

Programme Title: MA in Global and Imperial History



Programme Specification

Awarding Body/Institution	Queen Mary University of London
Teaching Institution	Queen Mary University of London
Name of Final Award and Programme Title	MA in Global and Imperial History
Name of Interim Award(s)	
Duration of Study / Period of Registration	1 calendar year (full time) or 2 calendar years (part time)
QM Programme Code / UCAS Code(s)	PMAF-QMHIST1, V1U1, V1U2
QAA Benchmark Group	
FHEQ Level of Award	Level 7
Programme Accredited by	Queen Mary University of London
Date Programme Specification Approved	26 Feb 2014
Responsible School / Institute	School of History

Schools which will also be involved in teaching part of the programme

School of Geography

School of Politics and International Relations

Institution(s) other than Queen Mary that will provide some teaching for the programme

Programme Outline

This MA offers global, imperial and postcolonial perspectives on the making of the modern world. The programme questions general assumptions about the forces of globalization and seeks to understand these in terms of long-running historical processes. It places emphasis on the global trajectory and dissemination of knowledge and ideas, as well as the history of resistance to imperial expansion. The MA will take a broad approach to the global history of ideas by including representations, images, and cultural encounters within the broader scope of knowledge. Students will be taught by some of the foremost experts in their respective fields, whose knowledge and expertise complements one another. The program comprises a thematically comprehensive core module, as well as a broad range of optional modules. It will provide a coherent and flexible framework within which students are able to develop their own research in areas of their choice. The time period covered ranges from early modern to contemporary history, and with particular focus on South Asian, African and British Imperial history and cultures, students will be able to pursue research on a broad range of topics including:

- British Imperial Culture and Identity
- Cultures of Resistance
- Race in Global Perspective

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- Colonial Power and Indigenous Knowledge
- Religion and Imperialism
- Anti-colonial Nationalism

The MA in Global and Imperial History is designed for students to make the most of their degree and will be of particular benefit for those planning to pursue careers with an international outlook.

Aims of the Programme

This programme aims to provide students with an intellectually coherent and rigorous course of study in the various approaches to Global History, covering the global trajectory and dissemination of knowledge and ideas from the early modern to the contemporary period. Specifically it aims to:

- Introduce students to the main themes and approaches to global history over the past 50 years
- Stimulate students to develop critical approaches to a number of areas within global history
- Provide students with an enhanced international awareness and understanding, as well as cross-cultural engagement.
- Provide students with an appreciation of a globally interconnected world in a historical perspective
- Encourage students to develop comparative perspectives in their work
- Provide students with a methodological and conceptual framework for more specialised research in the dissertation
- Enhance collaborative team-working and presentational skills
- Enhance advanced analytical and critical thinking
- Provide a grounding in research methodologies and practices for students intending to pursue doctoral work
- Develop an enhanced understanding of global and imperial history appropriate for students wishing to follow teaching careers
- Improve competence in transferable skills valued in the market place, including researching and locating sources, analysis of complex arguments, a constructive approach to different viewpoints, oral and written presentation of arguments and information, and effective time-management

What Will You Be Expected to Achieve?

Students who successfully complete the programme will be able to demonstrate:

Academic Content:

A 1	A broad knowledge of the global and imperial forces that have shaped the modern world
A 2	An advanced understanding of the historiography of global history, and of key debates in global history
A 3	Specialised knowledge of different historical periods and topics within global history

Disciplinary Skills - able to:

B 1	Evaluate the use of different methodologies relying on various types of primary material
B 2	Assess the challenge posed by recent developments in global history to the writing of nation-centric histories
B 3	Research and write a dissertation based on primary sources and a historiographical awareness in such a way as to make a contribution to historical understanding

Attributes:	
C 1	Mastery of a substantive historiography from a comparative perspective
C 2	Ability to interrogate and make use of a wide range of historical sources
C 3	Ability to approach contemporary debates through the lens of historical study

How Will You Learn?

