Programme Specification

Academic Year 2017-18
MA Jewish History and Culture Prog code: 4187 (Full Time); 4188 (Part Time)

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.

Awarding Institution	University of Southampton
Teaching Institution	University of Southampton
Mode of study	Full time or Part time is permitted
Duration in years	1 year (full time) or 2 years (part time)
Accreditation details	N/A
Final award	Master of Arts
Name of award	MA Jewish History and Culture
Interim Exit awards	PG Certificate
FHEQ level of final award	HE7
UCAS code	Not applicable
QAA Subject Benchmark or other external reference	QAA Masters Degree Characteristics (2010)
Programme Lead	Dr Shirli Gilbert
Date specification was written	08/12/2008
Date specification was last updated	August 2017

Programme Overview

Brief outline of the programme

First launched in 1997, the MA programme offers a rich encounter with the main currents in Jewish history and culture, drawing on and fostering the use of different scholarly disciplines. Reflecting the heritage of James Parkes' scholarship, on which the Parkes Institute is founded, the programme places a distinct and unique emphasis on studying Jewish History and Culture within the broad framework of the study of Jewish/non-Jewish Relations. The course of studies builds on the world-class resources of the University's Parkes Library and Jewish Archives in the University Library, and is taught by a well-established team of scholars drawn from disciplines including History, English, and Modern Languages, brought together within the Parkes Institute.

Learning and teaching

The programme draws on a range of teaching activities, including tutor-led seminar discussions, student-led presentations, training in research skills, and varied written assignments. Wherever possible, use is made of the rich variety of documents in the library collections. Students are guided in developing their skills of written and oral argumentation. They are also encouraged to develop relevant language skills for research purposes. Where appropriate, and in consultation with the convenor, students based in Southampton may opt to take relevant language units such as Hebrew, Greek, Yiddish or German. All students write a dissertation for which supervision is provided by members of the Parkes Institute.

Assessment

The staff of the Parkes Institute offers generous help and support to students. Tutors will provide informal feedback so that you can understand your progress and improve in particular areas. You are encouraged to discuss any concerns with your tutors and to seek their advice. Tutors will also provide support for formal assessment, which takes the form of essays, shorter written assignments for Research Skills, and the dissertation. The feedback you receive throughout will be constructive and timely.

Please note: As a research-led University, we undertake a continuous review of our programmes to ensure quality enhancement and to manage our resources. As a result, this programme may be revised during a student's period of registration, however, any revision will be balanced against the requirement that the student should receive the educational service expected. Please read our Disclaimer to see why, when and how changes may be made to a student's programme.

Programmes and major changes to programmes are approved through the University's programme validation process which is described in the University's Quality handbook.

Educational Aims of the Programme

The aims of the programme are to:

- Offer a multidisciplinary approach to the study of Jewish history and culture
- Provide an in-depth appreciation of the main currents in Jewish history and culture
- Develop awareness of the rich texture, diversity, and complexity of Jewish social milieus, religion, culture and politics, intellectual thought, identity, self- representation, including gender roles and distinctions
- Provide knowledge of a range of theoretical or conceptual approaches and perspectives to these subject areas, with a view to the critical evaluation and application of these approaches or perspectives in your own work
- Introduce or develop awareness of a range of original, stimulating sources in the field, including biblical, historical and literary texts, primary documents, memoirs, film, art, architecture and oral testimony
- Enable you to engage critically with this wide range of primary sources
- Enable you to make full use of the programme's library and archival facilities and to make these resources an integral element of the programme, particularly in the form of the Parkes Library and Jewish archives, the largest Jewish documentation centre in western Europe and the only one in the world devoted to Jewish/non-Jewish relations
- Create an enticing framework for the enjoyment and enhancement of independent research, and enable you to develop specialist expertise of your choosing from within the parameters of the programme whilst providing scholarly encouragement, support and enthusiasm towards this goal
- Prepare you for further study and/or employment by developing subject-specific skills as well as key transferable skills

Programme Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and Understanding

Having successfully completed the MA Jewish History and Culture programme you will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:

