

HI961-60 Dissertation

26/27

Department

History

Level

Taught Postgraduate Level

Module leader

Claudia Stein

Credit value

60

Module duration

50 weeks

Assessment

100% coursework

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

All taught MA students apart from those following the MA in History of Medicine write a dissertation of 15,000 words. History of Medicine students submit a dissertation of 20,000 words. The dissertation is the most important piece of work students will produce in the course. Students should begin the course with a clear, if general, idea of their dissertation topic.

Module aims

The dissertation is a piece of academic writing about 15,000 words long (or about 20,000 for History of Medicine students) - roughly the length of two academic articles or book chapters - and students will need to identify a topic which can be dealt with within that length whilst showing originality. It is not a book, nor an essay. Students should view it mainly as an opportunity to develop research techniques and methodologies and to present the research in an appropriate format.

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.

Term 1

Week 2: Finding a Supervisor

Week 4: Assigned a supervisor

Week 5: Finding a Topic

Week 7: Firming up your Topic

Term 2

Weeks 1-6: Progress meeting with Supervisor

Week 7: Submission of Research Proposal

Term 3

Weeks 1-8: Progress meeting with Supervisor

Learning outcomes

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

- Critically review and consolidate the secondary literature on their area of research.
- Act with minimal supervision and take responsibility to identify and design an original research project.
- Demonstrate an awareness of research ethics and personal responsibility and incorporate this into their practice where appropriate.
- Critically evaluate evidence from a range of primary sources to support their argument.
- Demonstrate a systematic understanding of their area of research to produce a coherently argued and professionally-written thesis.
- Effectively reflect on and communicate their research progress.

Subject specific skills

See learning outcomes.

Transferable skills

See learning outcomes.

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Seminars	1 session of 1 hour (0%)
Tutorials	4 sessions of 1 hour (1%)
Private study	595 hours (99%)
Total	600 hours

Private study description

PG taught 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 four substantial texts (articles or book chapters) for each seminar taking approximately 4 hours. Each assessment requires independent research, reading around 10-15 texts and writing and presenting the outcomes of this preparation in an essay, review, presentation or other related task.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You must pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group A4

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Assessment component			
15000 word dissertation	100%		Yes (extension)

Reassessment component is the same

Feedback on assessment

Feedback from Supervisor

Availability

Courses

This module is Core for:

- Year 1 of TIMA-L981 Postgraduate Social Science Research
- Year 1 of THIA-V141 Postgraduate Taught History (Early Modern)
- Year 1 of THIA-V201 Postgraduate Taught History (Global & Comparative)

- Year 1 of THIA-V140 Postgraduate Taught History (Modern)

This module is Core optional for:

- Year 1 of THIA-V141 Postgraduate Taught History (Early Modern)
- Year 1 of THIA-V201 Postgraduate Taught History (Global & Comparative)
- Year 1 of THIA-V140 Postgraduate Taught History (Modern)
- Year 1 of THIA-V3P7 Postgraduate Taught History of Medicine