

Specification for History Based Diplomas



Thank you for enquiring about our Access to Higher Education Diplomas in History based subjects. We offer 2 Diplomas in this curriculum area and below you will find the following:

1. The detail of the units you would study on each pathway

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Archaeology and Ancient History

Qualification Code: 40012104

Unit of Study	Unit Value	Achievement & Comments
Communication: Academic Essay Writing [3]	3	This is an ungraded unit so you can only achieve this at pass level. To achieve this you must create 3 essay plans and submit them to your tutor. The assignment brief for this unit is in the Google Classroom 'Developmental Ungraded Units, and you will be given access to this remote learning space during your application process.
Communication: Presentation Skills [3]	3	This is an ungraded unit so you can only achieve this at pass level. To achieve this you must undertake one oral presentation of a unit of study. The assignment brief for this unit is in the Google Classroom 'Developmental Ungraded Units, and you will be given access to this remote learning space during your application process.
Professional Behaviours	3	This is an ungraded unit so you can only achieve this at pass level. You complete this unit as your initial assesment before joining us. The assignment brief for this unit is in the Google Classroom 'Developmental Ungraded Units, and you will be given access to this remote learning space during your application process.
Personal Development: Applying to HE	3	This is an ungraded unit so you can only achieve this at pass level. You can achive this unit alongside your application to university. The assignment brief for this unit is in the Google Classroom 'Developmental Ungraded Units, and you will be given access to this remote learning space during your application process.
The History of Archaeology	3	This is the first curriculum based unit of study that you will do and it gives a basis of understanding around the history of archaeology, you will look at the early development of archaeology and the key methodical and theoretical developments. You will also explore how archaeological discoveries contribute to the understanding of past peoples and cultures. It is an ungraded unit so you can only achieve, you will not be graded at a pass, merit or distinction which gives you a chance to settle into the curriculum without the pressure of grading.
The Nature and Survival of Evidence	3	This is your first graded unit and you can achieve it at a Pass, Merit or Distinction. It is a good idea to arrange a tutorial with your tutor when you have undertaken the reading for this unit. He or she will then help you to understand how the system of grading works. Please also look at the Handbook for our Access to Higher Education Diplomas. This unit will explore the conditions for the survival of archaeological evidence both in and above ground. It will also discuss the limitation of evidence and ways in which archaeologists reconstruct a picture of the past.
British Pre-History	3	This is a graded unit and you can achieve it at a Pass, Merit or Distinction.

		The unit will encourage understanding of the differences between prehistory and history and explore dating methods used in archaeological finds. It will also analyse the Three Age System.
The Archaeology of Later Prehistoric Britain	3	This is a graded unit and you can achieve it at a Pass, Merit or Distinction. The aim of this unit is to develop understanding of the nature of archaeological evidence from the later prehistoric period of Britain. It will also encourage evaluation of examples of archaeological material with a focus on late Bronze Age and Iron Age Britain.
The Archaeology of Roman Britain	3	This is a graded unit and you can achieve it at a Pass, Merit or Distinction. This unit has a focus on understanding the nature of archaeological evidence of life in Roman Britain. Furthermore it will explore and evaluate the degree of change and continuity in the Roman period.
Rome: the Age of Augustus	3	This is a graded unit and you can achieve it at a Pass, Merit or Distinction. This unit explores the value of primary sources and of the relevant secondary sources relating to the Augustan Age (32 BCE to 14CE) it will also develop your understanding of the critical features relating to life, society and culture in Augustan Rome.
Rome: the Collapse of the Republic	3	This is a graded unit and you can achieve it at a Pass, Merit or Distinction. Similar to the Age of Augustus this unit will seek to develop understanding of sources from this period and what life was like at this time, that is from 133-32 BCE.
Rome: the Early Empire	3	This is a graded unit and you can achieve it at a Pass, Merit or Distinction.
The Archaeology of Early Medieval Britain	3	This is a graded unit and you can achieve it at a Pass, Merit or Distinction. A key aim of this unit is to understand the nature of archaeological material available for medieval Britain, that is c.400 to 800 CE. It will encourage you to use this understanding to determine the possible social and political situation in medieval Britain.
Introduction to the Dark Ages	3	This is a graded unit and you can achieve it at a Pass, Merit or Distinction. The unit will encourage you to understand the key factors behind the fall of the Western Roman Empire leading into the European Migration Period. It will also develop understanding of the nature of European society following the Roman collapse. To that extent you will be studying the period 476-1000 CE
Greece: the Classical Era (5th Century BCE)	3	This is a graded unit and you can achieve it at a Pass, Merit or Distinction. The aim of this unit is to develop an understanding of the primary and relevant secondary sources relating to Greece in the 5 th century BCE. It