A1   Key elements of Jewish history and culture, languages, literature and religion
A2   Key debates in the secondary literature relating to Jewish life and Jewish/ non-Jewish relations, and how to contribute to and situate your own research within these debates
A3   Patterns of social, cultural and linguistic development, mobility and migration, continuity, flux and change in the Jewish experience across our chronological range
A4   Major currents of Jewish philosophical and intellectual thought
A5   Patterns of change in Jewish self-identification, including in gender terms, as expressed in literary and other texts under discussion, considering their merits and weaknesses and using relevant empirical evidence and/or conceptual and theoretical perspectives for this purpose
A6   How to undertake independent research, including documentary and archival research, with appropriate supervision

Teaching and Learning Methods

- A range of activities is employed across the modules, varying in style and approach.
- The research skills core module uses practical exercises, tutor-led seminars, and study visits to provide the skills necessary to make the most of the other modules and the dissertation. You will be given guidance on ways to interrogate source materials through practise-based seminars and will be introduced to the essential skills for researching Jewish history and culture.
- The taught modules use individual oral presentations and a combination of tutor- and student-led seminar discussion and interaction.

- Individual written assignments in the form of essays and dissertations are another key teaching method. Research for the module essays serves to prepare you for the dissertation. Tutor pre-essay advice and post-essay feedback offers a framework within which you can further develop your confidence and academic skills.
- In addition to catering to a variety of learning styles, the combination of teaching activities used progressively increases confidence, and helps you to deepen your understanding and develop independent learning and project-management skills.

Assessment methods

- Assessment procedures play a central role in the teaching and learning process. They are designed to assess your knowledge and understanding of the material studied, as well as your competence in transferable and discipline-specific skills. The School MA Handbook contains detailed descriptors for each type of assessment.
- All postgraduate modules are assessed by essay and, in some cases, presentation, apart from the Research Skills module, where assessment is based on a portfolio of skills exercises.
- Summative assessment is the assessment that determines whether you pass individual modules and your overall degree result. All modules are subject to summative assessment at the end of the semester in which they are taught. Assessed essays test your ability to interpret and engage critically with primary and secondary sources, which need not be exclusively written sources, but which may include material culture, art, artefacts, landscape and the built environment, where appropriate. They assess your ability to synthesize such material and to deploy such evidence in support of a cogent argument. The dissertation tests your ability to manage a project independently and to construct an extended argument.
- Formative assessment allows you to gauge how your learning is progressing in real time. It does not directly affect your overall degree result, or the mark you receive for specific modules. Such formative assessment takes place throughout the curriculum. Informal written and oral feedback on presentations, essays and draft dissertation elements will be constructive and timely.

Subject Specific Intellectual and Research Skills

Having successfully completed this programme you will be able to:

B1   Critically evaluate a range of primary materials relating to Jewish history and culture
B2   Critically evaluate and engage with debates in the scholarly literature
B3   Develop new hypotheses on the basis of these evaluations
B4   Articulate, present and defend your hypotheses, and engage constructively with those of your peers

B5   Describe and explain the way in which the theoretical and conceptual approaches to the study of Jewish history and culture have changed and evolved over time
B6   Synthesise and integrate the analysis of primary and secondary texts into a coherent and original essay and dissertation argument

Teaching and Learning Methods

- A range of student-centred teaching and learning activities, including seminars and student-led discussion, will introduce you to the material and approaches relevant to this programme.
- Activities designed to enhance your intellectual skills include class presentations, essays and the dissertation.

Assessment methods

- The assessments employed in each module are tailored to the specific learning outcomes of individual modules.
- Essays and dissertations are the principal means used to assess your cognitive skills. Some modules also use oral presentations, and the research skills course uses a range of skills exercises.
- In order to appraise levels of competence in these areas as the module progresses you will have the opportunity for informal feedback on aspects of your work from both academic staff and peers.

Transferable and Generic Skills

Having successfully completed this programme you will be able to:

C1   Produce lucid, coherent, fluent and elegant prose
C2   Prepare a professional presentation, using supporting material and technology where appropriate, to disseminate your work
C3   Communicate comple
x ideas and arguments in a variety of written formats
C4   Communicate complex ideas and arguments orally in presentations and informal discussion
C5   Demonstrate interpersonal skills in the context of discussion and debate with others
C6   Demonstrate the capacity for self-directed problem-solving, independent working, self-motivation, and time-management
C7   Design and carry out an independent research project
C8   Identify, locate, select, and draw upon a wide range of primary and secondary source materials
C9   Critically evaluate and integrate both primary sources and the arguments of established authorities

Teaching and Learning Methods

Your key skills will be developed through tutor-led and student-led tutorial discussion, bibliographic training sessions, practical research exercises, and the research for and writing of essays and dissertations.