● Teaching:

Teaching will be provided in weekly seminars, which will be led by staff members with original research qualifications and specialist interests in the area. Seminars will be based on specified set texts, which may include primary and secondary materials, and which will usually be provided within a course pack or online via QMplus. Students will be encouraged to discuss key issues, including theoretical approaches and interpretative procedures, and to assume an active role in shaping the direction and scope of the discussion. Participation will also be encouraged through seminar presentations, and by the creation of a supportive and considerate environment conducive to the exchange of ideas. Seminars will be supplemented by consultations with advisers, with option course leaders, and with dissertation supervisors, which will include opportunities for one-to-one discussions of course content and plans for written work. Students will be expected to engage in private study in preparation for the seminars and in the production of essays and the dissertation. Each course is supported by a detailed reading list, a substantial part of which will be available online via QMplus and other material locatable online.

The dissertation supervisor will be allocated in the light of the student's outline topic proposal, which is formulated by the student during the Spring Semester in consultation with the adviser (with input as needed from option course teachers). The supervisor will have expertise in the area of the student's proposed topic, and will help the student refine and develop his or her plans. Supervision may include discussion of methodology, research resources, the scope of appropriate reading, the conduct and structure of the argument, the quality of submitted drafts and bibliographical procedures. Supervision will be provided in an initial, individual planning meeting, followed by a minimum of three one-to-one meetings.

● Learning:

Learning will be supported by

- An academic adviser, allocated to each student at the beginning of the session, who advises on personal, practical and academic issues, including written work, goals and progress, and the dissertation topic proposal.
- Detailed course descriptions explaining the aims, methods and structure of the course, essential reading and suggestions for independent research
- One-to-one advice on essay topics, followed by written and oral feedback on assessed work
- Supervision of the dissertation through an initial, individual planning meeting, followed by a series of one-to-one meetings as well as the possibility of communication via email.
- Library resources, including the resources of the College Library, the University of London Senate House Library, the British Library, as well as other specialist London libraries and archives introduced through the research methods course. Students have access to the holdings of all other London college libraries.
- The vigorous intellectual culture of the Department; students will be able to participate in the Department's Graduate Seminar, and in events organized by the Graduate School in the Social Sciences and Humanities and by the Institute for Historical Research.

How Will You Be Assessed?

Core and optional modules are assessed by written essays of 4000 words per 30 credits (two essays for the core module, one essay for option modules). Students will be able to formulate their own essay topics in consultation with the module leader (essay topics must be formally approved by week 10 of each semester). The module leader will also provide guidance on planning and development of essays in one-to-one sessions during the second part of the semester. The 15000-word dissertation will be supervised individually by a member of staff, selected by the student and in agreement with programme organizer. Students will be able to formulate their own dissertation topics in consultation with the programme organizer and the dedicated supervisor. Feedback on all written work (both essays and dissertations) will be provided by first and second markers and made

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available online via QMplus. In addition, students can get further oral feedback and guidance individually by the module leader.

There will be no examinations.

How is the Programme Structured?

Students take a compulsory core module, and two one-semester options from modules in History, Politics and Geography, and write a dissertation. They also take a compulsory (non-assessed) research methods course (History in Action, HST7608). Part-time students will normally take the core course and research methods course in their first year. They will normally begin work on their dissertation in the first year of study, but will register for the dissertation, and two other options modules, in the second year.

The programme is composed of the following three main components:

● Core Module (60 credits): Global Connections, Local Contexts

-Semester I & II

● Dissertation (60 credits)

-Spring and Summer

● 2 Options (30+30 credits):

-Semester I (30 credits) & Semester II (30 credits):

Options include the following 30 credit modules, which students can choose in any combination (up to 60 credits):

-MA Global option I: Readings in Global History

-MA Global option II: Comparative Decolonization

-HST7300

-HST7504

-HST7326

-HST7326

-POLM043

-POLM046

-GEG7123

-GEG7109

Academic Year of Study 1

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Global Connections, Local Contexts	HST7337	60	7	Core	1	Semesters 1 & 2
Readings in Global History	HST7338	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Comparative Decolonization	HST7339	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Britain and the Middle East, 1900-60	HST7300	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
The Mamluks	HST7504	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
The rise of modern Islamism as a global phenomenon	HST7326	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1

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Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
International Relations of the Middle East	POLM043	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Sub-Saharan Africa: States and Societies	POLM046	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Cities, Space and Power	GEG7123	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Empire, Race and immigration	GEG7109	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
History in Action	HST7608	0	7	Compulsory	1	Semesters 1 & 2

What Are the Entry Requirements?

