BA HISTORY and INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS   UCAS code: VLC2
For students entering Part 1 in 2005

Awarding Institution: The University of Reading
Teaching Institution: The University of Reading
Relevant QAA subject benchmarking group(s):   History and Politics & International
                                                                 Relations

Faculty of Arts and Humanities   Programme length: 3 years
Date of specification: August 2004
Programme Director: Mr Roy Wolfe
Programme Adviser: Prof Nick Atkin
Board of Studies: History and Politics & International
Relations

Summary of programme aims
The History element of the syllabus aims to familiarise students with an extremely broad chronological range, whilst providing them with the opportunity of specialisation in particular periods and topics of British, European and American history. It also enables students to pursue their own interests through independent study and a substantial dissertation. Using a variety of approaches to the study of history, students will develop the ability to analyse change over time, to understand the nature of causal relationships, and to handle comparative, cross-cultural and abstract concepts. Additionally, students will refine the following subject-based skills: the collection and synthesis of large quantities of information; the critical evaluation of primary and secondary sources; the making of well-crafted and substantial judgements, and engagement in debate on historical issues.

In Politics, the programme aims to give students an appreciation of the normative, methodological and institutional issues involved in the study of politics in relation to one of the three main subfields of the discipline: political philosophy, comparative government and international relations. Students focus on comparative government and/or political theory compulsory modules, and associated optional modules. Students select modules from across the range available.

The programme provides a supportive learning environment with full access to welfare, pastoral and careers support.

Transferable skills
The University's Strategy for Teaching and Learning has identified a number of generic transferable skills which all students are expected to have developed by the end of their degree programme. In following this programme, students will have had the opportunity to enhance their skills relating to career management, communication (both written and oral), information handling, numeracy, problem-solving, team working and use of information technology.

History and International Relations are disciplines that lend themselves to critical judgement and problem-solving, both through personal engagement with issues and through dialogue and group discussion. Students are encouraged to defend and to challenge established positions through the collection, collation and analysis of substantial quantities of material, the rigour of argument, and effective communication and presentation. The disciplines also prompt an awareness of numeracy through chronology, periodisation, and basic quantification. The programme develops students' familiarity with information technology in the production and presentation of their work and develops their skills in using computers for the location and retrieval of bibliographic and source material, accessing sophisticated databases and exploiting the internet.

Programme content
Each Part comprises 120 credits. In Part One the remaining credits can be made up from any optional modules and/or from modules elsewhere in the University. In Part Two students must normally take 60 credits in both subjects, and in Part Three students take 40 credits in each subject plus a dissertation, in one subject or the other, of 40 credits.

Part 1 (three terms)

Combined History and International Relations students must acquire a minimum of 40 credits in History and 40 credits in Politics and International Relations. Other credits to be acquired from modules listed in the Faculty Part 1 Handbook.

Compulsory modules in History

HS1APH	Approaches to History	20	C
HS1LMH	Landmarks in History	20	C

Optional modules in History (may only be taken if the compulsory modules are also studied)

HS1APE	Directed Study in Approaches in History } corequisites	10	C
HS1LME	Directed Study in Landmarks in History } corequisites	10	C

Compulsory modules in Politics

PO1 IRS	Politics I, International Relations and Strategic Studies	20	C
PO1 MOP	Politics II, Modern Politics	20	C

Part 2 (three terms)

In History (60 credits)

Two modules from different Periods and their corequisite skills modules must be taken from the following:

Periods and Skill in Medieval History

HS2PO1	Byzantine Empire 324-1453	20	I
HSKK01	Skills in Byzantine Empire 324-143	10	I
HS2P03	The Medieval West 1050-1200	20	I
HS2K03	Skills in The Medieval West 1050-1200	10	I
HS2P04	England 1272-1485	20	I
HS2K04	Skills in England 1272-1485	10	I
HS2P05	Women in the Medieval and Renaissance Worlds:...	20	I
HS2K05	Skills in Women in Medieval & Renaissance Worlds	10	I
HS2P06	End of the Middle Ages? England in the mid-fourteenth to mid-sixteenth centuries	20	I
HS2K06	Skills in End of the Middle Ages? England in the mid-fourteenth to mid-sixteenth centuries	10	I

