



History as a New Minor Subject

Details for 25/26

Why take this New Minor Subject?

History is about people. Studying History means studying lives, events and ideas in times and places often very different from our own. History embraces everything from the rise and fall of empires, or the birth of new ideologies, to the contrasting everyday lives of people in a whole range of settings, across time and across the globe. Studying History means developing critical skills, learning to express your ideas and arguments clearly, and becoming self-directed in your studies.

What will I learn?

On this pathway, you will take 60 ECTS in History across Years 2 to 4. Students lay firm foundations in Year 2 when they first join the History as a Minor pathway. You are introduced to History with a combination of 5 ECTS skills modules and 5 ECTS modules on specific themes. As a Junior Sophister, you will take 20 ECTS of modules in History. In the final year of History as a Minor New Subject (Senior Sophister) you study two specialist 10 ECTS modules in-depth, experiencing research-led teaching which explores broader themes.

What will I do?

In the Senior Fresh year, you can choose from a range of 5 ECTS modules; some examples include:

- History in the Present (MT)
- Imagining History (MT)
- Europe Divided, c. 1480-1620 (MT)
- US History: Power, Politics, People (MT)
- Earthly pasts: an introduction to environmental histories (HT)
- Famine, Land and People: Ireland 1830s-1880s (HT)
- The World Wars, 1914-1945 (HT)
- Imperialism, Neo-colonialism and Decolonisation in Modern East Asian History (HT)

In the Junior Sophister, you can choose from a range of 5 credit modules, and will take two in Michaelmas term and two in Hilary term. The list of available modules will vary from year to year but these may include modules such as:

- Writing History (MT)
- Humans and the Environment in Modern History (MT)
- Modern Eastern Europe, 1890-1990 (MT)
- Northern Ireland since 1921 (HT)
- Empire, Oil and Revolution: The Middle East in the 20th Century (HT)

In the Senior Sophister year, you will study two specialist 10 ECTS modules. These are described as 'List 2' modules, and while the list will vary from year to year, some examples include:

- Race and ethnicity in American thought since 1940
- Medieval Globetrotters: Exploration and World Conquest in the Age of the Black Death
- Atlantic Island: Eighteenth-Century Ireland in Oceanic Perspective
- Global Crisis: Environmental Disasters in World History
- The Troubles, 1968-1998; From Civil Rights to the Good Friday Agreement

For further details on available options in any given year see the History Department webpages for lists of 'List 2' modules <https://www.tcd.ie/history/undergraduate/tsm-history.php>

How will this be assessed?

Most History modules are continuously assessed, though some of the modules you may select in the Junior Sophister year have end-of-semester examinations. Most coursework takes the form of essays, though some modules will also include shorter assessments during termtime.

Contact Hours and Indicative Workload

Students will attend a mixture of lectures and small group tutorials in most History modules. For 5 ECTS modules, this will normally involve one hour-long lecture per week and four tutorial classes per term. Small-group modules in the Senior Sophister year are normally delivered through a weekly two-hour seminar class for 10 ECTS. In addition to these contact hours, students are expected to engage with each module's recommended readings and undertake their own research for essays and assignments.

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