HI398-30 Crime and Punishment in the Long Nineteenth Century

24/25

Department
> History

Level
> Undergraduate Level 3

Module leader
> Vic Clarke

Credit value
> 30

Module duration
> 22 weeks

Assessment
> 100% coursework

Study location
> University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

This module covers the period from the late eighteenth century to the start of the twentieth. This is a transformative period in the history of crime and punishment in Britain moving from the 'Bloody Code' which characterised eighteenth century Britain to a punishment code resting on the prison system. The period witnessed the introduction of the police force, the rise and fall of transportation and debates about the nature of prison. The module is interdisciplinary drawing on scholarship from history, law, sociology, criminology, literature and politics. A variety of sources are consider including novels, memoirs, criminal records, newspapers and satire.

[Module web page](#)

Module aims

This 30 CATS final-year module is an innovative module which involves the students in all aspects of the design and assessment. The syllabus is negotiated with both topics and primary sources selected at the start of the course in two workshop sessions. The aim is to immerse students in the reality of archival research from the very beginning of the module and to prepare them for their dissertation or assessed piece. The assessment may also be negotiated and take the form of an

exhibition, play, website, multimedia resource, museum display, a conventional long essay, or any other form which is agreed by the department and the tutor.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

Note: this is an indicative syllabus. The precise content will be negotiated between students and tutor each academic year to reflect student interests and involve the students in all aspects of curriculum design and assessment as well as providing them with as many opportunities for practical research as possible. The tutor will provide template seminar outlines (with questions, sources, and bibliography) for students. The tutor, in conjunction with archivists at the MRC and Warwickshire County Records Office, will provide descriptions of the available archives and other primary sources.

1. (Modern Records Centre) - syllabus design; selection of primary source material; introduction to archives for crime and punishment
2. (Warwickshire County Records Office) - introduction to local archives particularly quarter sessions material; further selection of primary source material for module
3. The Victorian underworld – historiography
4. The Victorian underworld – sources
5. The Criminal Justice system – historiography
6. The Criminal Justice system – sources
7. Policing the city – historiography
8. Policing the city – sources
9. Prisons: a just measure of pain? – historiography
10. Prisons: a just measure of pain? – sources
11. The Garrotting Panic and the role of the press – historiography
12. The Garrotting Panic and the role of the press – sources
13. Violent women and girl gangs – historiography
14. Violent women and girls gangs – historiography
15. The construction of the juvenile delinquent – historiography
16. The construction of the juvenile delinquent – sources
17. A Study in Scarlet: literature and crime – historiography
18. A Study in Scarlet: literature and crime – sources

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate a systematic knowledge and understanding of key themes in the history of crime and punishment in the long nineteenth century
- Critically analyse and evaluate a broad range of primary sources (including archival sources at the Modern Records Centre) relating to the history of crime and punishment
- Effectively communicate ideas, and make informed, coherent and persuasive arguments, relating to the history of crime
- Critically review and consolidate theoretical, methodological, and historiographical ideas

relating to the study of crime from history and related disciplines (eg Sociology, Law, Literature)

Indicative reading list

Primary Sources

- Modern Records Centre: Archives of the Howard League for Penal Reform and National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders
- Warwickshire County Records Office: Archives of the Warwickshire Quarter Sessions
- The Old Bailey Online
- Nineteenth-century British Newspapers (online)
- Illustrated London News (online)
- British Parliamentary Papers (online)
- Ancestry.co.uk: England and Wales Criminal Registers; Transportation records; Prison Hulk registers and letter books; Licences of Parole for female convicts (all online)
- Victorian Prisoners Photograph Albums (The National Archives Online)
- Henry Mayhew, The Criminal Prisons of London (1862)
- Novels of Wilkie Collins, Arthur Conan Doyle and Charles Dickens

Secondary Sources

- Andrew Davies, The Gangs of Manchester (2009)
- Clive Emsley, Policing and its context, 1750-1870 (1996)
- Clive Emsley, Crime and Society in England, 1750-1900 (2017)
- Michel Foucault, Discipline and Punish: the birth of the prisons (1991)
- V. A. C. Gattrell, The Hanging Tree: execution and the English people, 1770-1868 (1996)
- Barry Godfrey and Paul Lawrence, Crime and Justice, 1750-1950 (2005)
- Drew Gray, London's Shadows (2010)
- Drew Gray. Crime, policing and punishment in England (2016)
- Tim Hitchcock and Robert Shoemaker, Tales from the Hanging Court (2007)
- M Ignatieff, A just measure of pain, the penitentiary in the industrial revolution (1989)
- Andrew Mangham, Violent women and sensation fiction : crime, medicine and Victorian popular culture (2007)
- P. Priestley, Victorian prison lives: English prison biography (1999)
- Heather Shore, Artful Dodgers: youth and crime in nineteenth-century London (2002)
- Haia Shpayer-Makov, The Ascent of the Detective: Police Sleuths in Victorian and Edwardian England (2011)
- Roger Swift, Behaving badly? : Irish migrants and crime in the Victorian city (2006)
- Tammy Whitlock, Crime, Gender and Consumer Culture in nineteenth century England (2016)
- Martin Wiener, Deconstructing the criminal (1994)
- Martin Wiener, Men of Blood: Violence, Manliness and Criminal Justice in Victorian England (2006)
- Lucia Zedner, Women, Crime and Custody (1991)

View reading list on Talis Aspire

Subject specific skills

See learning outcomes.

