



PARTNERS ACADEMIC SUMMER SCHOOL 2025

Syllabus for Historical Studies

Subject Area

This syllabus is for PARTNERS applicants seeking to progress to the degrees of:

- V100 BA Hons History
 - VL12 BA Hons Politics and History
 - VV11 BA Hons History and Ancient History
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Aims

To allow students to demonstrate their potential to succeed in specified degree programmes by showing a grasp of entry-level subject-specific knowledge, understanding, cognitive and subject-specific skills.

Learning Outcomes

A good knowledge and understanding of ...

- The different approaches to historical study (e.g. political, cultural, social, economic history).
- The different types of primary sources available and how they can be located and accessed.
- How to work with primary sources in an effective way, evaluating their utility through critical analysis.

The ability to apply this knowledge and critical understanding to...

- Students will: interpret and critically analyse a wide range of different types of historical sources.
- Write effective source commentaries, an essential skill within historical studies.
- Successfully and independently locate several historical sources.
- Correctly reference the ideas of other scholars using the Chicago system of referencing

Competence in...

- Locating, understanding and using primary sources, a crucial skill for the pursuit of their historical studies;
 - The effective use of digital and online resources to find and study different sources;
 - The application of their knowledge of the sources to reaching a deeper understanding of the subject; correct referencing.
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Summer School Syllabus

The Summer School will focus principally on locating, understanding, and analysing primary sources, an essential skill for any student of History. This will involve understanding different ways of doing history and the sources involved, the different types of sources with which you can work, and using resources such as Special Collections to engage directly with primary sources. This will provide the opportunity for students to direct their studies towards their particular interests.

The Summer School will use a mix of teaching methods which will illustrate the experience of studying History at University. This will include lectures, seminars and workshops. There will also be some visits to sites both on and off campus.

The aim is to not only enhance students' understanding of and ability to use primary sources, but also to introduce students to what it is like to learn at University and to familiarise them with the campus and its resources.

Activities for Personal Study

In order to introduce students to the learning process at University the first day will include a personal study session to prepare for a 'seminar' style session. Students will be set the chapter 'The Nature and Variety of Historical Sources' in Anthony Brundage, *Going to the Sources: A Guide to Historical Research and Writing* (Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, 2017), 15-30.

During the Tuesday session 'Introduction to Historical Sources' will include a mix of mini-lectures with reflective activities based on the lecture material.

Following the 'Working with Historical Sources' session, the students will explore the sources and archives discussed there further, work which will inform their assessment. They will have guided activities to help support this work.

On-Campus Teaching:

Sunday 29th June (PM), Monday 30th July & Tuesday 1st July

Online Teaching:

Wednesday 2nd, Thursday 3rd & Friday 4th (AM only) July

Formative Assessment Details

500-word source commentary

More details will be given during the event by your Academic Strand Lead.

Hand-in Method

Digital

Assessment deadline

Thursday 10th July