QUESTION EVERYTHING
History should never be about a dispassionate regurgitation of the facts; it’s a discipline to be approached through empathetic eyes. If you’re intellectually curious, and prepared for your investigations to take you into unexpected territories, you’ll be at home in the Department of History at Warwick. It’s a space in which you’ll be constantly surprised as to where history can take you.

Our far-reaching approach to history allows you to explore historical topics in depth from around the globe. The department is studded with expertise spanning the British Isles, continental Europe, Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Latin and North America, covering the period from 1300 through to the present day.

We’ll support you as you develop a foundational understanding of the past. After that you’ll have the opportunity to develop your own independent view on the historical themes that most excite you. Our approach is driven by research, both in terms of the topics and modules that you’ll learn, and in the way you cultivate the critical skill set that marks out exceptional historians.

We take a more diverse view on historical matters, which is reflected in the progressive content of our degrees, and in the backgrounds of the students and staff that make up our community.

Because we pride ourselves on looking outwardly, you can benefit from a learning experience that prepares you for your time after graduation - a life that could see you progress to unexpected careers and locations across the world. History at Warwick will help you become a critical and imaginative thinker, impassioned by history, but equally driven to use your skills to make a difference in the here and now.
The way you learn is about to take a major leap forward. On your degree you’ll be exposed to topics that are far removed from any A level syllabus, alongside the well-established themes in political, religious, cultural or social history. It’ll be demanding, and intellectually challenging, but you’ll enjoy where this approach will take you.

You’ll be taught in a variety of ways, through a combination of lectures, seminars and tutorials alongside assigned reading. Our tutors also use film, visits to archives, libraries and museums, and other types of field trips to bring modules to life. This is best exemplified by our programme in Venice, which uses the city, its geography, and its art and architecture in our teaching.

The University of Warwick was founded in 1965 with an exciting, radical vision of education’s transformative power. The Warwick History Department wholeheartedly embraces history’s power to transform lives. We’ve been teaching the social and political histories of race, class and gender since our department was founded nearly 60 years ago.

The way you learn is about to take a major leap forward.

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Lucy’s Blog Why History?
“There are so many more reasons to study History, but these are the main ones for me. If you want the opportunity to learn about everything, then I would definitely encourage you to give History a go.”

READ LUCY’S BLOG AT OUR.WARWICK.AC.UK/WHY-HISTORY/
OUR COURSES

Whichever course you pick, you will be able to choose options that span the globe and the period from the Renaissance to the present. All students will take modules covering the early modern period (up to 1800) through to the present.

BA History (Modern and Renaissance/Modern) (V100)
(See entry requirements on page 22)

Our History degree provides a challenging yet invigorating learning experience, focused on encouraging you to look beyond conventional opinions.

FIRST YEAR
You’ll gain a foundation in the history of the modern world, establishing your own critical take on sources, evidence and arguments. As your historical expertise develops, you’ll broaden your range of highly-adaptable research, presentation, and written and verbal communication skills – ideal preparation for becoming a skilled historian and a highly-employable graduate. Many of these skills will be gained through the core ‘Making of the Modern World’ module. Alongside core modules you’ll pick optional modules, allowing you to explore new topics and develop your own ideas and analysis further.

Sharp and agile thinking is further encouraged by the department’s enlightened approach to assessment. History at Warwick offers a diverse and imaginative range of assessments, reflecting today’s varied methods of media and communications, without losing the academic rigour expected from a Russell Group university.

SECOND AND THIRD YEARS
If you’re drawn to history in its broadest, more global sense, you can choose the Modern stream. This provides opportunities to explore a very wide range of historical themes, geographies and ideas, and to test your developing research capabilities. Within the second year Historiography modules, you’ll also find valuable preparation for your third-year dissertation. These modules cover the ideas underpinning historical research and writing, and the methodologies and theories shaping historical debate today.