		will use this evidence to help you gain understanding of life, society and culture in Greece during this period.
The Ancient Near East: Egyptian and Mesopotamian Civilisation	3	<p>This is a graded unit and you can achieve it at a Pass, Merit or Distinction.</p> <p>This unit has a focus on the geographical and environmental factors that favoured the development and growth of civilisation in Egypt and Mesopotamia. It will also focus on the main stages of development of civilisation from c.3200 to c.2600 BCE</p>
The Ancient Near East: Third Millennium (2000 to 1500 BCE)	3	<p>This is a graded unit and you can achieve it at a Pass, Merit or Distinction.</p> <p>Studying this unit will give you insight into Egyptian civilisation during the Old Kingdom and the First Intermediate Period or Mesopotamian civilisation from the Early Dynastic 'Old Sumerian' period III to the end of the Third Dynasty of Ur. It will do this by exploring sources of evidence from the related period.</p>
The Ancient Near East: Second Millennium (1500 to 1150 BCE)	3	<p>This is a graded unit and you can achieve it at a Pass, Merit or Distinction.</p> <p>This unit will help you to gain understanding of the main features of Egyptian civilisation during the New Kingdom, that is from the start of Dynasty XVIII to the end of the reign of Rameses III of Dynasty XX (c.1500 BCE to 1150 BCE)</p>
Regional Studies Project	6	<p>This is a graded unit and you can achieve it at a Pass, Merit or Distinction.</p> <p>This is a long term research project that you do and can be based on any historical topic that you are interested in and wish to explore in more depth. You will focus on historical developments within a geographical area (perhaps close to where you live) and identify primary and secondary sources that facilitate a wider understanding of that area of study. You will assess historical developments that may be political, ideological, cultural, social or have a local or national impact. This unit is worth 6 credits, which is double the size of all other units on the diploma. You will receive support, advice and guidance on how to set this project out and undertake your research. Universities appreciate the independence of study needed for this project and it would be good to begin thinking about what you want to do in this area as soon as you can. Feel free to book an appointment with your tutor to discuss this.</p>

Modern History

Qualification Code: 40011380

Unit of Study	Unit Value	Achievement & Comments
Communication: Academic Essay Writing [3]	3	This is an ungraded unit so you can only achieve this at pass level. To achieve this you must create 3 essay plans and submit them to your tutor. The assignment brief for this unit is in the Google Classroom 'Developmental Ungraded Units, and you will be given access to this remote learning space during your application process.
Communication: Presentation Skills [3]	3	This is an ungraded unit so you can only achieve this at pass level. To achieve this you must undertake one oral presentation of a unit of study. The assignment brief for this unit is in the Google Classroom 'Developmental Ungraded Units, and you will be given access to this remote learning space during your application process.
Professional Behaviours	3	This is an ungraded unit so you can only achieve this at pass level. You complete this unit as your initial assesment before joining us. The assignment brief for this unit is in the Google Classroom 'Developmental Ungraded Units, and you will be given access to this remote learning space during your application process.
Personal Development: Applying to HE	3	This is an ungraded unit so you can only achieve this at pass level. You can achive this unit alongside your application to university. The assignment brief for this unit is in the Google Classroom 'Developmental Ungraded Units, and you will be given access to this remote learning space during your application process.
Studying History: an Introduction	3	<p>This is the first curriculum based unit of study that you will do and it gives a basis of understanding around what studying history consists of. You will explore the difference between primary and secondary sources; assess how history can be subject to bias and distortion and conduct a source analysis.</p> <p>It is an ungraded unit so you can only achieve, you will not be graded at a pass, merit or distinction which gives you a chance to settle into the curriculum without the pressure of grading.</p>
Key Traditions in Political Philosophy	3	<p>This is your first graded unit and you can achieve it at a Pass, Merit or Distinction. It is a good idea to arrange a tutorial with your tutor when you have undertaken the reading for this unit. He or she will then help you to understand how the system of grading works. Please also look at the Handbook for our Access to Higher Education Diplomas.</p> <p>This unit explores and evaluates three key political philosophies pivotal in European and Western development. That is Liberalism, Socialism and Feminism. Understanding of these is really the foundation stone of understanding British and European development from the 18th century onwards and is particularly useful in helping to grasp the role of the</p>