A first or upper second class honours degree in History or another relevant Humanities-related subject, together with two supportive academic references. A recognised equivalent from an accredited overseas institution or an equivalent professional qualification is also accepted.

The language requirement for students whose first language is not English is a 7.0 IELTS score or equivalent.

How Do We Listen and Act on Your Feedback?

The Staff-Student Liaison Committee provides a formal means of communication and discussion between schools/institutes and its students. The committee consists of student representatives from each year in the school/institute together with appropriate representation from staff within the school/institute. It is designed to respond to the needs of students, as well as act as a forum for discussing programme and module developments. Staff-Student Liaison Committees meet regularly throughout the year.

Each school/institute operates a Learning and Teaching Committee, or equivalent, which advises the School/Institute Director of Taught Programmes on all matters relating to the delivery of taught programmes at school level including monitoring the application of relevant QM policies and reviewing all proposals for module and programme approval and amendment before submission to Taught Programmes Board. Student views are incorporated in the committee's work in a number of ways, such as through student membership, or consideration of student surveys.

All schools/institutes operate an Annual Programme Review of their taught undergraduate and postgraduate provision. APR is a continuous process of reflection and action planning which is owned by those responsible for programme delivery; the main document of reference for this process is the Taught Programmes Action Plan (TPAP) which is the summary of the school/institute's work throughout the year to monitor academic standards and to improve the student experience. Students' views are considered in this process through analysis of the NSS and module evaluations.

Academic Support

- **Induction:** Students will be inducted by the course leader at the beginning of the academic year, in addition to a general induction by key staff in the School of History responsible for the various components of the MA, including the Director of MA Programmes, the Student Experience Manager, and the E-Learning Manager, as well staff not specific to the School, including Advice and Counselling Services, Language Centre, Careers, and Library Services.
- **Advisors:** Students will be assigned to an advisor at induction (usually the programme leader). At the beginning of each semester students will meet the advisor to discuss practical and academic issues, to set goals etc. Other meetings will be

arranged to discuss essay and or dissertation plans and, at the end of the semester, to review progress. In addition advisers will keep a specified MA Office Hour each week, at which they will be available to discuss issues with advisees or course members.

- Course Teachers: All MA teachers will provide support, not only within the classes, but in one-to-one advice sessions to discuss progress and essay plans, or to provide feedback on presentations or assessed work.
- Dissertation Supervisors: Students will write their dissertation with the close support of a designated dissertation supervisor, who will provide guidance and advice through regular meetings over the summer months and via emails.

Programme-specific Rules and Facts

N/A

Specific Support for Disabled Students

Queen Mary has a central Disability and Dyslexia Service (DDS) that offers support for all students with disabilities, specific learning difficulties and mental health issues. The DDS supports all Queen Mary students: full-time, part-time, undergraduate, postgraduate, UK and international at all campuses and all sites.

Students can access advice, guidance and support in the following areas:

- Finding out if you have a specific learning difficulty like dyslexia
- Applying for funding through the Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA)
- Arranging DSA assessments of need
- Special arrangements in examinations
- Accessing loaned equipment (e.g. digital recorders)
- Specialist one-to-one "study skills" tuition
- Ensuring access to course materials in alternative formats (e.g. Braille)
- Providing educational support workers (e.g. note-takers, readers, library assistants)
- Mentoring support for students with mental health issues and conditions on the autistic spectrum.

Links With Employers, Placement Opportunities and Transferable Skills

Students on the MA in Global and Imperial History will take the non-assessed module History in Action (HST7608), which provides PG training in the basic skills required of historians in compliance with the QMUL graduate attributes. Topics covered include essay writing, presentation, managing research, visual sources, oral history, digital resources, publishing history and journalism, exhibiting history, history and policy, and broadcasting history. The module will thus enable MA students, as far as is possible, to make the most of their degrees both within and outside academia.

Programme Specification Approval

Person completing Programme Specification

Kim A. Wagner

Programme Title: MA in Global and Imperial History

Person responsible for management of programme

Kim A. Wagner

**Date Programme Specification produced/amended
by School Learning and Teaching Committee**

4 Feb 2014

**Date Programme Specification approved by
Taught Programmes Board**

26 Feb 2014