You’ll also build research and dissertation skills through the Renaissance and Modern stream, an ideal choice if your historical interests focus particularly on events and people from the Middle Ages to the 17th century in Europe. By choosing this, you have the option to apply for a term in Venice in your third year (and if you study Italian in your first year, you’ll be guaranteed a space on the Venice term).

THIRD YEAR ONLY
If you choose Renaissance and Modern, you’ll spend your first term in Venice. You’ll benefit from an immersive language course and the opportunity to live in this UNESCO world heritage site. You’ll take the core module ‘Venice and the Renaissance’ where you study the history of a great Mediterranean city while living in it. Guided study tours, led by Warwick historians, are a key part of the module.

For either degree path, you’ll be working on a dissertation, and on advanced options for which you could be assessed in a variety of ways, and which cover a great variety of topics. This means you can select your advanced options based on the assessment methods which suit you best.
Below is a selection of some of the modules that ran in 2019-2020. Our modules are continually reviewed and updated to reflect the latest research expertise within the department, but these should give you an indication of the breadth of topics you can study.

**First Year Modules**
- Latin America Themes and Problems
- Empire and Aftermath
- The Enlightenment
- Mind, Body and Society
- A History of Africa, 1830-1980

**Second Year Modules**
- Race, Ethnicity and Migration in Modern Britain
- A Global History of Sport
- Nation and Memory in Russia, Poland and the Ukraine, 1800 to the Present
- Caravans and Traders Global Connections 1200-1500
- The Formation of American Culture
- Being Human: Human Nature from the Renaissance to Freud
- The British Problem: Empire, Conflict and National Identities 1558-1714
- Visual and Material Cultures of the Early Modern Iberian World
- Individual, Polis and Society: Philosophical Reflections in History
- The History of Modern China

**Final Year Modules**
- The Drug Trade in the Americas
- Slavery and Slave Life in the American South, 1619-1865
- Stalinism in Europe, 1928-1953
- From the Blues to Hip Hop
- The Elizabethan Reformation
- Venice in the Renaissance
- Britain, the Mandates and the Modern Middle East
- Conquest, Conflict and Co-Existence: Crusading and the Crusader Kingdoms
- A History of Human Rights in Latin America

**EXAMPLE MODULES**

**Africa and the Cold War**
This module introduces major debates in the history of the Cold War in Africa, aiming to set these issues within their historical, social and cultural contexts over the period from 1945 to the 1990s. After the opening weeks set up the context of decolonisation and superpower rivalry in Africa, we take a roughly chronological approach to explore various case studies and thematic issues.

We will look in depth at upheavals in Congo and Zanzibar which demonstrated the fragile state of the continent immediately after decolonisation and the wars in Angola and the Horn of Africa. We also look at the attempts of the white minority regimes in Rhodesia, South Africa, and the Portuguese colonies to retain power.

While we pay close attention to the policies of the United States and the Soviet Union, we also highlight the role played by other Cold War actors, like China and Cuba. Moreover, we will uncover the agency exercised by Africans in the global Cold War: were they simply superpower proxies or did they turn the Cold War order to their own advantage? Finally, we consider the aftermath of the Cold War in Africa: did the fall of the Berlin Wall bring a new dawn to the continent or did it reignite frozen conflicts in the 1990s?

**Being Human: Human Nature from the Renaissance to Freud**
At different moments in time, ‘being human’ has been constructed and interpreted differently according to dominant values, norms, and systems of knowledge. This module considers the different ways in which humans have thought about themselves from the Renaissance to the early 20th century, both as individuals and as collectives. It considers the idea that ‘human nature’ is not a universal, trans-historical concept constant over time, but rather a socio-culturally constructed. Our students investigate these differences over time in Western culture and how they link to wider social, cultural and economic contexts. We learn about the crucial moments in the history of conceptualising and defining ‘human nature’, from the Renaissance through the Enlightenment, to Freud and early modernity.