Assessment methods

You will be asked to demonstrate your key skills through practical skills exercises, the writing of essays, informal discussion, formal oral presentations, and a 20,000 word dissertation.

Programme Structure

Special Features of the programme

Each year, the MA in Jewish History and Culture has two parallel intakes: one in Southampton and one in London. The Partnership Module offers an opportunity for students to meet with their parallel cohort for collaborative workshop and dialogue on Jewish/non-Jewish relations. There are normally two extended meetings, one held in Southampton and one in London.

Availability of Modules

The information contained in programme specification is correct at the time it was published. Typically, around a quarter of optional modules do not run due to low interest or unanticipated changes in staff availability. If we do have insufficient numbers of students interested in an optional module, this may not be offered.   If an optional module will not be run, we will advise you as soon as possible and help you choose an alternative module.

Programme details - MA Jewish History and Culture (Southampton)

Core modules		Credits
HIST6092	Dissertation	37.5 ECTS (75 CATS)
HIST6103	Jews and Non-Jews: relations from antiquity to modernity	15 CATS (30 CATS)
HIST6082	Public History	7.5 ECTS (15 CATS)
HIST6081	Research Skills	15 ECTS (30 CATS)
Subject Specific Optional modules		
HUMA6012	Jerusalem: City and Symbol	7.5 ECTS (15 CATS)
HIST6093	Jewish Society and Culture in Eastern Europe	7.5 ECTS (15 CATS)
HIST6084	The Holocaust, Englishness and Americanness	7.5 ECTS (15 CATS)
HIST6113	The Conversion of the Roman Empire, Pagans, Jews and Christians	7.5 ECTS (15 CATS)
HIST6083	Partnership Module	7.5 ECTS (15 CATS)
HIST6087	Individually Negotiate Topic 1	7.5 ECTS (15 CATS)
HIST6088	Individually Negotiate Topic 2	7.5 ECTS (15 CATS)

Programme details - MA Modern Jewish History and Culture (London)

Part 1

Compulsory modules		
HIST6104	Approaches to Modern JHC	30 ECTS (60 CATS)

Part 2

Core modules		
HIST6092	Dissertation (submitted in September)	37.5 ECTS (75 CATS)
Compulsory modules		
HIST6106	Jewish History & Culture Research Skills	15 ECTS (30 CATS)
HIST6083	Partnership module	7.5 ECTS (15 CATS)

Regulation of Assessment

The pass mark for all modules is 50%. A distinction is 70%. The MA/MSc handbook provides a detailed breakdown of the qualities expected from work in each mark band, including distinction and fails. Students must pass all taught modules before being permitted to submit a dissertation.

Additional Costs

Students are responsible for meeting the cost of essential textbooks, and of producing such essays, assignments, reports and dissertations as are required to fulfil the academic requirements for each programme of study. Costs that students registered for this programme typically also have to pay for are included in Appendix 2.

Progression Requirements

The programme follows the University's regulations for *Progression, Determination and Classification of Results : Standalone Masters Programmes* as set out in the University Calendar
http://www.calendar.soton.ac.uk/sectionIV/progression-regs.html

Intermediate exit points

You will be eligible for an interim exit award if you complete part of the programme but not all of it, as follows:

Qualification	Minimum overall credit in ECTS credits	Minimum ECTS credits required at level of award
Postgraduate Certificate	at least 30	20

Support for student learning

There are facilities and services to support your learning some of which are accessible to students across the University and some of which will be geared more particularly to students in your particular Faculty or discipline area.

The University provides:

- library resources, including e-books, on-line journals and databases, which are comprehensive and up-to-date; together with assistance from Library staff to enable you to make the best use of these resources
- high speed access to online electronic learning resources on the Internet from dedicated PC Workstations onsite and from your own devices; laptops, smartphones and tablet PCs via the Eduroam wireless network. There is a wide range of application software available from the Student Public Workstations.

