German or Spanish Studies and History

Immerse yourself in the exploration of language, culture and history. You will engage with key historical periods, learning how to identify and analyse historical evidence. Spending your third year abroad will further consolidate your language skills and intercultural sensitivity, enabling you to understand the influence of culture on history and vice versa.

English Literature and History

Engage with texts and artefacts from different continents and historical periods, gaining a deep understanding of literary and historical analysis. You will explore a wide range of literary genres and historical movements, benefitting from a host of relevant events held on campus, online and in the historic city of Lancaster.





Careers and *employability*

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.

Careers service

Our careers service has connections with top graduate recruiters, high growth businesses and employers across diverse sectors. There are regular careers fairs, workshops and networking opportunities.

You can be matched with an employer or a graduate for one-to-one advice and take part in workshops such as writing a CV, developing a LinkedIn profile or succeeding at psychometric testing. We have a vast range of online resources as well as an exclusive job search portal. Our team of friendly, experienced careers professionals are always on hand to help and advise.

Graduate destinations

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

- Government
- Banking and finance
- Business and marketing
- Creative industries, including computer gaming
- Journalism
- Teaching
- Academia
- Heritage and museums

Many of our students take their skills to the next level by continuing with postgraduate studies.

“
My history module Reformation in the Tudor period helpfully complemented the Shakespeare module I took in English.
”



Dominic, third year

BA Hons English Literature and History

I was impressed by the exciting module options offered across both English Literature and History. One particular area that I have enjoyed studying in my final year is looking at Early Modern England. One of my history modules explored the Reformation in the Tudor period and this helpfully complemented the Shakespeare module I took in English. I have found the seminar discussions in both modules really fascinating. For example, we discussed how ideas related to religion and gender were culturally expressed and contested.

My degree has prepared me for the workplace in many ways. I have developed skills in conducting independent research and writing essays which balance complex theories with detailed analysis. I have also fostered strong teamwork skills and communication skills through delivering group presentations with my peers. I am not entirely sure what career I would like to take after I graduate but I am interested in project management and marketing.



Lydia, graduated 2022

BA Hons History

Lydia graduated with a first-class BA Honours degree in History in 2022. During her studies she combined her passions for history and gaming to developing a game that explores the history of the plague in early modern Italy.

Lydia wrote a distinction-winning dissertation on the 16th/17th-century Italian priest Matteo Ricci's translations and interpretations of ancient Chinese philosophy in her final year.

Since completing her degree, Lydia has started a career in the gaming industry as a Quality Assurance Tester at Sports Interactive, the world's leading developer of football management simulations. In this role, she's applying the skills in research, project management and communications that she developed at university in one of the world's most rapidly expanding industries.



lancaster.ac.uk/history

The information provided in this publication relates primarily to 2027 entry to the University and every effort has been taken to ensure the information is correct at the time of printing in May 2026. The University will use all reasonable effort to deliver the course as described but the University reserves the right to make changes after going to print. You are advised to consult our website at: lancaster.ac.uk/study for up-to-date information before you submit your application. Further legal information may be found at: lancaster.ac.uk/compliance/legalnotice.