Ultimately we ask how a new age of humanity and new ways of knowing oneself came into being, and discuss what these new ways of understanding the self closed down or replaced.

Underlying the module is the question of whether we are still part of the Enlightenment project.
A Global History of Sport

Sport is a social, economic and cultural phenomenon which lends itself to study from a global perspective. There are numerous ways in which sport both impacts and is shaped by society, including existing structures of class, race and gender. Sport has often been disseminated around the world by imperialism and capitalism and has subsequently been an important factor in nation-building, decolonisation, and popular politics.

Sport is also big business, closely related to the changing forms of media from print to the age of the internet. This module allows students to study the history of sport in an interdisciplinary manner, with flexibility in the curriculum over what is studied and assessed. Cricket and football are a major focus, but there will be opportunities to explore other sports as well.

EXAMPLE MODULES

Feminism, Politics and Social Change in Modern Britain

This final-year option provides an overview of the politics of feminism and its relationship to changing gender roles in modern Britain. It will introduce students to themes key to feminism within a wider historical context, especially class, race and sexuality. We look at religion and secularisation; the rise of the birth control movement and debates over freedom of sexual expression; tensions of class and race within feminist movements; transnational feminist connections; and the role of the imperial context in shaping feminist ideas and identities. Attention will be paid to how social movements emerge, operate and are responded to both by individuals and the state.

Religion and Religious Change in England

In this module you can explore the social, cultural and political context of religion in England between the late 15th and mid 16th centuries. You will be introduced to a range of important themes in the field of late medieval and early modern English religion, not so much from a theological, as from a social and cultural perspective.

We consider the impact of the early Reformation (under Henry VIII, Edward VI and Mary I) on religious belief and practice in England, though it approaches this from the long view of the later 15th century. This module begins with a detailed examination of strengths and weaknesses in late medieval Catholicism, focusing both on institutions (clergy, monasteries) and on structures of belief (saints, sacraments, purgatory).

The significance of unorthodox religion, Lollardy and early Protestantism, is explored and related to the reform policies of the Tudor monarchy. We devote equal attention to those who opposed and to those who supported the religious changes of the 16th century, and throughout there is a particular focus on parishes, and parish churches, as centres of religious culture and social organisation.

OPTIONAL MODULES

There's a wide variety of modules you can take looking across the globe and covering a wide range of historical periods. Here are a few examples of types of modules you could study here are Warwick.

Religion and Religious Change in England

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JOINT DEGREES

Our joint degrees are taught in conjunction with partner departments across the University. You will be a member of two departments and be able to access the teaching and support of both throughout your time at Warwick.

BA English and History (VQ32) 

AAA/A*AB (including grade A in History or grade A in English)

This course considers history and literature as vitally intertwined disciplines. You will examine and reflect on how the recording of history involves modes of representation that are themselves literary, and also about how literary texts imagine historical events and ideas - and are themselves literary, and also involves modes of representation and techniques of just a few lines of a poem, play, or novel. First and foremost, we will encourage you to develop your own ideas and arguments, to critically analyse what others say and write - and to reflect upon how the disciplines of history and literature might best speak to one another, today and in the future.

BA History and Philosophy (V15V)

AAA (including History)

What sort of knowledge is historical knowledge? How much of what we understand and feel about the world around us is the direct result of the particular history of western culture? Has western philosophy, whether as practised by the Ancient Greeks, the Renaissance, or the Enlightenment profoundly shaped the way in which western society has developed? Or should we understand philosophical ideas as merely reflecting the world in which they are developed, rather than playing a leading role in changing it?

BA History and Politics (VL12)

AAA (including History)

This course examines the political and social dimensions of history, and how historical events have influenced the world we live in today. You will explore the theory and the reality of why people and states interact in the ways that they do. The two subjects complement each other - one aiming to understand how the world works and the other to understand why it works that way.