		state as the western world becomes more complex due to industrial development.
The Industrial Revolution in Britain: Origins 1700-1760	3	<p>This is a graded unit and you can achieve it at a Pass, Merit or Distinction.</p> <p>This unit explores the origin of industrial development from the perspective of social class. From the two-tier structure that had dominated for hundreds of years, the 19th century sees the emergence of a middle class and, arguably, the development of a coherent working class. You will evaluate that development here.</p>
The Industrial Revolution in Britain: Nature and Scope 1760-1830	3	<p>This is a graded unit and you can achieve it at a Pass, Merit or Distinction.</p> <p>The aim of this unit is to develop understanding and evaluate why Britain was the first nation in the world to undergo an industrial revolution. It will look at areas such as its dominance in trade, innovative methods of production, the growth in population and the impact of banking practice.</p>
The Industrial Revolution in Britain: Social Consequences 1800-1850	3	<p>This is a graded unit and you can achieve it at a Pass, Merit or Distinction.</p> <p>There was a ‘fall-out’ of industrial revolution and its impact was felt especially among the workers in the mills and factories. You will explore what this impact was like and what the government/local parishes did to help ease the plight of those early industrial workers.</p>
History of Social Policies	3	<p>This is a graded unit and you can achieve it at a Pass, Merit or Distinction.</p> <p>Following on from the previous unit this topic will encourage you to evaluate and analyse attitudes to poverty from 1834 to Thatcherism. Did Britain gain more tolerance and understanding of the poor during this period and what policies were put in place to help those vulnerable to economic change?</p>
Liverpool and the Atlantic Slave Trade	3	<p>This is a graded unit and you can achieve it at a Pass, Merit or Distinction.</p> <p>The Slave Trade played a pivotal role in the industrial revolution but at what cost? You will be encouraged to explore this with particular reference to Liverpool. In addition, you will also evaluate this triangular trade and its abolition.</p>
The Suffragette Movement	3	<p>This is a graded unit and you can achieve it at a Pass, Merit or Distinction.</p> <p>Women were not able to vote until legislation was passed in both 1918 and 1928. What was the journey to this milestone like and what battles did those women face to secure, what we see today, as a basic freedom? You will explore what life was like for women in the 19th century and how they agitated for change.</p>
European Expansion and Disaster 1870-1914	3	<p>This is a graded unit and you can achieve it at a Pass, Merit or Distinction.</p> <p>The focus of this unit is on the causation factors that led to the outbreak of the First World War. This is a complex story and your focus will be to look at both the long and short term events that led to this conflict.</p>

