



History at Kent

Dr Robert Gallagher

Director of Studies for History

Senior Lecturer in Early Medieval
History

Stand for ambition.
kent.ac.uk

What We'll Cover

- Who we are
- Your degree programme
- Resources and opportunities, including our student societies
- Welcome Week schedule

Any questions? Raise your hand, speak to me in the break or afterwards, or email me: r.d.gallagher@kent.ac.uk



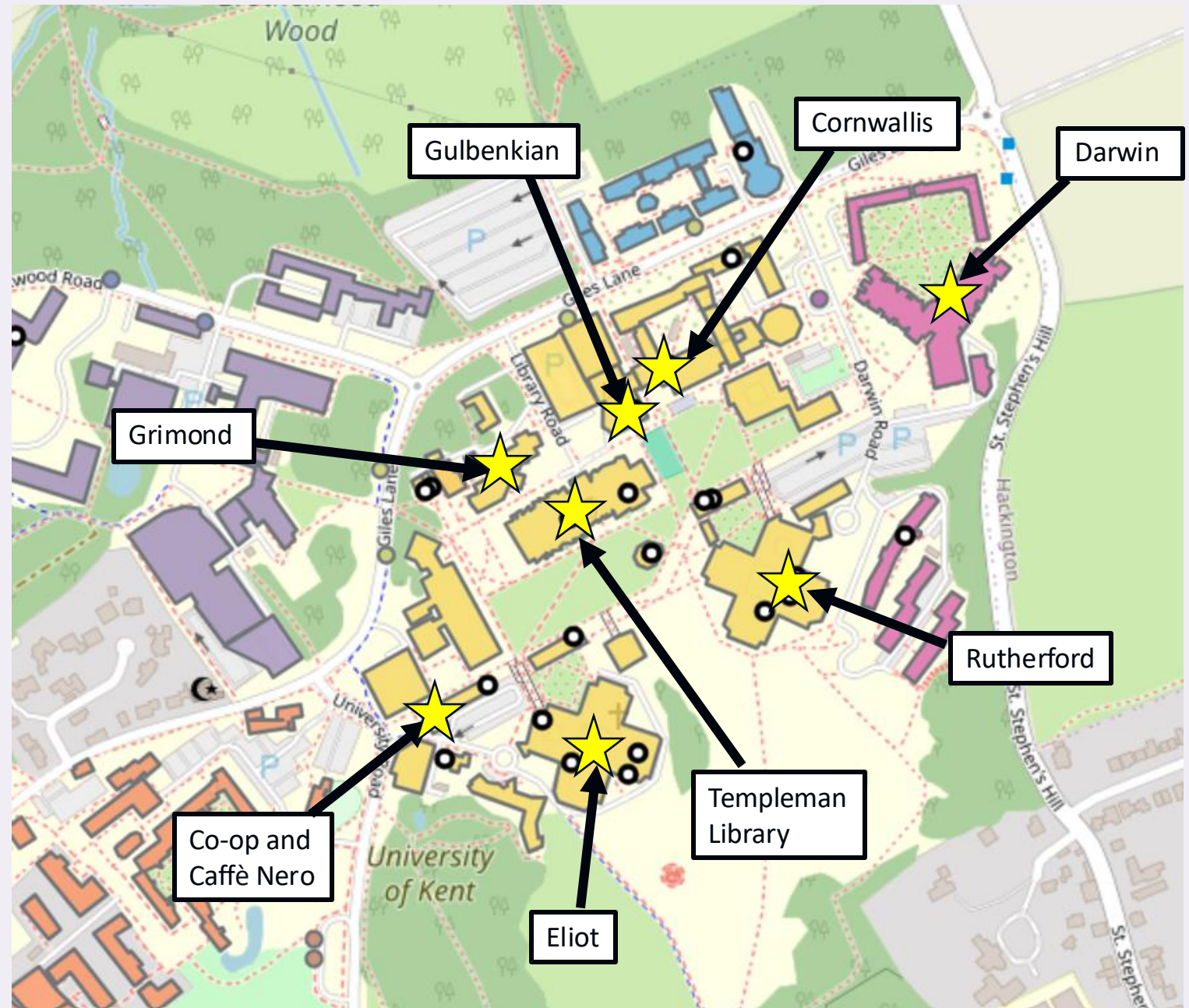
About Us

- The History department comprises 20 faculty members, roughly 350 undergraduates and roughly 30 postgraduate students
- Our historians are experts in a wide range of specialities from the fall of Rome to the present day