- computer accounts which will connect you to a number of learning technologies for example, the Blackboard virtual learning environment (which facilitates online learning and access to specific learning resources)
- standard ICT tools such as Email, secure filestore and calendars.
- access to key information through the MySouthampton Student Mobile Portal which delivers timetables, Module information, Locations, Tutor details, Library account, bus timetables etc. while you are on the move.
- IT support through a comprehensive website, telephone and online ticketed support and a dedicated helpdesk in the Student Services Centre
- Enabling Services offering assessment and support facilities (including specialist IT support) if you have a disability, dyslexia, mental health issue or specific learning difficulties
- the Student Services Centre (SSC) to assist you with a range of general enquiries including financial matters, accommodation, exams, graduation, student visas and ID cards
- Career Destinations, advising on job search, applications, interviews, paid work, volunteering and internship opportunities and getting the most out of your extra-curricular activities alongside your degree programme when writing your CV
- a range of personal support services : mentoring, counselling, residence support service, chaplaincy, health service
- a Centre for Language Study, providing assistance in the development of English language and study skills for non-native speakers.

The Students' Union provides:

- an academic student representation system, consisting of Course Representatives, Academic Presidents, Faculty Officers and the Vice-President Education; and provides training and support for all these representatives, whose role is to represent students' views to the University.
- opportunities for extracurricular activities and volunteering
- an Advice Centre offering free and confidential advice including support if you need to make an academic appeal
- Support for student peer-to-peer groups, such as Nightline.

Associated with your programme you will be able to access:

- The world-class resources of the Parkes Library
- The Parkes Jewish archives, the largest Jewish documentation centre in western Europe and the only one in the world devoted to Jewish/non-Jewish relations

Methods for evaluating the quality of teaching and learning

You will have the opportunity to have your say on the quality of the programme in the following ways:

- Completing student evaluation questionnaires for each module of the programme
- Acting as a student representative on various committees, e.g. Staff: Student Liaison Committees, Faculty Programmes Committee OR providing comments to your student representative to feed back on your behalf.
- Serving as a student representative on Faculty Scrutiny Groups for programme validation
- Taking part in programme validation meetings by joining a panel of students to meet with the Faculty Scrutiny Group
- National Student Survey

The ways in which the quality of your programme is checked, both inside and outside the University, are:

- Regular module and programme reports which are monitored by the Faculty
- Programme validation, normally every five years.
- External examiners, who produce an annual report
- A national Research Assessment Exercise (our research activity contributes directly to the quality of your learning experience)
- Higher Education Review by the Quality Assurance Agency

Criteria for admission

University Commitment

The University will at all times seek to operate admissions regulations that are fair and are in accordance with the law of the United Kingdom, and the University's Charter, Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations.

This includes specific compliance with legislation relating to discrimination (e.g. Equality Act 2010) and the University's Equal Opportunities Policy Statement. This includes a commitment that the University will:
- actively assist groups that experience disadvantage in education and employment to benefit from belonging to the University
- actively seek to widen participation to enable students that do not traditionally participate in Higher Education to do so;
- ensure that admission procedures select students fairly and appropriately according to their academic ability and that the procedure is monitored and regularly reviewed.

Entry Requirements

The University's Admissions Policy applies equally to all programmes of study. The following are the typical entry criteria to be used for selecting candidates for admission. The University's approved equivalencies for the requirements listed below will also be acceptable.

Qualification	Grade/GPA	Subjects requirements	Specific requirements
Honours degree or equivalent	First- or upper second-class	History or a related subject.	

Mature applicants
Studying for a degree later in life can be extremely rewarding and mature students are often among our most successful.

If you are over 21 and feel you would benefit from degree-level studies, we can be more flexible about our entry requirements. For full-time courses, selectors will expect you to demonstrate your commitment by means of some recent serious study, for example, one or two A level passes, successful completion of an Open University foundation course or an appropriate Access course. Your application will be considered on individual merit and you may be asked to attend an interview.

