

Revolutionaries: International Communism in the Era of Lenin and Stalin

Module Information

2022.01, Approved

Summary Information

Module Code	6102HIST
Formal Module Title	Revolutionaries: International Communism in the Era of Lenin and Stalin
Owning School	Humanities and Social Science
Career	Undergraduate
Credits	20
Academic level	FHEQ Level 6
Grading Schema	40

Teaching Responsibility

LJMU Schools involved in Delivery
Humanities and Social Science

Learning Methods

Learning Method Type	Hours
Online	2
Seminar	33

Module Offering(s)

Display Name	Location	Start Month	Duration Number Duration Unit
SEP-MTP	MTP	September	12 Weeks

Aims and Outcomes

Aims	This module introduces students to the political, social and cultural history of international communism during the period of the Communist International (Comintern) (1919-43). The world's first global political party created with no lesser a goal than the promotion of Bolshevik-style revolution world-wide, the Comintern singularly failed to live up to the high ambitions which its creators had envisaged. But why did it fail? What sort of organisation was it? And what attracted thousands of ordinary men and women across the world to join communist parties in the era of the two world wars? Students will examine key debates in the history of international communism, such as the origins of the idea of communism and of revolutionary internationalism; the role of Lenin and the Bolsheviks in the Comintern; the influence of Stalin and the Soviet Union and the place of individual communist parties in their national political contexts.
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After completing the module the student should be able to:

Learning Outcomes

Code	Number	Description
MLO1	1	Demonstrate a firm grasp of the historiography of the period.
MLO2	2	Engage in historical debate on a range of topics in the Communist International
MLO3	3	Demonstrate high level competence in analysing and evaluating primary source materials.

Module Content

Outline Syllabus	This module will explore the history of international communism in the period c.1917-c.1945 through a series of inter-related case studies. We will examine the life of Comintern officials in Moscow and their relationship with the Soviet government, but we will also move well beyond Russia to explore life in Communist parties around the world – though with a particular focus upon Europe. In particular we will examine what it meant to be a communist in three political parties, the British Communist Party (CPGB), the French Communist Party (PCF) and the German Communist Party (KPD). In addition the module may examine the role played by Communists in the colonial environment and in China.
Module Overview	
Additional Information	The course will go beyond politics to examine communism as a social and cultural experience. Students will examine diaries, autobiographies and related sources to explore who the communists were and how they made sense of their ideological commitment.

Assessments

Assignment Category	Assessment Name	Weight	Exam/Test Length (hours)	Module Learning Outcome Mapping
Essay	Essay	60	0	MLO1, MLO2
Portfolio	Portfolio	40	0	MLO1, MLO2, MLO3

Module Contacts

Module Leader

Contact Name	Applies to all offerings	Offerings
Thomas Beaumont	Yes	N/A

Partner Module Team

Contact Name	Applies to all offerings	Offerings
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