UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER

1. **Programme Title(s):**

   MRes History

2. **Awarding body or institution:**

   University of Leicester

3. a) **Mode of study Full-time or part-time**

   b) **Type of study Campus based**

4. **Registration periods:**

   Full Time
   The normal period of registration is one year full-time
   The maximum period of registration is two years full-time

   Part Time
   The normal period of registration is two years part-time
   The maximum period of registration is four years part-time

5. **Typical entry requirements:**

   Applicants will normally be expected to have achieved a 2.1 (or equivalent) honours degree in the Humanities or Social Sciences. In certain cases (for instance older students who may have significant published work already under their belt) evidence of substantial alternative research training might allow acceptance of a lower degree classification or of those with degrees in other disciplines. Such applicants may be required to submit a sample of written work as part of the application process. English language requirement: IELTS 6.5 or equivalent, with 6.0 in writing. A sample of written work in English may also be required.

6. **Accreditation of Prior Learning:**

   Not applicable

7. **Programme aims:**

   The programme aims to turn graduates into researchers by providing the training and individual support necessary to complete an extended piece of historical research. It will provide students with knowledge, understanding and experience of research methods and practices in history. They will also develop transferable skills in communication, self-management and planning. Training in historical research methods and skills will be both general and specific, as required for the chosen research project. Students will receive the support necessary to plan and carry out an extended research project to a standard that might form the basis of a publication. The programme also aims to equip students with the research skills needed for historical research at doctoral level.

8. **Reference points used to inform the programme specification:**
   - QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland
   - QAA Quality Code (B12: Research Degrees – 2012)
   - University of Leicester Learning Strategy http://www2.le.ac.uk/offices/sas2/quality/learnteach
   - University of Leicester Employability Strategy

- University of Leicester Periodic Developmental Review Reports
- Graduate Survey
- External Examiners' reports
- Annual Developmental Review of the School of History for 2013-14
- ESRC guidance on Postgraduate Research training (5th edition, 2009)

9. Programme Outcomes:

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
(a) Subject and Professional skills		
Knowledge		
Advanced knowledge of methodological, practical, theoretical and ethical issues underpinning historical research Advanced knowledge of the literature and sources relating to a specific aspect of the past.	Seminars, workshops, directed reading, research seminars, field trip, problem solving exercises, dissertation supervision, independent research	Summative and formative assessment including written assignments, group projects, oral and presentations and a dissertation
Concepts		
Enhanced understanding of key concepts in historical research	Seminars, workshops, directed reading, research seminars, field trip, problem solving exercises, dissertation supervision, independent research	Group projects, written assignments, poster presentation, oral presentation and dissertation
Techniques		
Ability to select and apply methodologies and concepts to the development, execution and communication of an extended research project.	Seminars, workshops, directed reading, research seminars, , dissertation supervision, independent research	Oral presentation, dissertation
Critical analysis		
Ability to apply understanding of historiography, methodological and theoretical concepts and research techniques to the relevant sources with rigour and originality	Seminars, workshops, directed reading, research seminars, dissertation supervision, independent research	Oral presentation, dissertation, interactions with supervisor
Presentation		
Ability to present material coherently in a variety of formats (oral presentation, poster, shorter and extended written assignments, dissertation). Ability to select and organise original material relevant to an extended study and to achieve a high standard of written and verbal communication throughout.	Seminars, workshops, research seminars, independent research, dissertation supervision	Poster presentation, written assignments, oral presentation, dissertation
Appraisal of evidence		
Ability to read and critically analyse historiographical and methodological debates in the literature and to assess the relevance of existing research. Ability to select and critically analyse relevant primary source material. Ability to develop and maintain a rigorous and independent inquiry at an advanced level	Seminars, workshops, research seminars, independent research, dissertation supervision	Oral presentation, written assignments, dissertation, interactions with supervisor