Period and Skills in Early Modern History:

HS2P31	Europe 1450-1600: Government, Culture and Society	20	I
HS2K31	Skills in Europe 1450-1600	10	I
HS2P32	Britain in Europe, 1500-1707	20	I
HS2K32	Skills in Britain in Europe, 1500-1707	10	I
HS2P34	Change and Stability in Europe of the Old Regime	20	I
HS2K34	Skills in Change and Stability in Europe	10	I
HS2P35	British History 1640-c.1800	20	I
HS2K35	Skills in British History 1640-c.1800	10	I

HS2P36	The Making of Early Modern Britain, 1450-1640	20	I
HS2K36	Skills in The Making of Early Modern Britain, 1450-1640	10	I

Periods and Skills in Modern History:

HS2P61	Central Europe, 1740-1919	20	I
HS2K61	Skills in Central Europe, 1740-1919	10	I
HS2P62	Union and Disunion: The United States	20	I
HS2K62	Skills in Union and Disunion: The United States	10	I
HS2P63	Themes in the Social History of Europe 1789-1914	20	I
HS2K63	Skills in Themes in the Social History of Europe	10	I
HS2P64	Questions of Labour History, 1800-1939	20	I
HS2K64	Skills in Questions of Labour History, 1800-1939	10	I
HS2P65	Region, Nation and and Global Power. The US 1865...	20	I
HS2K65	Skills in Region, Nation and Global Power. U S, 1865	10	I
HS2P66	Imperial Britain, 1815-1982	20	I
HS2K66	Skills in Imperial Britain, 1815-1982	10	I
HS2P67	A People and a Nation: A Social History of the US	20	I
HS2K67	Skills in A People and a Nation: A Social History...	10	I
HS2P68	Europe since 1870: The Fortunes of the Nation State	20	I
HS2K68	Skills in Europe since 1870: Fortunes of the Nation State	10	I
HS2P69	Modern British History: The Changing Role of the State	20	I
HS2K69	Skills in Modern British History: The Changing Role	10	I
HS2P70	American State & Society & the Wider World, 1890	20	I
HS2K70	Skills in American State and Society	10	I
HS2P71	Women in Society: a comparison of Britain and America from 1850	20	I
HS2K71	Skills in Women in Society: a comparison of Britain and America from 1850	10	I
HS2P72	The Development of Modern Britain: Town and Country Since 1800	20	I
HS2K72	Skills in The Development of Modern Britain: Town and Country Since 1800	10	I
HS2P73	The Poor and the Masses in Britain and France, 1789-1914	20	I
HS2K73	Skills in The Poor and the Masses in Britain and France, 1789-1914	10	I
HS2P74	Changing Perspectives in Irish History, 1801-1973	20	I
HS2K74	Skills in Changing Perspectives in Irish History, 1801-1973	10	I
HS2P75	An Historical Approach to British Rural Sociology	20	I
HS2K75	Skills in An Historical Approach to British Rural Sociology	10	I

In International Relations (60 credits)

All students take two compulsory 20 credit modules plus one 20 credit module from the list of options.

Compulsory

PO2 SOP	Study of Politics	20	I
PO2 MIR	Modern International Relations	20	I

Optional modules (1 of):

Government

PO2AMG	American Government and Politics	20	I
PO2BGP	British Government and Politics	20	I
PO2 EPI	European Political Integration	20	I

PO2RGP	Russian Government and Politics	20	I

Theory
PO2THI	Political Thinking	20	I

International Relations
PO2 COS	Contemporary Strategy	20	I
PO2SNA	Strategy in the Nuclear Age	20	I

The following module is compulsory. Its credits are distributed through the 120 credits of Part 2

	Careers Management Skills	5	I

Part 3 (three terms)

A dissertation of 40 credits is compulsory and may be taken in either History or Politics. In addition students must choose modules totalling 40 credits in both History and Politics.

