

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: We would not know there was a war on. Life on the British Home Front During the Second World War.
Status: Definitive
Code: **6106HIST** (122227)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2021
Owning School/Faculty: Humanities and Social Science
Teaching School/Faculty: Humanities and Social Science

Team	Leader
David Clampin	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ6
Credit Value: 20
Total Delivered Hours: 35
Total Learning Hours: 200
Private Study: 165

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 1

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	11
Online	2
Seminar	22

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	AS1	Synthesis paper(2,500-words)	40	
Essay	AS2	2 x primary source analysis/documentary commentary pieces (3,000-words)	60	

Aims

1. To provide an insight into the people's experience of living day-by-day in Britain during the Second World War.
2. To encourage students to challenge the popular history and meta-narratives

associated with the past with a view to engaging with a period from a more down-to-earth perspective.

3. Introduce students to the theoretical approach of cultural history, especially in relation to how people situate themselves within society irrespective of the greater events being played out around them.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Interpret both contemporary interpretations of events and the historic record, testing their merit and validity.
- 2 Apply theoretical models of historical interpretation gained through the reflexive core of the course, particularly with reference to models of cultural history.
- 3 Illustrate a systematic appraisal of the British experience of the Second World War that critically evaluates new and unconventional sources.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

Essay	1	
Essay	2	3

Outline Syllabus

'They just keep on keeping on': historiographical approaches to the history of everyday life.

From illusions to reality, September 1939 – September 1940.

'Guilty Men' to 'People's War': the 'myth' is born.

The Blitz and 'The Structure of Morale'.

'We don't go around grinning about it': Popular culture in wartime.

'The thrill of the chase': rationing and austerity.

War crimes, Spivs and Racketeers.

The Place of Women in Wartime.

Industry: All in the front line now?

'The Road to 1945': wartime politics and the postwar world.

Conclusion: 'Which People's War?'

Learning Activities

Weekly lectures will provide background and contextual setting against which students will consider a range of primary source material in seminars. The seminars will provide a structured framework where sources will be dissected by students and used to stimulate discussion and debate.

Notes

From a historiographical perspective, this module approaches the subject from the 'new turn to culture' in history, taking a critical approach to this technique, questioning its validity and exploring the merit of the history of everyday life.