

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: THE PURSUIT OF HISTORY
Status: Definitive
Code: **6001HIST** (114592)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2012

Owning School/Faculty: Humanities and Social Science
Teaching School/Faculty: Humanities and Social Science

Team	Leader
Sam Davies	Y
Tony Webster	
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Academic Level: FHEQ6 **Credit Value:** 24.00 **Total Delivered Hours:** 43.00
Total Learning Hours: 240 **Private Study:** 197

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	24.000
Seminar	6.000
Workshop	10.000

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Exam	AS2	Examination: Unseen	50.0	3.00
Essay	AS1	Individual 2000 word essay	50.0	

Aims

1. To engender reflexive understanding of the development of history as a discipline.
2. To critically analyse the status of historical knowledge, and to assess the relationship of history to other forms of knowledge, including the natural sciences and social sciences.
3. To critically explore theories of the nature and meaning of the historical process.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Reflect upon the nature of history as a discipline and critically evaluate the status of the claims of history as a distinct form of knowledge.
- 2 Display in-depth knowledge and understanding of competing theories of the historical process.
- 3 Demonstrate a critical understanding of major theorists, placing them in the context of their times and assessing their contribution to the future development of history as a discipline.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

EXAM 3 HOURS	1	2	3
2000 WORD ESSAY	1	2	3

Outline Syllabus

The nature and uses of philosophy of history; critical and speculative philosophy of history.

The nature of social reality and the past; positivism and the development of the discipline.

The status of historians' knowledge, objectivity and truth.

Causation in history, laws and trends; postmodernism and history.

Vico: the contextualisation of ideas; the cycle of history.

Hegel: German Idealism; the role of reason; the dialectic; and periodisation.

Marx: the materialist concept of history.

Collingwood: the reaction to 'scissors and paste' history and to Positivism; historical understanding as 're-thinking': the thought-action complex.

Learning Activities

This module uses a mix of formal and interactive lectures, together with both seminars and workshop activities.

References

Course Material	Book
Author	Tosh, J
Publishing Year	2002

Title	The Pursuit of History
Subtitle	Aims, methods, and new directions in the study of history
Edition	Rev'd 3rd Ed
Publisher	London: Longman
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Gardiner, P
Publishing Year	1959
Title	Theories of History
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London: Free Press
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Jenkins, K
Publishing Year	1995
Title	On 'What is History?'
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London: Routledge
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Evans, R J
Publishing Year	1997
Title	In Defence of History
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London: Granta
ISBN	

Notes

This module considers how historical knowledge is constructed and explores the status of such knowledge in relation to the social sciences and recent challenges to the traditional understanding of the social world. Additionally it investigates some of the main theories of the nature and meaning of the historical process itself.