

Masters in Intellectual History

Programme Coordinator: Prof Richard Whatmore

Taught Element:

80 credits: IH5001 - IH5003

40 credits: MO5602

MLitt:

120 credits as for the Taught Element plus MO5099

MPhil:

120 credits as for the Taught Element plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words

Compulsory modules:

IH5001 Current Controversies in Intellectual History				
SCOTCAT Credits:	20	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
<p>This module enables students to scrutinise central historiographical disputes that continue to determine the nature and practice of intellectual history. The aim is to provide students with a detailed knowledge of the text and the controversy that it generated, with a view to providing the student with the skills to understand and evaluate the arguments presented in the best work in intellectual history published in recent years. The themes include topics drawn from the following list (the topics taught each year will depend upon discussion of what the most important topics of controversy are): John Pocock: Machiavellian moments; The decline and fall of states; Quentin Skinner: Liberty and liberalism; The Concept of Liberty; Reinhart Koselleck: Crisis and revolution; Franco Venturi: Utopia and Reform; Leo Strauss: Ancients and moderns; Istvan Hont: Commercial society and the jealousy of trade; Richard Sher: Enlightenment and the book; Michael Sonenscher: Enlightenment and revolution; Knud Haakonssen: Natural law and natural rights; Michel Foucault: Madness and civilisation; John Dunn: Democracy and rationality; Richard Tuck: Philosophy and government;; Lorraine Daston: Reason, wonder and nature; Eugene Genovese: Slavery and the southern tradition; Jonathan Rose: Intellectual life of the working classes; Steven Shapin and Simon Schaffer: Hobbes, Boyle and the experimental life; James Secord: Natural history of creation.</p>				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for Intellectual History Postgraduate Programme.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2-hour seminar.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Prof R Whatmore			

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IH5002 Turning Points in the History of Ideas				
SCOTCAT Credits:	40	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
<p>This module is concerned with periods of history when there was rapid and turbulent intellectual and philosophical change. The module studies the nature of the change through the works of the authors involved in the transformation of thought and through seminal commentaries upon them. Students will acquire knowledge of how and why ideas change and of the consequences of such change. They will be encouraged to place ideas in their historical context, and to reflect upon the reasons for intellectual change and the broader reception and subsequent understanding of transformative philosophies. Themes include: Plato/Aristotle and the origins of Western philosophy; Cynics, Stoics and Sceptics; Morality and Empire at Rome; Reason and religion: Christianity and barbarism; Local and global law: the example of Rome; Machiavellianism and amoral philosophy; Commercial society and the passions and the interests; Shaping character: the idea of education; 'Gentle' commerce and perpetual peace; The Jealousy of trade and international relations; Civil science and the concept of liberty; Natural slavery and natural rights; Socialism and utopia; Civilization and democracy; Equality and capitalism.</p>				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for Intellectual History Postgraduate Programme.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 3-hour seminar.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Prof R Whatmore			

IH5003 The Theory and Practice of Intellectual History				
SCOTCAT Credits:	20	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
<p>This module introduces the student to the methods of intellectual history through a historical overview of the actual practice of intellectual history with special emphasis on the methodological debates of the last half century. Particular attention is paid to the "Cambridge School" of intellectual historians (Laslett, Pocock, Dunn, Skinner et al.), set against the backdrop of contributions to intellectual history by Michel Foucault in France, Reinhart Koselleck in Germany, Franco Venturi in Italy, and the pragmatists in America. This is complemented by case studies of explanation and understanding in intellectual history, including the challenge of post-modernism and Straussianism among others. Through these, the variety of intellectual history in philosophy, political theory, literature, science, economics and theology is illustrated.</p>				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for Intellectual History Postgraduate Programme.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1.5-hour seminars.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Prof R Whatmore			

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MO5602 Directed Reading in Modern History				
SCOTCAT Credits:	40	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1 or 2
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
<p>This module offers a directed reading project designed to encourage the development of skills of historical analysis through concentrated study of a topic chosen by the student. The project offers the student the opportunity to develop skills of research, analysis and presentation prior to the dissertation. As such, it will serve as a useful transition between the more structured teaching which characterises undergraduate work and the independence of postgraduate dissertations. The project will generally take the form of a bibliographical essay or primary research on a narrowly defined topic, but the guidelines are sufficiently flexible to accommodate new developments in learning and information dissemination.</p>				
Programme module type:	<p>Compulsory for Intellectual History, Modern History, Transnational, Global and Spatial History Postgraduate Programmes.</p> <p>Optional for The Book: History and Techniques of Analysis, Central and East European Studies, Early Modern History, Environmental History, Reformation Studies Postgraduate Programmes.</p>			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: Fortnightly tutorials.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100 %			
Module Co-ordinator:	Team taught			

MO5099 Dissertation for MLitt Programme/s				
SCOTCAT Credits:	60	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	Whole Year
Planned timetable:	At times to be arranged with the supervisor.			
<p>Student dissertations will be supervised by members of the teaching staff who will advise on the choice of subject and provide guidance throughout the research process. The completed dissertation of not more than 15,000 words must be submitted by the end of August.</p>				
Programme module type:	<p>Compulsory for The Book, Early Modern History, Intellectual History, Modern History, Reformation Studies, and Transnational History MLitt Postgraduate Programmes</p> <p>One of HI5099, AP5099, ME5099 or MO5099 compulsory for Middle Eastern History Postgraduate Programme.</p> <p>Optional for Central and East European Studies Postgraduate Programme.</p>			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: Individual Supervision.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework (Dissertation) = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr J Clark			
Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):	By arrangement			

