

# UNIVERSITY OF YORK

## POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

| <b>This document applies to students who commence the programme(s) in:</b>  |   | 2017/18   |                               |                   |       |
|---|---|---|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------|
| <b>Awarding institution</b>   |   | <b>Teaching institution</b>   |                               |                   |       |
| University of York  |   | University of York  |                               |                   |       |
| <b>Department(s)</b>  |   |   |                               |                   |       |
| History<br>Convened by the Institute for the Public Understanding of the Past (IPUP)  |   |   |                               |                   |       |
| <b>Award(s) and programme title(s)</b>  |   |   | <b>Level of qualification</b> |                   |       |
| MA in Public History  |   |   | Level 7 (Masters)             |                   |       |
| <b>Award(s) available <i>only</i> as interim awards</b>   |   |   |                               |                   |       |
| Certificate in Public History   |   |   |                               |                   |       |
| Diploma in Public History   |   |   |                               |                   |       |
| <b>Admissions criteria</b>  |   |   |                               |                   |       |
| Successful completion of BA degree in History or cognate discipline, generally at Upper Second level, or equivalent overseas BA qualification. Those with English as a second language with IELTS score of 7.0 or equivalent.                                 |   |   |                               |                   |       |
| <b>Length and status of the programme(s) and mode(s) of study</b>   |   |   |                               |                   |       |
| Programme   | Length (years) and status (full-time/part-time) | Start dates/months<br>(if applicable – for programmes that have multiple intakes or start dates that differ from the usual academic year) | Mode                          |                   |       |
|   |   |   | Face-to-face, campus-based    | Distance learning | Other |
| MA  | 12 Months F/T<br>24 Months P/T                  | N/A   | X                             |                   |       |
| Diploma   | 9 Months F/T<br>18 Months P/T                   | N/A   | X                             |                   |       |
| Certificate   | 6 Months F/T<br>12 Months P/T<br>(Equivalent)   | N/A   | X                             |                   |       |
| <b>Language of study</b>  |   | English   |                               |                   |       |
| <b>Programme accreditation by Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Bodies</b> (if applicable)  |   |   |                               |                   |       |
| None  |   |   |                               |                   |       |
| <b>Educational aims of the programme(s)</b>   |   |   |                               |                   |       |
| For the Masters, Diploma and Certificate:   |   |   |                               |                   |       |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide students with an interdisciplinary perspective of the relationship between the past and the public realm, with an emphasis on the areas of media strategy and cultural heritage public policy;</li> </ul> |   |   |                               |                   |       |

- To allow students to evolve a critical appreciation of the role that the past plays in the present, through academic knowledge and understanding; and
- To engage students, through the experience and acquisition of skills, with practical application of such academic learning in media strategy and cultural heritage public policy.

Additionally for the Diploma (if applicable):

N/A

Additionally for the Masters:

- To develop a range of professional and academic skills, including independent research capabilities, that would equip a student to pursue entry to a PhD programme, should they so choose.

**Intended learning outcomes for the programme – and how the programme enables students to achieve and demonstrate the intended learning outcomes**

*This programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding qualities, skills and other attributes in the following areas:*

*The following teaching, learning and assessment methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the programme learning outcomes:*

**A: Knowledge and understanding**

Knowledge and understanding of:  
*For the Masters, Diploma and Certificate:*

1. The relationship between the past and the public realm;
2. The relationship between history and public policy;
3. The place and role of museums and other comparable heritage institutions in contemporary society, and their role and impact on identity formation in the present;
4. The variety of interdisciplinary perspectives and intellectual contexts when considering the relationship between the past and public realm (including understanding of both the media and the heritage sectors);
5. The role and the emergence of quasi-governmental agencies such as HLF and AHRC and their role in directing and protecting history, heritage, and historical research;

Learning/teaching methods and strategies (relating to numbered outcomes):

- Seminar Teaching (1-7)
- Independent research, study, and writing (1-7)
- Placement (1, 3, 7, 8, 9)