Compulsory
Either
HS3HLD	Dissertation in History	40	H

Or
PO3 DIS	Dissertation in International Relations	40	H

In History: *Students choose either two 20 credit Topic modules or a Special Subject consisting of two corequisite modules of 20 credits, each totalling 40 credits. No more than 20 credits may be taken at I Level.*

Topics

HS3T02	The Golden Age of Anglo-Saxon England	20	H
HS3TO3	Art & Society in France & Italy in High Middle Ages	20	H
HS3T04	German Imperial Age	20	H
HS3T05	The Medieval Town	20	H
HS3T06	Hundred Years War	20	H
HS3T08	The Reformation in Europe	20	H
HS3T09	The Republic of Venice from Peace of Lodi...	20	H
HS3T10	London, 1500-1700	20	H
HS3T11	Culture and Politics in the Age of Walpole	20	H
HS3T12	English Rural Society, 1793-1914	20	H
HS3T13	The French Revolution	20	H
HS3T14	'Integrating America?': Immigrants in American Soc.	20	H
HS3T15	Britain and the American Colonies, 1607-1763	20	H
HS3T16	The English Countryside, Culture and Environment since the Industrial Revolution	20	H
HS3T17	Ideas and Society in Europe 1870-1945	20	H
HS3T18	The `New South': 1875-1940	20	H
HS3T19	Women in Britain, 1918-1939	20	H
HS3T20	Vichy France: Occupation, Collaboration and...	20	H
HS3T21	The Nuremberg Trial and the Third Reich	20	H
HS3T22	Hidden History: The Intelligence Service...	20	H
HS3T23	Popular Protest and Political Change in America...	20	H
HS3T25	Medieval Magic & Origins of Witch-craze	20	H
HS3T26	The English Nobility, 1500-1642	20	H
HS3T28	De Gaulle's France, 1890-1970	20	H
HS3T30	Ireland and the English in the Middle Ages	20	H
HS3T31	From Darwin to Death Camps? Evolution and eugenics in European Society, 1859-1945	20	H
HS3T32	Sex & Society in Victorian Britain	20	H

HS3T33	The Weaker Sex? Women in Britain, 1850-1914	20	H
HS3T34	An Historical Approach to British Rural Sociology	20	H
HS3T35	Religion, Society and Politics in France, 1789-1914	20	H
HS3T36	Lenin, Stalin, and the Bolshevik Revolution	20	I
HST337	The American Revolution	20	I
HST338	Culture, Print & Literacy in Early Modern Britain	20	I
TY2BH	Book History: from clay tablets to computer screens	20	I
IT207	Italian History and Society since 1945: Conflict, Consumerism And Change	20	I
IT314	The South since 1860: Images and Reality	20	H
FR207	France in the Age of Revolutions, 1750-1870	20	I
FR209	Five Wars and Three Republics: France 1870-1962	20	I
FR316	The French Right since 1940	20	H
FR319	Political Leaders and Groups in the French Revolution	20	H
CL3RM	Renaissance Medicine	20	H
AR3S2	Environment and Landscape in Historic Periods	20	H
AR3T1	Burial Archaeology	20	H
AR3T3	Museum Studies	20	H
AR3M1	The Archaeology of Early Anglo-Saxon England	20	H
AR3M2	Later Anglo-Saxon England	20	H
AR3M3	Twelfth-century England – expansion or contraction	20	H
AR3M4	Crisis? What crisis? England in the later middle ages	20	H

Optional modules – Special subjects

Students must take 40 credits in a Special subject. A and B papers are co-requisites in all cases

Special Subjects (A & B)

HS3S02	The Crusader States in the Twelfth Century, A	20	H
HS3S52	The Crusader States in the Twelfth Century, B	20	H
HS3S04	The English Peasantry, 1350-1450, A	20	H
HS3S54	The English Peasantry, 1350-1450, B	20	H
HS3S05	Rituals, Myths and Magic in Early Modern Europe, A	20	H
HSES55	Rituals, Myths and Magic in Early Modern Europe, B	20	H
HS3S06	Elizabeth's War with Spain, 1585-1604, A	20	H
HS3S56	Elizabeth's War with Spain, 1585-1604, B	20	H
HS3S08	1688: Monarchy and Revolution in Britain, A	20	H
HS3S58	1688: Monarchy and Revolution in Britain, B	20	H
HS3S10	The Unification of Italy, A	20	H
HS3S60	The Unification of Italy, B	20	H
HS3S11	Religion & Society in Modern France, 1789-1914 A	20	H
HS3S61	Religion & Society in Modern France, 1789-1914 B	20	H
HS3S13	Slavery and Slave Culture in the Antebellum USA, A	20	H
HS3S63	Slavery and Slave Culture in the Antebellum USA, B	20	H
HS2S14	Britain at War, 1939-1945, A	20	H
HS3S64	Britain at War, 1939-1945, B	20	H