About Us

Our home is Cornwallis, opposite the Gulbenkian and Colyer Ferguson buildings



About Us

- History sits in a larger School of Humanities (SOH), headed by Dr Sarah Dustagheer
- One of ten Schools that make up the University. We are home to the humanities at Kent
- While a lot of the activities this week will focus on encouraging new students to get to know one another in their disciplines, there will be lots of opportunities for students to meet as a larger group as well



What Makes University Special?

- Universities were created in the 11th century
- They were designed to be communities of scholars and students, who came together to advance knowledge (their own as well as a wider society) through study and debate
- Universities are among the oldest human institutions in the world
- Older than the nation-state, they exist as spaces in which people can come together to learn, to discuss, to debate and to question the most basic things that underpin the world we live in...



What Makes University Special?

To function, universities rely, then as now, on everyone who makes up a university taking up the challenge of living by a few key rules:

- **Confront your assumptions**
- **Challenge yourself to dig deeper**
- **Examine the evidence**
- **Test your ideas**
- **Never be afraid of debate**
- **Keep an open mind**



What Makes History Special?

All of this means that History as an academic discipline trains you to:

- **Push the boundaries of human knowledge**
- **Think critically**
- **Learn to question**
- **Build arguments with evidence**
- **Challenge**
- **Communicate**
- **Look behind the event to the structure**



What Makes History at Kent Special?

- First in the Research Excellence Framework (REF)
- Near the top of the National Student Survey (NSS)
- We teach what we research
- Surrounded by unique resources within Kent



Our Undergraduate Degrees

- Our courses are as broad as our areas of research...
- We teach two undergraduate courses:
 - **History**
 - **Military History**



History BA – Stage 1

Autumn

- Controversial Histories (HIST4000)
- History Makers (HIST4001)

Spring (pick 1)

- A Global History of Empire (HIST4008)
- War & Society in Europe (HIST4011)

Summer (pick 1)

- Histories of Health & Medicine (HIST4009)
- The Renaissance to the Enlightenment (HIST4010)

Spring & Summer (pick 1)

- Medieval Europe (HIST4002 and 4003)
- The Rise of the United States (HIST4004 and 4005)
- The Making of Modern Britain and Europe (HIST4006 and 4007)

Each module is
worth 20 credits

History BA – Stage 2

Autumn

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Medieval World: Power and Faith (HIST5001) | <p>Pick 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A History of Eastern Europe in 10 Objects (HIST5202)• How the West was Won (or Lost): The American West in the 19th Century (HIST5211)• Armies at War 1914-1918 (HIST5500) |
|--|--|

Spring

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Modern World: Revolution and Crisis (HIST5000) | <p>Pick 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Marvels, Monsters and Freaks, 1780-1920 (HIST5212)• Europe in Extremes: Communism, Fascism and Nazism, 1917-1939 (HIST5209)• The Imperial Presidency: US Foreign Policy from Franklin Roosevelt to Barack Obama (HIST5220) |
|--|---|

Summer

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Undergraduate Dissertation: Design and Planning (HIST5200) | <p>Pick 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Warriors, Myths and Migrants: the Early Medieval Kingdoms (HIST5225)• Conquest and Resistance in Southern Africa, 1750-1918 (HIST5208)• Blitzkrieg to Baghdad: Armoured Warfare (HIST5204) |
|--|---|

History BA – Stage 3

Autumn (pick 1)