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>6. The place of narratives about the past in contemporary media, including art history, archaeology, and history programmes on television, radio, the internet, and to a lesser extent, cinema;</p> <p>7. The ways in which audiences consume, understand, perceive and participate in the past, including the role of lay knowledge and community engagement projects;</p> <p>8. Work collaboratively with practitioners and the public; and</p> <p>9. Think critically about the practice of public history.</p> <p><i>Additionally for the Diploma:</i></p> <p>10. A particular short research project, examining an appropriate case-study in the above areas.</p> <p><i>Additionally for the Masters:</i></p> <p>11. A particular longer research project, examining an appropriate case-study in the above areas.</p> | <p>Types/methods of assessment (relating to numbered outcomes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essays (1-7)</li> <li>• Shorter research project (10)</li> <li>• Dissertation proposal (1-7)</li> <li>• Dissertation (1, 3-4, 6-7, 11)</li> </ul> |
| <b>B: (i) Skills – discipline related</b>  |   |
| <p>Able to:</p> <p><i>For the Masters, Diploma and Certificate:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Navigate and utilise a wide-range of academic resources such as library catalogues and bibliographic resources, and a wide range of media strategy documentation and public policy resources;</li> <li>2. Write cogently and communicate clearly complex arguments relating to the knowledge and understanding of the course (as described above);</li> <li>3. Orally discuss examples of good practice in Public History; and</li> </ol>  | <p>Learning/teaching methods and strategies (relating to numbered outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seminars, Supervisions (1-3)</li> </ul>   |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>4. Think critically about the practice of public history.</p> <p><i>Additionally for the Diploma:</i></p> <p><i>Additionally for the Masters:</i></p>  | <p>Types/methods of assessment (relating to numbered outcomes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essays (1-2)</li> <li>• Dissertation proposal (1-2)</li> <li>• Shorter research project (1-2)</li> <li>• Dissertation (1-2)</li> <li>• Placement (3-4)</li> </ul>   |
| <b>B: (ii) Skills - transferable</b>  |   |
| <p>Able to:</p> <p><i>For the Masters, Diploma and Certificate:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Orally communicate complex ideas in a lucid and coherent fashion;</li> <li>2. Meet deadlines and manage time effectively;</li> <li>3. Write clearly and cogently;</li> <li>4. Plan independent study and write a lengthy research project; and</li> <li>5. Work collaboratively with practitioners and the public.</li> </ol> <p><i>Additionally for the Diploma:</i></p> <p><i>Additionally for the Masters:</i></p>   | <p>Learning/teaching methods and strategies (relating to numbered outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seminars (1)</li> </ul> <hr/> <p>Types/methods of assessment (relating to numbered outcomes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essays (2-3)</li> <li>• Dissertation proposal (2,3)</li> <li>• Dissertation (2,4-5)</li> <li>• Placement (2-5)</li> </ul> |
| <b>C: Experience and other attributes</b>   |   |
| <p>Able to:</p> <p><i>For the Masters, Diploma and Certificate:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Participate in group discussion, engage in any relevant cross-disciplinary graduate discussions groups on campus, take part in any relevant seminars, conferences, or hosted presentations by invited speakers organised by IPUP or the Department of History.</li> </ol> <p><i>Additionally for the Diploma:</i></p> <p><i>Additionally for the Masters:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Undertake lengthy independent research and write a dissertation.</li> </ol> | <p>Learning/teaching methods and strategies (relating to numbered outcomes):</p> <hr/> <p>Types/methods of assessment (relating to numbered outcomes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essays and dissertation (1-2)</li> <li>• Dissertation proposal (1-2)</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>Relevant Quality Assurance Agency benchmark statement(s) and other relevant external reference points</b> (e.g. National Occupational Standards, or the requirements of Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Bodies)</p>   |   |
| <p>None</p>   |   |

## **University award regulations**

To be eligible for an award of the University of York a student must undertake an approved programme of study, obtain a specified number of credits (at a specified level(s)), and meet any other requirements of the award as specified in the award requirements and programme regulations, and other University regulations (e.g. payment of fees). Credit will be awarded upon passing a module's assessment(s) but some credit may be awarded where failure has been compensated by achievement in other modules. The University's award and assessment regulations specify the University's marking scheme, and rules governing progression (including rules for compensation), reassessment and award requirements. The award and assessment regulations apply to all programmes: any exceptions that relate to this programme are approved by University Teaching Committee and are recorded at the end of this document.

## **Departmental policies on assessment and feedback**

Detailed information on assessment (including grade descriptors, marking procedures, word counts etc.) is available in the written statement of assessment which applies to this programme and the relevant module descriptions. These are available in the student handbook and on the Department's website:

[www.york.ac.uk/history/student-intranet/postgraduates/taught-ma/ma-assessment](http://www.york.ac.uk/history/student-intranet/postgraduates/taught-ma/ma-assessment)

Information on formative and summative feedback to students on their work is available in the written statement on feedback to students which applies to this programmes and the relevant module descriptions. These are available in the student handbook and on the Department's website: [www.york.ac.uk/history/student-intranet/postgraduates/taught-ma/ma-assessment](http://www.york.ac.uk/history/student-intranet/postgraduates/taught-ma/ma-assessment)

**Diagrammatic representation of the programme structure, showing the distribution and credit value of core and option modules**