Transferable skills

See learning outcomes.

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Seminars	18 sessions of 2 hours (12%)
Tutorials	2 sessions of 2 hours (1%)
Private study	260 hours (87%)
Total	300 hours

Private study description

History modules require students to undertake extensive independent research and reading to prepare for seminars and assessments. As a rough guide, students will be expected to read and prepare to comment on three substantial texts (articles or book chapters) for each seminar taking approximately 3 hours. Each assessment requires independent research, reading around 6-10 texts and writing and presenting the outcomes of this preparation in an essay, review, presentation or other related task.

Costs

Category	Description	Funded by	Cost to student
Field trips, placements and study abroad	Archive workshop at Warwickshire County Records Office Taking place in week 1 of spring term, this trip enables students to learn how to access and order documents at off-campus archives and have in-person access to local primary sources relating to the module content. This workshop is essential preparation for the primary source-based assessment A12 'Applied task', due in week 7 of Spring term. As it is local students will be asked to make their own way but payment of around £120 may be necessary for the archivists' time to conduct workshops with the large class	Department	£0.00

Category	Description	Funded by	Cost to student
	size.		

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group A3

	Weighting	Study time
Seminar contribution	10%	
1500 word essay	10%	
3000 word source-based applied task	40%	
1000 word creative podcast or exhibition plan and 2000 word academic critical rationale		
3000 word research project	40%	

Feedback on assessment

- written feedback on essay and exam cover sheets\r\n- audio feedback on formative assessment\r\n- student/tutor dialogues in one-to-one tutorials\r\n- peer feedback during workshops\r\n

Availability

Courses

This module is Optional for:

- Year 3 of UENA-VQ32 Undergraduate English and History
- UENA-VQ33 Undergraduate English and History (with Intercalated year)
  - Year 4 of VQ33 English and History (with Intercalated year)
  - Year 4 of VQ33 English and History (with Intercalated year)
- Year 4 of UFRA-R1VA Undergraduate French and History
- Year 4 of UGEA-R2V1 Undergraduate German and History
- Year 4 of ULNA-R4V1 Undergraduate Hispanic Studies and History
- UHIA-V100 Undergraduate History
  - Year 3 of V100 History
  - Year 3 of V100 History
- UPDA-Y306 Undergraduate History (Part-Time)
  - Year 3 of Y306 History (Part Time)

- - Year 3 of Y306 History (Part Time)
- Year 3 of UHIA-V102 Undergraduate History (Renaissance and Modern History Stream)
- Year 4 of UHIA-V103 Undergraduate History (Renaissance and Modern History Stream) (with Year Abroad)
- Year 4 of UHIA-V101 Undergraduate History (with Year Abroad)
- Year 3 of UIPA-V1L8 Undergraduate History and Global Sustainable Development
- Year 4 of UITA-R3V2 Undergraduate History and Italian
- Year 3 of UHIA-V1V5 Undergraduate History and Philosophy
- Year 4 of UHIA-V1V8 Undergraduate History and Philosophy (with Year Abroad and a term in Venice)
- Year 4 of UHIA-V1V6 Undergraduate History and Philosophy (with Year Abroad)
- Year 3 of UHIA-V1V7 Undergraduate History and Philosophy (with a term in Venice)
- UHIA-VM11 Undergraduate History and Politics
  - Year 3 of VM11 History and Politics
  - Year 3 of VM11 History and Politics
  - Year 3 of VM11 History and Politics
- Year 4 of UHIA-VM14 Undergraduate History and Politics (with Year Abroad and a term in Venice)
- Year 4 of UHIA-VM12 Undergraduate History and Politics (with Year Abroad)
- Year 3 of UHIA-VM13 Undergraduate History and Politics (with a term in Venice)
- Year 3 of UHIA-VL13 Undergraduate History and Sociology
- Year 4 of UHIA-VL16 Undergraduate History and Sociology (with Year Abroad and a term in Venice)
- Year 4 of UHIA-VL14 Undergraduate History and Sociology (with Year Abroad)
- Year 3 of UHIA-VL15 Undergraduate History and Sociology (with a term in Venice)
- UVCA-LA99 Undergraduate Liberal Arts
  - Year 3 of LA99 Liberal Arts
  - Year 3 of LA92 Liberal Arts with Classics
  - Year 3 of LA73 Liberal Arts with Design Studies
  - Year 3 of LA83 Liberal Arts with Economics
  - Year 3 of LA82 Liberal Arts with Education
  - Year 3 of LA95 Liberal Arts with English
  - Year 3 of LA81 Liberal Arts with Film and Television Studies
  - Year 3 of LA80 Liberal Arts with Global Sustainable Development
  - Year 3 of LA93 Liberal Arts with Global Sustainable Development
  - Year 3 of LA97 Liberal Arts with History
  - Year 3 of LA91 Liberal Arts with Life Sciences
  - Year 3 of LA75 Liberal Arts with Modern Lanaguages and Cultures
  - Year 3 of LA96 Liberal Arts with Philosophy
  - Year 3 of LA94 Liberal Arts with Theatre and Performance Studies