Programme Specification

1	Awarding body	University of London
2	Teaching Institution	Birkbeck College
3	Programme Title(s)	MA Global History: Empires, States and Cultures
4	Programme Code(s)	TMAGHESC_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	N/A
12	Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details	N/A
13	QAA Benchmark Group	N/A

14	Programme Rationale & Aims	
	This programme provides students with a structured masters programme in a specific field of historical study. It provides a framework within which preparation for doctoral study car 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.	

15	¹⁵ Entry Criteria	
	Second-class honours degree in a humanities subject and references.	

16	Learning Outcomes	
	Subject Specific	
	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 an understanding of the methodologies used in the analysis and interpretation of historical documents and other forms of source material where appropriate	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	
	Intellectual	
	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
Practical
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
Personal and Social
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

17	Learning, teaching and assessment methods	
	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.	
	Assessment is via written work, with a different essay for each module, and a substantial dissertation.	

18	Programme Description	
	The programme consists of four taught modules and a dissertation. All students take the	
	compulsory 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 first part of 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.	



¹⁹ P r	⁹ Programme Structure			
Full Time programme Year 1				
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7	SSHC247S7	Mastering Historical Research	30	Compulsory
7	SSHC386Z7	Research Skills for Historians	0	Compulsory
7		(Option 1)	30	optional
7		(Option 2)	30	optional
7		(Option 3)	30	optional
7	SSHC027D7	Dissertation	60	Compulsory
Part Time programme				
Year 1	1			
Lev	el Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
7	SSHC247S7	Mastering Historical Research	30	Compulsory
7	SSHC386Z7	Research Skills for Historians	0	Compulsory
7		(Option 1)	30	optional
7		(Option 2)	30	optional
Year 2	2			1
Lev	el Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
7		(Option 3)	30	Optional
7	SSHC027D7	Dissertation	60	Compulsory
20 D	rogramme Director	Dr Iulia Lovell		

20	Programme Director	Dr Julia Lovell
21	Start Date (term/year)	Prior to 2008
22	Date approved by TQEC	Prior to 2008
23	Date approved by Academic Board	Prior to 2008
24	Date(s) updated/amended	23 January 2018

(Note: this programme was titled MA World History prior to Oct 2016.)