**Masters**

| <b>Autumn term</b>                    | <b>Spring term</b>                    | <b>Summer term</b>                   | <b>Summer vacation</b> |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Public History I   20 credits   Core  | Public History II   20 credits   Core | Dissertation ISM   90 credits   Core |                        |
| Option Module   20 credits   Option   | Placement   20 credits   Core         |                                      |                        |
| Research Training Module (10 credits) |                                       |                                      |                        |

**Masters PT**

**Year One:**

| <b>Autumn term</b>                    | <b>Spring term</b>                    | <b>Summer term</b>                               | <b>Summer vacation</b> |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|------------------------|
| Public History I   20 credits   Core  | Public History II   20 credits   Core |  |                        |
| Research Training Module (10 credits) |                                       | Non substantive preparation for the dissertation |                        |

**Year Two:**

| <b>Autumn term</b>                  | <b>Spring term</b>            | <b>Summer term</b>                 | <b>Summer vacation</b> |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Option Module   20 credits   Option | Placement   20 credits   Core | Dissertation ISM (90 credits) Core |                        |

**Postgraduate Diploma (if applicable)**

| <b>Autumn term</b>                    | <b>Spring term</b>                    | <b>Summer term</b>             |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Public History I   20 credits   Core  | Public History II   20 credits   Core | Long Essay   30 credits   Core |
| Option Module   20 credits   Option   | Placement   20 credits   Core         |                                |
| Research Training Module (10 credits) |                                       |                                |

**Postgraduate Diploma PT**

**Year One:**

| <b>Autumn term</b>                    | <b>Spring term</b>                    | <b>Summer term</b>                             |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Public History I   20 credits   Core  | Public History II   20 credits   Core | Non substantive preparation for the long essay |
| Research Training Module (10 credits) |                                       |  |

**Year Two**

| <b>Autumn term</b>                  | <b>Spring term</b>            | <b>Summer term</b>           |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Option Module   20 credits   Option | Placement   20 credits   Core | Long Essay (30 credits) Core |
|                                     |                               |                              |

**Postgraduate Certificate**

| <b>Autumn term</b>                   | <b>Spring term</b>                    | <b>Summer term</b> |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Public History I   20 credits   Core | Public History II   20 credits   Core |                    |
| Option Module   20 credits   Option  |                                       |                    |

**Postgraduate Certificate PT**

**Year One:**

| <b>Autumn term</b>                   | <b>Spring term</b>                    | <b>Summer term</b> |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Public History I   20 credits   Core | Public History II   20 credits   Core |                    |

**Year Two:**

| <b>Autumn term</b>                  | <b>Spring term</b> | <b>Summer term</b> |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Option Module   20 credits   Option |                    |                    |

**Diagrammatic representation of the timing of module assessments and reassessments, and the timing of departmental examination/progression boards**

**Summative Assessments**

| Autumn term                     | Spring term                        | Summer term                       | Summer vacation  | Date of final award board |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| Wk 10   Core I   Assessed Essay | Wk 2   AuT Option   Assessed Essay | Wk 1   Core II   Assessed Essay   | End SuVac   Dissertation ISM   Dissertation            | AuT Wk 7                  |
|                                 | Wk 10   Dissertation   Proposal    | Wk 1   Placement   Assessed Essay | <i>End SuVac   Diploma Long Essay   Assessed Essay</i> |                           |

\* Wk 1 = first week of the Summer vacation

**Formative Assessments**

Please note that this is the likely pattern for formative assessment, but that the timing and format of formative assessments is subject to the convenor's discretion. Not all modules will necessarily include formative assessments and it will depend on the department where the module is based.

| Autumn term           | Spring term           | Summer term  |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Wk 5   Core   Essay   | Wk 6   Option   Essay | Various   ISM & Long Essay   Workshop Presentation |
| Wk 6   Option   Essay | Wk 6   Option   Essay |  |

**Reassessments**

| Autumn term | Spring term | Summer term                         | Summer vacation | Date of final award board |
|-------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
|             |             | Wk 2   Dissertation   Proposal      |                 | AuT Wk 7                  |
|             |             | Wk 10   Core I   Assessed Essay     |                 |                           |
|             |             | Wk 10   Core II   Assessed Essay    |                 |                           |
|             |             | Wk 10   AuT Option   Assessed Essay |                 |                           |
|             |             | Wk 10   Placement   Assessed Essay  |                 |                           |

**Boards**

| Autumn term | Spring term | Summer term        | Summer vacation | Date of final award board |
|-------------|-------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
|             |             | Wk 6   Progression |                 | AuT Wk 7                  |



