

# IP122-15 Revolution!

**26/27**

**Department**

Liberal Arts

**Level**

Undergraduate Level 1

**Module leader**

William Rupp

**Credit value**

15

**Module duration**

10 weeks

**Assessment**

100% coursework

**Study location**

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

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## Description

### Introductory description

This module explores the ways in which art, artistic expressions, material culture, and the built environment prompt, influence, or resist moments of crisis and change. Using problem-based learning, students explore rich case studies that cut across a range of historical, cultural, and conceptual boundaries. The case studies are organized around central themes that require students to connect theoretical frameworks and methodologies to specific actions, conceptual and material objects, texts, datasets, and academic fields in order to tackle complex problems. While the specific content of the case studies are dynamic, changing year on year in response to specific cohort interests, they retain their thematic structures to help students build knowledge transfer and critical thinking skills. Students will work individually and in groups with a wide range of diverse materials; these student-led activities require that students interrogate existing professional, academic, and cultural paradigms through the lenses including race, gender, colonialism, and cultural theory.

[Module web page](#)

### Module aims

Students taking this module will gain a good introduction to being successful in problem-based learning environments and will develop independent, critical thinking skills. The fostering of

academic communication skills (including writing, developing evidence-informed arguments, and presentations) are also central to this module. All of these elements are core to the wider Warwick Liberal Arts curriculum, and thus students will be prepared for further study in this department and elsewhere in the University.

This module also aims to help students understand complex theories of revolution and revolutionary events, as well as how artistic and material culture contribute to our understanding of these. The goal here is to both offer critical introductions to the specific case studies presented and prepare students to deal with unseen transdisciplinary issues and develop appropriate and meaningful solutions to the problems inherent in these.

## **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.

Case studies included in this module change from year-to-year. Therefore, only an indicative syllabus can be offered.

In this variant of the module, a range of social and cultural revolutions will be explored to gain understanding the complex and changing nature of land ownership, capital accumulation, and social control in the United Kingdom (and specifically England). Different kinds of social, political, and cultural revolutions will be explored through three case studies (Units 2, 3, and 4). Each of the case studies examines a key kind of revolution that has impacted on land ownership and usage, technological development, and current forms of social inclusion and control from broadly the late middle ages to the present day. This is not a history module, however, with key issues of ecology, politics, and social justice set against a background of land-inspired artistic and creative expression.

Unit 1 -- Revolutions and ways of seeing.

Unit 2 -- Feeding bellies to capture minds? Revolutions in agriculture and the subtlety of power and control.

Unit 3 -- Ghosts in the machine: Industry, revolution, and the shaping of modernity.

Unit 4 -- Selling England by the Pound: Revolutions in land ownership and development.

Unit 5 -- Pasts, present, and futures of land, art, and revolution.

## **Learning outcomes**

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

- Understand the ways in which various forms of human expression, such as artistic expression, have been positioned in relation to revolutionary events.
- Examine in-depth the historical contexts of each revolution and relate them to specific broadly-defined artistic productions.
- Explore the political and social contexts of each revolution and understand how they impacted on various forms of artistic production.

- Critically analyse specific types of artistic productions by deploying an appropriate theoretical framework.
- Compare artistic productions from various eras and in different locations, and attempt to theorise their contributions.
- Compare dominant revolutionary narratives and scholarship with marginalized ones in relation to scholarly theory and practice.
- Demonstrate foundational research and professional communication skills.

## **Indicative reading list**

[Reading lists can be found in Talis](#)

[Specific reading list for the module](#)

## **Research element**

Students undertake individual and group-based research for each class, which is summarized and co-presented as part of the student-led nature of the module. Students also work on a range of research projects related to their assessments. Students from this module have gone on to publish or present elements of their research in a range of professional research contexts.

## **Interdisciplinary**

This module is structured around wicked problems relating to revolutions. As a result, students with a wide range of skills and interests are able to select particular tools, methodologies, or goals throughout. Students also work as part of mixed-expertise teams to learn how to identify problems and create meaningful interventions.

## **International**

This module takes a global perspective by situating revolutionary case studies within an international context. Various examples have ranged chronologically from c1400 to the present day; geopolitically we have covered revolutions in China, Haiti, France, Russia, Australia, England, Iran, and the Arabic Middle East. Regardless of the specific case studies used in any one year, students are able to choose points of comparison in any area that interests them and apply that content using the theoretical frameworks we explore in class. As a result, students have covered a wide range of topics in class and in assessments, from Soviet infrastructure to political protest in Hong Kong, from landscape development to early modern European iconoclasm.

## **Subject specific skills**

Use of appropriate theoretical frameworks to analyse a range of human endeavor (including artistic production).

Deployment of physical and digital archival research skills.

Academic writing and communication.

Interdisciplinary research skills.

## **Transferable skills**

Critical analysis/reflection skills.

Project management/team management.

Interdisciplinary teamwork.

Presentation/communication skills.

Theoretical frameworks for assessing revolutionary change.

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## **Study**

### **Study time**

<b>Type</b>	<b>Required</b>
Seminars	10 sessions of 2 hours (13%)
Private study	45 hours (30%)
Assessment	85 hours (57%)
Total	150 hours

### **Private study description**

Typically students should expect to do approximately two hours of preparation for each teaching session. Preparation will include a range of individual and group preparation activities to be arranged by students in their own time. Students should expect to spend approx. 110 hours on assessment preparation.

### **Costs**

No further costs have been identified for this module.

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### **Assessment**

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

### **Assessment group A2**

	<b>Weighting</b>	<b>Study time</b>	<b>Eligible for self-certification</b>
<b>Assessment component</b>			
Research project	50%	60 hours	Yes (extension)
A focused research-based piece of written work analyzing an argument connected to at a critical framework and topic derived from at least one of the module's case studies. While this is a summative assessment, there is an option for students to develop a formative response earlier in the module.			

Reassessment component is the same

**Assessment component**

Group Presentation	35%	20 hours	No
Create a research-based presentation around a defined problem, hypothesis, and argument using a specific format.			

Reassessment component

Reassessment - Individual Presentation			Yes (extension)
If appropriate, a reassessment for the group presentation can be completed individually.			

**Assessment component**

Take home test	15%	5 hours	No
A short answer test, to be completed outside of class, based on themes drawn from the module and specific test prompt.			

Reassessment component is the same

## Feedback on assessment

Feedback will be provided electronically within the university's prescribed timeline of 20 days. Each student will be given individual feedback on their work via Tabula, with additional support available in dedicated office and feedback hours. For in-class assessments, time will be given for full-class reflection opportunities.

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## **Availability**

## **Courses**

This module is Core option list B for:

- Year 1 of UVCA-LA99 Undergraduate Liberal Arts