

Programme Specification

1	Awarding body	University of London				
2	Teaching Institution	Birkbeck College				
3	Programme Title(s)	MA History of Medicine: Minds, Bodies and Cultures				
4	Programme Code(s)	TMAHMMBC_C				
5	UCAS code (if applicable)	N/A				
6	Home Department	History, Classics and Archaeology				
7	Exit Award(s)	PG Dip, PG Cert				
8	Duration of Study (number of years)	1 year full-time; 2 years part-time				
9	Mode of Study	FT	x	PT	x	DL
10	Level of Award (FHEQ)	7				

11	Other teaching depts or institution (or not applicable)	N/A				
12	Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details (or not applicable)	N/A				
13	QAA Benchmark Group (or not applicable)	N/A				

14	Programme Rationale & Aims	<p>This programme will provide students with a structured masters programme in the field of history of medicine. It provides a framework within which preparation for doctoral study can be undertaken, for those who wish to progress to a research degree; but is focussed particularly on provision of a rich and varied experience of studying history at level 7. Teaching is research-led, delivered by core staff.</p>				
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15	Entry Criteria	<p>Second-class honours degree in a humanities subject and references</p>				
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16	Prospectus Entry	<p>This programme offers students the chance to study at a department with world-renowned expertise in the history of medicine. The compulsory core course introduces students to a systematic study of history, methodology and historiography. Students can explore the enormous breadth of research interests in the department in their three optional modules, the choice of which spans ancient to contemporary history. Finally, the dissertation gives students the chance to carry out their own research and critical thinking, under the supervision a member of staff with relevant expertise.</p> <p>Recent optional modules have included 'Cold War Medicine', 'Madness and Normality in the Modern World', 'Patients and Practitioners in Renaissance and Early Modern Europe', 'Technology, Modernity and the Nation', 'Death, Disease and the Early Modern City', 'Ancient Knowledge', 'A History of Ancient Scientific Thought'.</p>				
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17	Learning Outcomes
	<p>Subject Specific</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. an awareness of contemporary historical practice 2. an understanding of the methodologies used in the analysis and interpretation of historical documents and other forms of source material where appropriate 3. to use historical sources to form interpretations about past societies 4. to understand core debates within specific subject fields <p>Intellectual</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. the ability to carry out effective and critical evaluations of information, data and interpretations 6. the use of critical reasoning 7. the development of analytical skills 8. the ability to synthesise different types and quantities of data and information 9. the ability to tackle complex problems and select the appropriate evidence to solve them <p>Practical</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. improved level of IT skills and computer literacy through experiences with word processing and internet, and where appropriate with databases and spreadsheets 11. ability to collate, compare and analyse substantial quantities of data 12. to carry out documentary-based research 13. to present findings both orally and in writing <p>Personal and Social</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 14. the ability to work successfully in teams 15. the ability to work successfully on an independent basis 16. to develop presentation skills 17. to develop organisational skills 18. to master time-management
18	Learning, teaching and assessment methods
	<p>Learning is achieved through a balance of formal pedagogy and independent study, with an emphasis upon the latter, suitable to this level of study in a humanities subject. Teaching is done primarily via seminar group, with occasional lectures; and in one-to-one tutorials as and when necessary. Where appropriate, use is made of on-line resources including Moodle.</p> <p>Assessment is via written work, with a different essay for each module, and a substantial dissertation.</p>

19	Programme Description
	<p>The programme consists of four taught modules and a dissertation. All students take the core module 'Mastering Historical Research' in the first term of their degree. They then have a choice of a further three option modules (taken across two years for the part-time degree, or within one year for the full-time degree). There is also skills training in preparation for the dissertation in the summer term; students received one-to-one supervision for their dissertation research, and the dissertation is then submitted at the end of September in the year in which the degree is completed.</p> <p>Option modules offered (indicative list):</p> <p>SSHC321S7: Medicine in the Cold War</p> <p>SSHC325S7: Madness and Normality in the Modern World</p> <p>HICL101S7: Practitioners and Patients in Renaissance and Early Modern Europe, c.1400-1650</p> <p>HICL218S7: Cultural History of War in Britain and America between the First World War and the Conflict in Vietnam</p> <p>HICL035S7: Disease, Medicine and Society in Africa</p> <p>HICL177S7: Modernity and the Nation: Britain and Germany, 1880-1930</p> <p>HICL033S7: Death, Disease and the Early Modern City</p> <p>SSHC284S7: A History of Ancient Scientific Thought</p> <p>SSHC158S7: Coming to London: Migration and the making of the modern Metropolis</p> <p>HICL211S7: Renaissance Florence: Society, Religion, Culture</p> <p>HICL055S7: Gender in Modern Britain</p> <p>HICL004S7: Ancient Political Thought and its Medieval Legacy</p> <p>SSHC227S7: From Temples to Museums: Post-Classical Encounters with Classical Antiquities</p> <p>HICL194S7: Heresy in the Middle Ages, c.1000-1300</p> <p>SSHC070S7: 8 Ancient Things: Approaches to Ancient Material Culture</p> <p>HICL207S7: Fascism and Psychoanalysis</p> <p>SSHC078S7: Education and American Culture: From Slavery to the Culture Wars</p>

20	Programme Structure			
Full Time programme				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
7	SSHC247S7	Mastering Historical Research	30	Core
7	SSHC386Z7	Research Skills for Historians	0	Core
7		(Option 1)	30	optional
7		(Option 2)	30	optional
7		(Option 3)	30	optional
7	SSHC027D7	Dissertation	60	core
Part Time programme				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
7	SSHC247S7	Mastering Historical Research	30	Core
7	SSHC027D7	Research Skills for Historians	30	core
7		(Option 1)	30	optional
7		(Option 2)	30	optional
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
7		(Option 3)	30	optional
7	SSHC027D7	Dissertation	60	Core

20	Regulations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admissions This programme adheres to the College Admissions Policy: http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/documents/admissions-policy.pdf • Credit Transfer Accredited Prior Learning will be considered in line with the College Policy on Accredited Prior Learning http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/documents/accreditation-prior-learning.pdf • Programme Regulations This programme adheres to the College Common Awards Scheme http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/regulations • Programme Specific Regulations (or not applicable) N/A

22	Student Support and Guidance
	All Birkbeck students have access to a range of student support services, details can be found on our website here: http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/facilities

23	<p>Methods of Enhancing Quality and Standards</p> <p>The College has rigorous procedures in place for the monitoring and enhancing its educational provision. This includes regular monitoring of programmes drawing on feedback from various sources including external examiner's reports, student feedback, student achievement and progression data. In addition, departments are reviewed every four to five years through the internal review process that includes external input.</p> <p>For more information please see the Academic Standards and Quality website: http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/about-us/operations-and-quality</p>
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24	Programme Director	Professor Joanna Bourke
25	Start Date (<i>term/year</i>)	October 1995
26	Date approved by TQEC	Pre-1995
27	Date approved by Academic Board	Pre-1995
28	Date(s) updated/amended	November 2017