HS3S15	End of Empire: A Comparative Study of British		
	Decolonization, 1945-64, A	20	H
HS3S65	End of Empire: A Comparative Study of British		
	Decolonization, 1945-64, B	20	H
HS3S16	The New Deal: The USA and the Legacy of the Great		
	Depression, 1933-1946, A	20	H
HS3S66	The New Deal: The USA and the Legacy of the Great		
	Depression, 1933-1946, B	20	H
HS3S17	From Theory to Practice: International Communism 1902-43, A	20	H
HS3S67	From Theory to Practice: International Communism 1902-43, B	20	H
HS3S18	Sex and Society in Victorian Britain, A	20	H
HS3S68	Sex and Society in Victorian Britain, B	20	
HS3S19	The Countryside in English Culture, c 1750-1939, A	20	H
HS3S69	The Countryside in English Culture, c.1750-1939, B	20	H
HS3S20	Northern Ireland, 1921-1973: Policing and the State, A	20	H
HS3S70	Northern Ireland, 1921-1973: Policing and the State, B	20	H
HS3S21	Interregnum in Britain & Ireland, 1640-1660, A	20	H
HS3S71	Interregnum in Britain & Ireland, 1640-1660, B	20	H

In International Relations:

Students choose two 20 credit modules from the following lists. At least one must be chosen from list A. The other must be from list B unless a government or theory option has been taken in Part 2.

List A

PO3BFD	British Foreign and Defence Policy since 1945	20	H
PO3FPA	Foreign Policy Analysis	20	H
PO3MEA	Politics & International Relations of the Middle East	20	H
PO3PIE	Politics of the International Economy	20	H
PO3USF	U.S. Foreign Policy since 1950	20	H
PO3WPE	War, Peace and International Ethics	20	H

List B

PO3AFG	African Government and Politics	20	H
PO3FPT	Feminism and Political Theory	20	H
PO3MID	Modern Ideologies	20	H
PO3POC	Policing Citizens	20	H
PO3POP	Politics of Protest	20	H
PO3UKP	United Kingdom Politics since 1960	20	H
PO3WEG	West European Government and Politics	20	H

Progression requirements

(a) To proceed from Part One to Part Two students should achieve an overall average of 40% in 120 credits taken in the examination, and at least 40% in 20 credits of History and in 40 credits of Politics.

(b) To proceed from Part Two to Part Three students should obtain at least 35% in Politics and International Relations modules and achieve an overall average of 40% in 120 credits taken in the examination.

(c) In both cases they should achieve not less than 30% in any module except that marks of less than 30% in a total of 20 credits may be condoned, provided that the candidate has pursued the course for the module(s) with reasonable diligence and has not been absent from the examination without reasonable cause.

Summary of teaching and assessment

In History, at Part One, teaching is by lectures and seminars. At Parts Two and Three, it is principally by seminars. The Part Three Dissertation is supervised in a series of tutorials with an individual supervisor. Part One modules are assessed by examinations while modules in parts Two and Three are assessed by a mixture of coursework and timed examination. The Part Two Skills modules are assessed through portfolios of skills while the Dissertation is assessed both as coursework and through oral presentation.

In Politics and International Relations, Part One modules and the compulsory Part Two modules involve both lectures and seminars. Part Two and Three optional modules typically place greater emphasis on seminars. All modules other than the Study of Politics and Dissertation are assessed by a mixture of coursework (25%) and examination (75%).

The conventions for classification are included in the Programme Handbook but you should note that weighting between Part Two and Part Three for classification purposes is 33% and 67%.