		One thing we can be very sure about is that this war changed so many aspects of life, such as in the field of medicine and industrial warfare. So what led to the outbreak and who might be seen to be the main agitator?
The Russian Revolution	3	<p>This is a graded unit and you can achieve it at a Pass, Merit or Distinction.</p> <p>The Russian Revolution led to the collapse of the Romanov Dynasty, which had been in place since 1613, and the birth of the world's first communist state. How did this happen and what were its immediate effects? You will be expected to evaluate this within the unit and explore the hopes and fears around this revolution.</p>
Stalin's Rise to Power	3	<p>This is a graded unit and you can achieve it at a Pass, Merit or Distinction.</p> <p>Stalin was not the obvious leader for Russia after the death of Lenin so how did this happen? This is a story of political intrigue and propaganda and you will need to unpick this to establish just how Stalin became solely in charge of Russian affairs until 1953.</p>
Stalinism and Modernisation in Russia	3	<p>This is a graded unit and you can achieve it at a Pass, Merit or Distinction.</p> <p>Stalin began work on modernising Russia as soon as he came to power. His methods were brutal but were they successful. You will be expected to evaluate this and judge the impact on the Russian people. The unit looks at key events such as Collectivisation, industrialisation and the Great Terror</p>
Hitler's Rise to Power	3	<p>This is a graded unit and you can achieve it at a Pass, Merit or Distinction.</p> <p>Out of the First World War was borne the Second, this maxim is often used to look at causation of this second major conflict within the first half of the 20th Century. How does Adolf Hitler fit into this narrative, was he a produce of the First World War? Where did his motivation for power come from and how much did the political climate in Germany between the wars contribute to his rise to power? These are just two of the questions you will explore in this unit.</p>
Hitler's Persecution of the Jews	3	<p>This is a graded unit and you can achieve it at a Pass, Merit or Distinction.</p> <p>Moving on from Hitler's rise to power it is inevitable that a focus be given to the ideology behind Nazism. The persecution of the Jews is often seen as a low point in human history but how was it 'allowed' to happen? How and why were the Jews persecuted? You will explore this within the unit.</p>
Regional Studies Project	6	<p>This is a graded unit and you can achieve it at a Pass, Merit or Distinction.</p> <p>This is a long term research project that you do and can be based on any historical topic that you are interested in and wish to explore in more depth. You will focus on historical developments within a geographical area (perhaps close to where you live) and identify primary and secondary sources that facilitate a wider understanding of that area of study. You will assess historical developments that may be</p>

		political, ideological, cultural, social or have a local or national impact. This unit is worth 6 credits, which is double the size of all other units on the diploma. You will receive support, advice and guidance on how to set this project out and undertake your research. Universities appreciate the independence of study needed for this project and it would be good to begin thinking about what you want to do in this area as soon as you can. Feel free to book an appointment with your tutor to discuss this.
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Progression Information

From the above diplomas you might expect to apply for undergraduate programmes in the following areas:

- Archaeology
- Ancient History
- History
- Construction and Planning
- International Relations
- Social Studies
- Humanities

Students from the above diplomas have been successful in gaining places at the following universities:

University of Lincoln

University of Bristol

University of Dundee

Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts

University of West London

University of Herefordshire

Lancaster University

University of East Anglia

Coventry University

Middlesex University

University of Liverpool

Sheffield University

University of Essex

Bath Spa University

Progression beyond your degree

Archaeology

You could expect to pursue careers in **education**, either as a university lecturer or teacher within further education of schools.

You might pursue a degree within **agriculture and ecology** or within the **construction** sector. Furthermore, you might want to consider environmentally based careers for example, planning officer, Town Planning or within Geo-Technology.

You could venture into the field of **hospitality and tourism**, perhaps as a museum curator or guide. Heritage management is also a strong possibility along with arranging tours and expeditions.

The transferrable skills from a degree in this field could lead to careers in **the media**, for example, journalism. The practice of **law** as either a barrister or magistrate is also an option to you. In addition you might want to consider **politics**, becoming a **civil servant** or work within **television and entertainment**.

Finally, you might want to be an **Archaeologist!**

History

You could expect to pursue careers in **education**, either as a university lecturer or teacher within further education of schools.

You could venture into the field of **hospitality and tourism**, perhaps as a museum curator or guide. Heritage management is also a strong possibility along with arranging tours and expeditions.