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
(b) Transferable skills		
Research skills		
Develop a critical awareness of current research and new insights in the relevant research areas Carry out a critical evaluation of literature and primary sources applicable to relevant research areas. Select and synthesise data Communicate findings and conclusions to relevant audiences. Awareness of ethical and practical issues that impact on research. Awareness of the dynamic research environment, in particular accessibility of source material	Seminars, workshops, directed reading, research seminars, field trip, problem solving exercises, dissertation supervision, independent research	Summative and formative assessment including written assignments, group projects, presentations and a dissertation Interactions with supervisor
Communication skills		
Ability to write clearly and concisely in an appropriate scholarly style with effective organisation of content and appropriate scholarly apparatus Ability to structure arguments effectively and present them in writing and orally Ability to write in a range of scholarly formats, for example essay and dissertation. Ability to identify relevant information, critically analyse it and summarise findings succinctly in writing and orally	Seminars and workshops, Dissertation supervision	written assignments, oral and poster presentation, interactions with supervisor, dissertation
Data presentation		
Ability to gather, select, handle and analyse qualitative and quantitative data. Ability to deliver an oral presentation based on original research to an academic audience.	Seminars, workshops, fieldtrip	Group project report, dissertation, oral presentation, interaction with supervisor
Information technology		
Ability to use information technology to identify and access research resources Ability to use information technology to present research findings effectively	Computer practical classes, tutorials, resource based learning, dissertation supervision	Essays, written reports, dissertation, oral presentation
Problem solving		
Ability to apply critical skills to the identification and solution of original research problems	Dissertation supervision	dissertation

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Working relationships		
Ability to organise and contribute to group activity. Working effectively with dissertation supervisor	Seminars, workshops, dissertation supervision	Poster presentation, group project report, interaction with supervisor
Managing learning		
Ability to work independently and manage their own learning. Showing initiative, self-organisation and time-management.	Advice on study skills, e.g. time management and planning assignments.	Regular contact with dissertation supervisor, production of research timetable
Career management		
Develop the ability to apply the skills and knowledge gained to a range of professional contexts.	Advice on PDP and career options delivered through the personal tutor system. Careers development sessions offered by the New History Lab.	Individual PDP portfolios. Attendance at NHL sessions

10. **Special features:**

    This programme is designed to be compatible with a 1+ 3 route to a PhD. It draws on resources developed for the MAs in History and Urban History

11. **Indications of programme quality:**

    This course builds on the existing research training provision for MA History and MA Urban History that has received favourable reports from successive external examiners.

    Comments from the external examiner's report, 23/11/2015:

- 'The dissertation elements of both the MA and MRes are challenging, especially for weaker students in the cohort and the staff have done well to encourage them to produce their best work'.

12. **Scheme of Assessment**

    This programme follows the University's regulations governing taught postgraduate programmes:
    http://www2.le.ac.uk/offices/sas2/regulations/general-regulations-for-taught-programmes

13. **Progression points**
    For the award of the MRes candidates will complete the core module, (30 credits) and a second taught module, either a literature review or an optional module that provides relevant research training or content (30 credits) and successfully complete a dissertation (120 credits). Successful completion of 60 credits of taught modules is required for progression to the dissertation.

    In cases where a student has failed to meet a requirement to progress he or she will be required to withdraw from the course and a recommendation will be made to the Board of Examiners for an intermediate award where appropriate.

14. **Rules relating to re-sits or re-submissions:**
    As defined in Senate Regulation 6: Regulations governing Taught Postgraduate Programmes of Study (see Senate Regulations)

15. **External Examiners**
    The details of the External Examiner(s) for this programme and the most recent External Examiners' reports can be found here

Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

Curriculum: All candidates study the compulsory modules listed below and one optional module. In addition to the optional modules listed, candidates may study other modules offered by the School of History, Centre for Urban History and the Centre for English Local History, at the discretion of the programme director.

	Module Code	Module Title	Credits
Compulsory	HS7005	Historical Research Methods	30
	HS7450	MRes Dissertation	120
Optional	HS7022/ ML7022	Mastering Medieval Sources/ Latin ab initio	20+10
	HS7034	Patients and Practitioners: Responding to Illness in Early Modern Europe, 1450-1750	30
	HS7026	The Holocaust - A Genocide: Mass Murder in Comparative Perspective	30
	HS7037	After The Holocaust - History and Memory in Postwar Germany	30
	HS7499	Victorian Society	30
	HS7304	American Freedoms: Rhetoric and Reality in the USA	30
	HS7303	History and Social Theory	30
	HS7451	MRes Literature Review	30

Appendix 2: Module Specifications

See module specification database http://www.le.ac.uk/sas/courses/documentation