Admission requirements
Entrants to this programme are normally required to have achieved
UCAS Tariff: 280 points from three subjects at A2, and 300 from 3 A2 and 1 AS level.
International Baccalaureat: 30.
Irish Leaving Certificate: BBBCC in 5 Higher Level subjects
Two AS grades are accepted in place of one A-Level

All applicants are considered on their individual merits and the Department may vary these requirements if it sees fit.

Mature applicants. Applications from mature candidates are welcomed. A mature applicant is more likely to receive an offer of a place if he or she has undertaken recent study, for example two or more A levels or an Access course, but each case is assessed on its individual merits. We recommend that you contact an admissions tutor as soon as possible to discuss your individual circumstances.

International applicants. Applications from international candidates are welcomed. If you are not offering A levels we advise you to contact either the EU or the international admissions tutor before applying in order to discuss the acceptability of your qualifications. IELTS Band 7 (or equivalent) will be required for those whose education has not been undertaken in English.

Applicants wishing to make any inquiries should contact the Admissions Secretary who will pass your query to an appropriate Admissions Tutor. The current Admissions Secretary is Mrs Elizabeth Berry who can be contacted by:
Telephone – 0118 931 8148
Email – e.l.berry@reading.ac.uk
Fax – 0118 931 6440
As well as by post.

Support for students and their learning
University support for students and their learning falls into two categories. Learning support includes IT Services, which has several hundred computers and the University Library, which

across its three sites holds over a million volumes, subscribes to around 4,000 current periodicals, has a range of electronic sources of information and houses the Student Access to Independent Learning (S@IL) computer-based teaching and learning facilities. There are language laboratory facilities both for those students studying on a language degree and for those taking modules offered by the Institution-wide Language Programme. Student guidance and welfare support is provided by the Careers Advisory Service, the University's Special Needs Advisor, Study Advisors, Hall Wardens and the Students' Union. Support for students in their studies is provided through the University's Personal Academic Record (PAR) Scheme, in which students meet their personal tutors regularly to review their progress.

In the Department of History, students are provided with handbooks which outline the programme, provide guidance on study skills, and contain information on staff, facilities and sources of specialised help within the University. They are also available on the internet: http://www.reading.ac.uk:80/AcaDepts/lh/History/history.htm. Additional support is given through orientation sessions on module choices and the Dissertation. Advice is also given the Degree Course Tutor. There is full written feedback on essay work. Each module teacher gives personal guidance and feedback and sends termly reports on progress to personal Tutors for discussion with students. There is also a Departmental Library which provides quiet study space, a photocopier and networked computers.

In Politics and International Relations, students are provided with Departmental Handbooks which outline the programme, provide guidance on study skills, and contain information on staff, facilities and specialised sources of help within the University. Additional support is given in the Study of Politics module in Part Two. There is also written feedback on essay work. There is also a departmental Library, and a photocopier.

Liaison officers for both History and Politics and International Relations coordinate the programme.

Career prospects
Over the years students who have studied History and Politics have gone into jobs in both the public and private sectors. In the public sector, jobs include academic and academic related jobs (e.g. lectureships, administrative posts on research boards), the civil service, local government, public corporations, hospital management, and in the social services, such as, child care, youth employment, probation, and so on. In the private sector, recent jobs include working for advertising, journalism, radio and television, computer firms and large finance and insurance companies.

Opportunities for study abroad or for placements
Students have the opportunity to spend a period of study abroad (normally in Part 2) as part of the Socrates scheme, or in conjunction with the American Studies programme's exchange.

Educational aims of the programme

The programme aims to provide a solid framework for exploring the broad sweep of history and the complex interplay between cause and effect in the historical process. The History component develops the student's knowledge of events, structures, and historical agents or actors and a critical awareness of the variety of ways in which the past has been interpreted in historical writing. The Politics component aims to provide a thorough degree level education in Politics and International Relations. It aims to produce graduates who have experience of the main sub-fields of the discipline and have acquired appropriate study skills.