The transferrable skills from a degree in this field could lead to careers in **the media**, for example, journalism. The practice of **law** as either a barrister or magistrate is also an option to you. In addition you might want to consider **politics**, becoming a **civil servant** or work within **television and entertainment**.

Testimonials of Learners

These testimonials are taken from learners who have completed a history based diploma with us.

“The feedback from Jenny on each assignment was extremely helpful and highlighted areas where I could improve in future assignments. The turnaround on each assignment was also very quick, which I really appreciated throughout. Overall this has been a positive experience for me, and I feel it has prepared me really well for going on to do a degree. I genuinely never expected to achieve the grades I have, so thank you for delivering a course that inspired me to work so hard!”

Frances

“The support I received throughout this course was amazing, and I’m truly so grateful to Jenny and Sam.”

Rebecca

“The Access to HE course in Archaeology and Ancient History was a great introduction to the industry that I wish to go into. Setting me up perfectly for University as it taught me all about essay writing methods and approaches, I would highly recommend Enable to anyone else wishing to do a degree.”

Solomon

“This course had been absolutely brilliant and has boosted my confidence academically. Sam was able to understand my strengths and weaknesses quickly and encouraged me to work on my negatives, to allow me to improve my work. From Sam’s techniques of understanding on how I learn best, I have been able to improve my academic ability and feel confident about University.”

Kareem

“Overall, I can confidently say that I enjoyed my assignments and feel I have gained vast insight into important historical subjects and contemporary issues and philosophies. Opportunities to present my work in varied forms e.g., presentations, reports and essays, has prepared me for a variety of assessment methods when I go to university.” **Hannah**

“My tutor, Sam, was positive and knowledgeable from start to finish, whilst also trusting in my ability to complete the assignment or ask for help – an approach which really worked well for me! Not once did I feel lost or alone, despite working remotely in a pandemic! If you are a willing to put in the hard work, ask for help from these lovely people when you need it, and WANT to further your horizons I would 100% recommend this pathway.” **Dylan**

Your Next Steps to Joining Us

You will have been sent **two** things following your initial enquiry

1. **An application form** – please return to samantha@returnlearningonline.com as soon as possible. This does not commit you to the course but gives our administration office a chance to start your files and related paperwork. It also registers your interest. Should you decide not to join your application form will be held in a vaulted file for 3 years and then destroyed. Your data is not at risk.
2. **An option to book in for a tutorial** – this is an informal chat that enables us to discuss your chosen diploma with you and respond to any questions you may have. There is no pressure to make a decision following this tutorial as joining a life changing programme, such as this, is a big step. We know that and will give you as much time as you need to make the right decision for you. If you did not get the link, here it is <https://calendly.com/samantha-410returntolearning/progress-reviews>

After your tutorial you may decide to progress onto the next stage, which is:

1. **Completing an Initial Assessment** – this is not a test, or a pass or fail scenario but it does allow you to see how you might work remotely and online. The assessment is based around a unit on all diplomas, that of Professional Behaviours. It consists of seven tasks on the topic area of communication with some activities aimed at supporting managing your studies and mental health. If you complete this initial assessment and decide not to join us, that is not a problem. However, if you do want to enrol, this is what will come next.
2. You will be sent a **Next Steps email** – this email will give you a step by step guide of what happens next and includes:
 - a) Feedback from the initial assessment, highlighting what you have done well and any potential areas for development
 - b) Payment plans and proposals
 - c) Information on how to start your UCAS application form
 - d) A link to the first curriculum unit on your diploma with a target deadline
 - e) An introduction to your Curriculum Tutor – this will prompt them to get in touch to help and support you in your academic journey with us

- f) An invitation to an Induction via Zoom – these normally take place in the evening and enable us to take you through some of the key aspects of your diploma now you have decided to join us.

Please do not hesitate to contact Sam on samantha@returnlearningonline.com or 07875710049 should you have any further questions.

We look forward to hearing from you and helping you achieve your dream of going to university.

The Access Curriculum Teaching Team