- The American Revolution (HIST6218)
- From 'Madness' to Mindfulness: Mental Health Since 1850 (HIST6204)
- From Cholera to Climate Change: Environment and Society in Modern Britain (HIST6205)

Spring & Summer (pick 1)

- Conquests, Cultures and Identities: England 800-1100 (HIST6202)
- The Legacy of the Second World War (HIST6224)
- Napoleon and the World (HIST6214)
- Ireland: A Military History (HIST6210)
- Sex, Health and Deviance in Britain Since 1800 (HIST6216)
- The International History of the Vietnam War (HIST6223)

Autumn & Spring

- Dissertation (HIST6000)

Summer (pick 1)

- The Hundred Years' War, c.1337-1453 (HIST6222)
- Fight the Power: African Americans from Jim Crow to Black Lives Matter (HIST6203)
- The Nature of Command (HIST6225)

Our Student Handbook

University of
Kent

2025 Home My modules Moodle Archives ▾


×

Module Settings Participants Grades Reports More ▾

Academic Schools 2025-2026 / School of Humanities / History

History Student Handbook

Introduction



- Introduction
- Who We Are
- Key Information
- Academic Advisers and Student Support
- Lectures and Seminars
- History Marking Criteria
- How To Do Well: Research
- How To Do Well: Presentations
- How To Do Well: Essays
- How to Cite: History Style Guide
- Plagiarism and AI



Your Course (Day to Day)



At university level, two hours of preparation (reading, note taking, planning) are required for every hour of lecture or seminar time



8 hours of lectures and seminars = 16 hours of preparation



The best way to ease yourself into university is to plan...

Block out your days and your week, with not only the scheduled lectures and seminars you have, but also your preparation time.

Work backwards from the due dates of your assignments to plan how you will tackle them as well (1 essay = two weeks reading, two weeks writing, one week editing)

Your Course (Day to Day)

Online Resources for Your Course

- **Moodle:** course materials, reading lists, lecture recordings, essay submission
- **Presto:** for your timetable and attendance record
- **KentVision:** course administration, registration
- **Library:** catalogue of library holdings, online resources

Student Support

- Module convenors and seminar leaders
- Academic Advisor
- Engagement Support:
EngagementSupport@kent.ac.uk

You're not alone! :)



Study Broad

- Option to take an additional year of study, between Stages 2 and 3, at a University overseas
- Destinations in Europe, Asia and North America
- Can enquire now and throughout Stage 1



Modern Languages

- The University offers multiple ways of learning several modern languages, including Arabic, French, German, Italian Japanese, Mandarin and Spanish
- You can sign up for free extra-curricular classes and the 'Language Gym', or you can apply for a Year in a Language (fees apply)



Careers and Placements

- It's never too early to start thinking about your career beyond your degree. The University has many services to support you in developing your career. These include:
 - Placement years and internships
 - An Employability Points Scheme
 - One-to-one meetings with careers advisers
 - For more information, see the History Handbook
- Canterbury and Kent are also home to several heritage organisations that welcome volunteers, including Canterbury Cathedral, Canterbury Museums and the Historic Dockyard Chatham



Welcome Week

Monday

- UG Lunch @ 13:30-14:30 (Grimond Foyer)
- Academic Adviser Meetings @ 14:30-15:30 (Various Rooms)

Tuesday

- Thriving at University @ 10:00-11:00 (Templeman Lecture Theatre)
- History Taster Session @ 11:00-13.00 (Grimond Lecture Theatre 3)
- School of Humanities Lecture: Imagination @ 14:00-15:30 (Templeman Lecture Theatre)
- First in Your Family Session @ 15:30-16:30 (Cornwallis South West Seminar Room 1)

Wednesday

- History Kickstart @ 11:00-14:00 (Marlowe Lecture Theatre 1)
- History Scavenger Hunt @ 14:30-16:30 (meet at The Venue)

Friday

- Canterbury Historical Sites Tour @ 10:00-12:00 and 14:00-16:00 (meet at Westgate Gardens Entrance)