More information on the entry requirements for MA Jewish History and Culture can be found on the History webpage here:
http://www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/postgraduate/taught_courses/taught_courses/history/v300_ma_jewish_history_and_culture.page

For further information, please contact our Admissions Team: pgafh@southampton.ac.uk

The University's Admission policy is available at
http://www.southampton.ac.uk/studentadmin/admissions/admissionspolicies/policy/

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)
The University has a **Recognition of Prior Learning Policy**
Students are accepted under the University's recognition of prior learning policy; however, each case will be reviewed on an individual basis.

English Language Proficiency

Overall	Reading	Writing	Speaking	Listening
7.0	6.5	7.0	6.5	6.5

Career Opportunities

- Academic
- Museums
- Secondary education
- Tour guide
- Journalism and media
- Jewish community work
- Publishing
- Library and archive work
- Civil service

External Examiners(s) for the programme

Name Dr Francois Guesnet
Institution. University College, London

Students must not contact External Examiner(s) directly, and external examiners have been advised to refer any such communications back to the University. Students should raise any general queries about the assessment and examination process for the programme with their Course Representative, for consideration through Staff: Student Liaison Committee in the first instance, and Student representatives on Staff: Student Liaison Committees will have the opportunity to consider external examiners' reports as part of the University's quality assurance process.
External examiners do not have a direct role in determining results for individual students, and students wishing to discuss their own performance in assessment should contact their personal tutor in the first instance.

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 be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information can be found in the programme handbook (or other appropriate guide) or online at
http://www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/postgraduate/taught_courses/taught_courses/history/v300_ma_jewish_history_and_culture.page? .

Appendix:

Learning outcomes and Assessment Mapping document template

Module Code	Module Title	Knowledge and Understanding						Subject Specific Intellectual Skills					
		A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6
HIST6092	Dissertation	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•		•
HIST6103	Jews and Non-Jews: relations from antiquity to modernity	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•		•	•
HIST6081	Research Skills		•				•	•	•	•	•		
HIST6082	Public History												

Module Code	Module Title	Transferable/Key Skills								
		C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8	C9
HIST6092	Dissertation	•		•			•	•	•	•	
HIST6103	Jews and Non-Jews: relations from antiquity to modernity	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	
HIST6081	Research Skills	•	•	•					•		
HIST6082	Public History										

Module Code	Module Title	Coursework 1	Coursework 2	Exam
HIST6092	Dissertation	15,000 word dissertation **100%**	n/a	n/a
HIST6103	Jews and Non-Jews: relations from antiquity to modernity	4000 word essay **50%**	4000 word essay **50%**	n/a
HIST6081	Research Skills	1000 word seminar review = 10% 1000 word programme review = 10% 2000 word review article = 25% 1500 word dissertation proposal = 20% **Total = 65%**	2500 word historiographical essay **35%**	n/a
HIST6082	Public History	4000 word portfolio of exercises = 100%		

Appendix 2

Additional costs

Students are responsible for meeting the cost of essential textbooks, and of producing such essays, assignments, laboratory reports and dissertations as are required to fulfil the academic requirements for each programme of study. In addition to this, students registered for this programme typically also have to pay for:

- **Books and Stationery Equipment (such as Lab equipment, Field Equipment, Art equipment, Recording Equipment, stethoscopes, fob watch, Excavation equipment, Approved Calculators)**
- **Materials (such as laboratory materials, textbooks, drawing paper, fabric, thread, computer disks, Sheet Music)**
- **Printing and Photocopying Costs (such as Printing coursework for submission, Printing and binding dissertations or theses, Academic Poster (A1) printing).**
- **Field Trips (including accommodation costs for the field trips)**
- **Travel Costs for placements, field trips and to and from the University and various campus locations (including travel insurance).**
- **Paying for immunisation and vaccination costs before being allowed to attend placements.**
- **Conference expenses**
- **Professional exams**
- **Replacing lost student ID cards**
- **Other activities (e.g. visiting specialist marine stations and other institutions)**
- **Costs of attending a graduation ceremony (e.g. hiring a gown for graduation).**

In some cases you'll be able to choose modules (which may have different costs associated with that module) which will change the overall cost of a programme to you. Details of such costs will be listed in the Module Profile. Please also ensure you read the section on additional costs in the University's Fees, Charges and Expenses Regulations in the University Calendar available at www.calendar.soton.ac.uk.