



University of  
**BRISTOL**

Erasmus+ Study Guide  
2019/20  
Department of History

## Department of History, The School of Humanities

### GUIDE FOR HISTORY ERASMUS STUDENTS (2019-20)



Welcome to the Department of History in the School of Humanities.

Studying history at Bristol is a popular choice for students. We have expertise across a wide range of historic periods and historical approaches, from medieval and early modern to contemporary history. Our research ranges from individual projects to wider initiatives with other University researchers, museums, community groups and members of public.

Our research has a direct impact on teaching, with the latest thinking shaping undergraduate and postgraduate units. But we don't simply convey cutting-edge research to our students: we actively invite you to hands-on, historical research from the very start of your degree. From your first year, you get the chance to engage directly with primary sources, such as personal archival material, photographs, films and magazines.

The department is a friendly, lively environment, with a stimulating internal events calendar and many opportunities for students, staff and external speakers to lead discussions about their work. We are very keen to share our findings with the public, sometimes gathering different perspectives about our specialist areas from members of the public that we might not have discovered otherwise.

**Your point of contact is the School of Humanities Support Office, located in G.44A, 11 Woodland Road.**

## Academic Calendar for 2018-19

	Start Date	End Date
Welcome Week	23 September 2019	27 September 2019
<b>Teaching Block 1</b>	30 September 2019	20 December 2019
January Assessment Period	13 January 2020	24 January 2020

<b>Teaching Block 2</b>	27 January 2020	8 May 2020
Summer Assessment Period	18 May 2020	5 June 2020

Vacations	Start Date	End Date
Christmas	23 December 2019	10 January 2020
Easter	30 March 2020	17 April 2020
Summer	15 June 2020	TBC

## Units and Credits

As a History Erasmus student, you will be expected to take the majority of your units within the Department of History in the School of Humanities.

You are required to take units amounting to 60 credits in each Teaching Block (i.e. Semester), which is equivalent to 30 ECTS credits.

The University of Bristol's Unit and Programme Catalogue 2019-20 provides full information on the units available in the Department of History:

[Programme Catalogue](#)

When reviewing unit choices, please consider:

- The amount of credits for the unit (all History units available to you are 20 credits)
- The Teaching Block it is running in – please make sure you select a unit which runs in the semester you are here
- Are there are pre-requisites?
- Are there are any co-requisites? (are you expected to take the class alongside another class?)
- The form of assessments you will be required to complete (this could include coursework, examinations, and/or class presentations)

All this information can be found on the unit's description entry in the Unit and Programme Catalogue.

You are responsible for selecting units appropriate for your level of study, and for informing your University of your choices. Our Office is happy to answer any questions you may have about units within the Department of History but cannot confirm what your University requires you to take.

## **English Language Skills**

If you need to develop your academic English language skills, you can take optional units at CELFS (the Centre for English Language and Foundation Studies). These units focus on listening and speaking, reading and writing, and advanced grammar. Visit the CELFS website to register for these units: [www.bristol.ac.uk/english-language/study/current-students/for-undergraduate/open-units/](http://www.bristol.ac.uk/english-language/study/current-students/for-undergraduate/open-units/)

## **Commonly asked questions**

- Can I take a unit outside the Department of History?

Yes – the majority of your units should be within the Department to reflect your registration as a History Erasmus student. However, please discuss with your University how many units they will permit you to take outside History. Your University may have specific requirements about what you can and cannot take, or they may allow you the freedom to choose units from across the University of Bristol.

- I have looked at the unit catalogue and it says that a unit is ‘not open’. What does that mean?

The majority of units within the Department of History are not open to University of Bristol students on programmes outside the department. A few are, and these are called ‘open units’.

As a History Erasmus student, you will not be affected by the open unit constraints. You can register interest in units across the department, as we recognise you are taking an History pathway.

- Can I change my unit options at a later date?

This is possible, but not guaranteed. The School of Humanities will register you on the units you include in your Learning Agreement before you arrive at Bristol. During your first week here, our School runs a unit registration session where you can request to drop or take a class. Our Office cannot guarantee unit availability, so it is not always possible to grant a unit change request. We also grant these changes early on and cannot amend unit registrations throughout the semester, as this can have a detrimental impact on your academic progress.

- I am studying here for one term and will return to my home University in January. I want to take a unit that has an exam in January, but I will not be able to attend. Can I still take the class?

Yes – you can choose to take a unit which has an exam in January even if you intend to return home by that date. The exam will be replaced with an alternative form of assessment, which is normally an essay of 2,500 words. Our Office contacts students a few weeks into term to ask if you intend to sit the exam in January or will require an

alternative form of assessment. These assignments are submitted online, so you can return home and continue to complete work.



## **Contacts**

To contact the Study Abroad coordinators for the School of Humanities please email them at [hums-schooloffice@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:hums-schooloffice@bristol.ac.uk). Alternatively, please visit the School of Humanities Student Support Office in 11 Woodland Rd.

The Department of History's Study Abroad Academic Director is Dr Andy Flack ([Andrew.flack@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:Andrew.flack@bristol.ac.uk))