Programme Outcomes

Knowledge and Understanding

A. Knowledge and understanding of:	**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**
1. The broad sweep of post-classical history and its principal divisions;	Knowledge and understanding are gained through formal teaching (lectures, seminar discussions, and individual essay feedback), prescribed and recommended reading, and the writing of essays and a dissertation. In Part 1 and Part 2 students attend both lectures and seminars, and in Part 3 most teaching is through seminars. Part 1 modules introduce 1, 2,3, 6, 7 and 8 which Part 2 modules deepen and develop students understanding. The optional modules in Part 3 both build upon and sharpen the focus of study.
2. A range of cultures, within a degree structure flexible enough to allow breadth or specialisation;	
3. The contextualisation of forces, events, and individual experiences in the historical process;	
4. The nature and variety of historical sources as defined by period and culture;	
5. The nature of debate and dispute in historical writing;	*Assessment*
6. The fundamental concepts of Political Theory and major texts from the Greeks to the present time.	Most knowledge is tested through a combination of coursework and formal examination. Dissertations and oral contributions also contribute.
7. The comparative analysis of government institutions, political movement and the social bases of politics.	
8. The various approaches and the study of Modern International Relations.	
9. A range of selected specialised subjects within the fields of Political Theory, Comparative Government and International Relations.	

B. **Intellectual skills** – able to:	**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**
1. Critically read, comprehend and evaluate a large range of historical and political texts; 2. Negotiate both primary and second sources and be able to demonstrate how they inter-relate; 3. Synthesise information from a range of sources, providing a coherent overview of positions in logical space; 4. Analyse the logical construction of arguments; 5. Produce and defend positions in response to critical pressure; 6. Develop creative intelligence in independent research and interpretation; 7. Think logically on Political matters; 8. Analyse issues in Political life; 9. Understand the evolving state of knowledge in the rapidly developing discipline of Politics; 10. Transfer appropriate knowledge from an area within the disciplines to another;	As above, plus: self-directed learning facilitated through the use of research-based teaching materials and methods, and logical exercises. Through essay, portfolio, and dissertation preparation, the research and analytical skills are reinforced which are necessary to form and to validate arguments and judgements. The ability to think logically is essential to the understanding and analysis of the discipline. Analysis requires an appreciation of the issues and results in organisation of written work and oral presentations. Students are encouraged to link core and optional modules and also to use experience from modules in the dissertation *Assessment* Coursework; written unseen exams; seminar presentations. Plus discussion in supervisor-led small groups and seminars.
C. **Practical skills** – able to:	**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**
1. Develop and carry out individual research programmes and strategies; 2. Gather, organise, and deploy evidence, data and information from a variety of primary and secondary sources; 3. Locate and synthesise large quantities of material; 4. Present a coherent talk delivered from notes; 5. Produce concise and accurate written reports; 6. Critically discuss particular issues and arguments, and to engage in discussion of each other's responses as well as articulate their own; 7. Utilise problem-solving skills; 8. Manage their own learning self-critically, reflect upon it, and seek and make use of feedback.	These are developed through lectures, supervised small group discussions, seminar groups with a facilitator, oral presentations and, especially in Part Three, independent learning. In History, the Skills in Periods modules consist of various appropriate exercises aimed to promote, amongst other things, research, IT and referencing skills. Feedback on an individual basis combined with the University's personal tutor system encourages constructive self-criticism. *Assessment* Coursework; written unseen exams; seminar presentations.

D. Transferable skills – able to:	**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**
1. Manage time effectively and prioritise workloads; 2. Communicate effectively with a wide range of individuals using a wide range of means; → 3. Evaluate his/her own performance, and recognise the steps required for improvement; 4. Utilise problem-solving skills in a variety of theoretical and more practical situations; 5. IT skills, e.g. word processing, e-mail and the internet for the retrieval and presentation of information, including statistical or numerical data; 6. Work independently, demonstrating initiative, self-organisation and time management; 7. Develop a vocational awareness with a view to planning their career.	Most of these skills are embedded in all modules. The development of IT skills occurs throughout the programme and is especially apparent in modules where there is a research component. Independent learning is also developed throughout but becomes particularly important in Part Three of the programme. Vocational awareness is promoted especially by the CMS module. *Assessment* Coursework; written unseen exams; seminar presentations, portfolios of work, a dissertation.

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably expect to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in module and programme handbooks.

8.6.04