The two departments in which you will learn approach shared research areas such as globalisation, democracy and human rights from different perspectives. In addition to core modules, you can choose from a variety of optional modules in both departments. You will learn to assess and analyse large quantities of information taken from historical sources including texts, images and film, and to present well-structured conclusions. You will also develop the abilities to gather and analyse quantitative material (e.g. from opinion surveys and questionnaires), and to structure and communicate complex information and analyses.

BA History and Sociology (VL13)

AAB (including A in History)

This course will suit individuals with an interest in understanding the history of people, culture and societies, and their evolution in the modern era. It examines traditional sociology topics, such as gender, race, medicine, food, sexuality, trade and health from a historical perspective.

The two complementary subjects both involve understanding people - their interests, motivations and culture - and why societies and social groups act as they do. You will be taught by staff from both departments, and will draw information from sources including film, visual images, literature and television as well as written texts. The flexible course structure allows you to choose modules from a wide range of options in both History and Sociology. You will learn to assess and analyse large quantities of information and present well-structured conclusions, to gather and analyse quantitative material (e.g. from opinion surveys and questionnaires), and to structure and communicate complex information and analyses.
Each year of your course will be divided equally between modules on Global Sustainable Development (GSD) and modules in History.

In your first year, in your GSD modules you will consider the different perspectives which might be taken on global issues and gain an appreciation of the complexity of the problems. You will be introduced to some sustainable development issues and investigate these with your fellow students through a project. In History, you are introduced to a variety of approaches to the study of history and gain historical knowledge of the world from 1400.

In your second year, in your GSD modules you will have the opportunity to engage with a key issue in sustainability, studying either ‘Health and Sustainable Development’, ‘Security, Sovereignty and Sustainability in the Global Food System’ or ‘Inequalities and Sustainable Development: Inclusion and Dignity for All’. You will also take modules available across the University which have a GSD focus. In your History modules, you will be able to pick from a wide range of optional modules open to all in the Department.

Alternatively, you can spend part of your second year studying at our partner institution, Monash University. You will spend your first term at Warwick studying either ‘Health and Sustainable Development’, ‘Security, Sovereignty and Sustainability in the Global Food System’ or ‘Inequalities and Sustainable Development: Inclusion and Dignity for All’. You will also study a further relevant second year module available across the University which has a GSD focus. In your History modules, you will be able to pick from a range of optional modules. You will then join Monash University for the rest of your second year, studying approved modules with a History and GSD focus.

In your third year, you will complete your exploration of sustainability in relation to History. You will bring together your knowledge, ideas and conclusions in a dissertation focusing on an issue or question that is of particular concern or interest to you from a GSD point of view. You will also take modules available across the University which have a GSD focus. For the History half of the course, you’ll choose modules from a range of options offered in three different combinations: ‘History Special Subject and History Advanced Option’, ‘History Special Subject and Historiography’ or any two final year History modules.

Our History and languages degrees (see entry requirements on page 22)

Our four-year joint degrees with the School of Modern Languages and Cultures allows you to study the languages and cultures of German, Italian, Spanish and French speaking countries alongside your modules in History.

All the language departments combine the study of language with the study of culture, with particular strengths in cultural history, memory, literature and identity. You will gain advanced skills in the relevant language of your degree as well as developing your literary, historical and intercultural awareness. Languages may be studied at different levels, including beginners level and post-A Level. You will, in the first year, be taught in language classes appropriate to your linguistic level. You will spend a year consolidating your language learning abroad on a work or study placement. 

Alongside your studies of language and culture, you will also take modules from the History department of the same wide chronological and geographical range as any of our students.

Our History and Global Sustainable Development (V1L8) AAA (including A level in History, grade B/grade 6 in English and Mathematics at GCSE)
History helps us understand more about the world we live in. We encourage you to explore more of that world on a Year Abroad, by developing an internationalist approach to the study of the subject.

The places where you can study and the numbers of places do change each year: currently we have partner universities in Europe, Australia and the Americas.

“I always wanted to study abroad before I even started university. I wanted to take the opportunity to travel, to experience a new culture and to have time to think about my next steps after final year. At Monash I had the opportunity to study subjects I wouldn’t have at Warwick, which has been really useful in allowing me to gain knowledge and skills in other subjects aside from History. For instance, my International Security Studies module in my first semester introduced me to international relations, a subject I haven’t studied before but was interested in, and I have now gained greater knowledge of this subject. I also had the opportunity to travel and see many parts of Australia and New Zealand.”

Hannah
History Graduate

READ OUR STUDENT BLOGS TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT LIFE AT WARWICK OUR.WARWICK.AC.UK
RESEARCH THAT TRANSFORMS PERSPECTIVES

Our department features a host of exceptional historians, attracted to Warwick from disciplines beyond history by its mould-breaking reputation.

Our historians’ research and teaching reflects their own global take on established historic principles. Our approach means we’re always prepared to take an unconventional view.

Our academic research is not just written for academic audiences. Instead, we think it’s important to engage with the wider world: policymakers, theatre companies, journalists and members of local communities. We hope you’ll feel impassioned to engage non-historians in debates about the past and its significance to the world around us.

We are deeply committed to our teaching, which is shaped by the research we do. Your dissertation in the final year, in particular, gives you a great opportunity to work closely with experts to develop your own piece of original historical research.

“I teach courses on the political history of modern Africa, the Cold War in Africa, and the Mau Mau rebellion in Kenya. I am best known for my publications on colonial Kenya, and especially my involvement as an expert-witness in the High Court trial of 2012, in which the British government admitted to tortures of Kenyan suspects in the 1950s. I am also an authority on current terrorism in Africa, and have published several important papers on Al-Shabaab and its activities in eastern Africa. My current research examines the history of empire and violence over the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.”

Professor David Anderson

“I am a historian of medicine, health and the body. Happily, this is a pretty expansive remit, one that allows me to study almost anything that I find interesting: politics, lifestyles, social conventions, technologies, industries... you name it. Currently I am exploring the cultural history of Britain’s National Health Service. We can find traces of the NHS everywhere in British culture, from ‘Carry On’ films to public health campaigns to current reality TV, but most previous histories of the NHS focus on its politics, rather than the way it has physically and socially shaped British lives for the past 70 years.”

Professor Roberta Bivins

“I am interested in the history of racism, racist violence and the construction of ‘race’ in the United States, and I teach modules that not only discuss these themes but also consider how we can use history to challenge racism in the present. Students on my modules learn the history of race, but also the practice of anti-racism. They are assessed in ways that allow them to use this knowledge for social justice, for example through group projects, podcasts, and blog posts written for public audiences.”

Dr Lydia Plath

OUR STAFF

“Our Warwick history staff are academically brilliant and absolutely lovely. Teaching wise, it is not uncommon to be reading a book and seeing your lecturer’s name as a reference. You can really tell you are learning from top academics in their field, and that what you are learning is the cutting edge of research.”

George
History Graduate

READ OUR STUDENT BLOGS TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT LIFE AT WARWICK

OUR.WARWICK.AC.UK
You'll develop a range of transferable skills allowing you to become talented historians, who are highly employable across a variety of sectors.

As a university we’re ranked the sixth most targeted nationally by the UK’s Top 100 Graduate Employers.* Every year we invite nearly 300 leading employers to campus, which gives you the chance to meet employers at careers fairs, employer presentations or sector-specific events.

Our students graduate with a range of transferable skills. These typically include the following:

- Excellent written and communication skills
- Ability to assimilate and analyse large amounts of data
- Intellectual rigour and independence in presenting findings
- Ability to construct arguments and communicate findings
- Excellent research skills
- Capability to work independently and as part of a team
- Proficiency to deliver work to agreed deadlines
- Capacity to solve problems, think creatively and approach challenges with an open mind
- Knowledge and understanding of different factors that impact on individuals and groups in society.

Recent graduate roles include: Archivists and curators; arts officers producers and directors; actuaries, economists and statisticians; barristers and judges; business sales executives; chartered and certified accountants; conservation professionals; financial account managers; historians; journalists, newspaper and periodical editors; public relations professionals; researchers and solicitors.


Our Careers and Skills department also offer a wide range of workshops, from developing confidence and interview techniques to learning how to articulate what you have to offer in order to impress potential employers. Online resources are also available, including a CV and covering letter example library, practice aptitude and psychometric tests, online interview training and resources to help you research job vacancies.

You will also be able to book an appointment with a careers advisor for History at any point during your degree, whether you have a clear direction in mind and need specific advice and guidance or you have no idea what you want to do.

92% of the 2016/17 History department undergraduates available for employment went on to work, further study or both approximately six months after successful completion.**

*The Graduate Market in 2021 published by High Fliers Research Ltd
**Taken from the HESA Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education survey
**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

Typical offers**

- **BA History (Modern and Renaissance/Modern) (V100)**
  AAA (including History)

- **BA History and Philosophy (V115)**
  AAA (including History)

- **BA History and Politics (VL12)**
  AAA (including History)

- **BA History and Sociology (VL13)**
  AAB (including A in History)

- **BA History and Global Sustainable Development (V118)**
  AAA (including A level in History, grade B/grade 6 in English and Mathematics at GCSE)

- **BA French and History (RV11)**
  AAB (including A in History and B in French)

- **BA German and History (RV12)**
  AAB (including A in History and B in a Modern or Classical Language)

- **BA History and Italian (VR13)**
  AAB (including A in History and B in a Modern or Classical Language)

- **BA Hispanic Studies and History (RAV1)**
  AAB (including A in History and B in a Modern or Classical Language)

- **BA English and History (V032)**
  AAA/A*AB (including grade A in History or grade A in English)

** The typical offers are indicative. For more information please go to warwick.ac.uk/ug

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**FIND OUT MORE**

**HOW TO APPLY**

Applications are made through UCAS ucas.com

If you are made and accept an offer, and meet any outstanding conditions, we will confirm your place and look forward to warmly welcoming you at the start of your life here at Warwick.

For more detailed information about how we process applications please visit: warwick.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/apply

**STUDENT FEES & FUNDING**

We want to ensure that, wherever possible, financial circumstances do not become a barrier to studying at Warwick. We provide extra financial support for qualifying students from lower income families. warwick.ac.uk/studentfunding

**ACCOMMODATION**

We believe that where you live underpins your University experience. Warwick Accommodation manages around 7000 self catering residences on campus. At Warwick, you’ll enjoy the freedom of independent living alongside your fellow students but with the security of knowing you’re surrounded by people who can support you should you need it. For more information visit: warwick.ac.uk/accommodation

**OVERSEAS APPLICANTS**

At Warwick, we welcome applications from across the globe, and have dedicated teams available to advise and support, as well as a global network of Agents and Representatives.

For more information on applying from your country see: warwick.ac.uk/io

**DISCOVER MORE**

To find out more about the University, including opportunities to visit and engage with your department of choice, visit: warwick.ac.uk/undergraduate/visits

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*Taken from the HESA Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education survey
This course information was accurate at the time of publication (September, 2021). While the University tries to ensure that the information is accurate, it does not warrant that this is the case. The University may need to make changes including to the course content, syllabus, delivery, methods of assessment, or to comply with external accrediting or reviewing bodies. It is therefore important that you revisit the relevant course website before you apply and when you accept an offer to ensure you are viewing the most up to date information. This information should not be construed as an offer and nor does it create a contract or other legally binding relationship between the University and you or a third party.

For full terms and conditions, please visit warwick.ac.uk/ugtermsandconditions