## Overview of modules

### Core module table

| Module title   | Module code | Credit level <sup>1</sup> | Credit value <sup>2</sup> | Prerequisites | Assessment rules <sup>3</sup> | Timing (term and week) and format of main assessment <sup>4</sup> | Independent Study Module? <sup>5</sup> |
|--|-------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|---|--|
| Public History I: Meanings and Values in Public History          | HIS00048M   | 7/M                       | 20                        | None          | None                          | AuT Wk 10 – Assessed Essay (4,000 words)                          | N                                      |
| Public History II: Methodologies and Practices in Public History | HIS00049M   | 7/M                       | 20                        | None          | None                          | SpT Wk 10 – Assessed Essay (4,000 words)                          | N                                      |
| Public History Placement   | HIS00050M   | 7/M                       | 20                        | None          | None                          | SuT Wk 1 – Assessed Essay (4,000 words)                           | N                                      |
| MA Research Training Module                                      | HIS00086M   | 7/M                       | 10                        | None          | P/F                           | 500 word dissertation proposal Submitted SpT wk 10                | N                                      |
| Dissertation   | HIS00087M   | 7/M                       | 90                        | None          | NC                            | End SuVac – Dissertation (20,000 words max)                       | Y                                      |

<sup>1</sup> The **credit level** is an indication of the module's relative intellectual demand, complexity and depth of learning and of learner autonomy. Most modules in postgraduate programmes will be at Level 7/Masters. Some modules are permitted to be at Level 6/Honours but must be marked on a pass/fail basis. See University Teaching Committee guidance for the limits on Level 6/Honours credit.

<sup>2</sup> The **credit value** gives the notional workload for the module, where 1 credit corresponds to a notional workload of 10 hours (including contact hours, private study and assessment)

<sup>3</sup> **Special assessment rules** (requiring University Teaching Committee approval)

P/F – the module is marked on a pass/fail basis (NB pass/fail modules cannot be compensated)

NC – the module cannot be compensated

NR – there is no reassessment opportunity for this module. It must be passed at the first attempt

<sup>4</sup> AuT – Autumn Term, SpT – Spring Term, SuT – Summer Term, SuVac – Summer vacation

<sup>5</sup> **Independent Study Modules (ISMs)** are assessed by a dissertation or substantial project report. They cannot be compensated (NC) and are subject to reassessment rules which differ from 'taught modules'. Masters programmes should include an ISM(s) of between 60 and 100 credits. This is usually one module but may be more.

## Option module table

Options are closely based on staff research interests and will, therefore, vary from year to year depending on staff availability. Options for this cohort will be circulated to students before their arrival at York.

| Module title   | Module code | Credit level | Credit value | Prerequisites | Assessment rules | Timing and format of main assessment  | Independent Study Module? |
|--|-------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|------------------|---|---------------------------|
| <p>For a list of modules running this year, current students should see:<br/> <a href="https://www.york.ac.uk/history/student-intranet/postgraduates/taught/options/">https://www.york.ac.uk/history/student-intranet/postgraduates/taught/options/</a><br/>           (York user id and password required). Prospective students can find an indicative list here:<br/> <a href="http://www.york.ac.uk/history/postgraduate/taught-ma/ma-public-history/">http://www.york.ac.uk/history/postgraduate/taught-ma/ma-public-history/</a></p> | Various     | 7/M          | 20           | None          | None             | <p><b>Either:</b><br/>           SpT Wk 2 – Assessed Essay (4,000 words) for AuT Options<br/> <b>Or:</b><br/>           SuT Wk 1 – Assessed Essay (4,000 words) for SpT Options</p> | N                         |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Transfers out of or into the programme</b>  |  |
| Students may transfer into or out of the programme in accordance with University Regulations. Transfers will be dependent upon student numbers and available places.   |  |
| <b>Exceptions to University Award Regulations approved by University Teaching Committee</b>  |  |
| <b>Exception</b>   | <b>Date approved</b>   |
| None   |  |
| <b>Quality and Standards</b>   |  |
| The University has a framework in place to ensure that the standards of its programmes are maintained, and the quality of the learning experience is enhanced.   |  |
| Quality assurance and enhancement processes include:   |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The academic oversight of programmes within departments by a Board of Studies, which includes student representation</li> <li>• The oversight of programmes by external examiners, who ensure that standards at the University of York are comparable with those elsewhere in the sector</li> <li>• Annual monitoring and periodic review of programmes</li> <li>• The acquisition of feedback from students by departments.</li> </ul> |  |
| More information can be obtained from the Academic Support Office: <a href="http://www.york.ac.uk/admin/aso/">www.york.ac.uk/admin/aso/</a>  |  |
| <b>Date on which this programme information was updated:</b>   | September 2017   |
| <b>Departmental web page:</b>  | <a href="http://www.york.ac.uk/history">www.york.ac.uk/history</a><br><a href="http://www.york.ac.uk/ipup">www.york.ac.uk/ipup</a> |
| <b>Please note</b>   |  |
| The information above provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and learning outcomes that a typical students might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the leaning opportunities that are provided.  |  |
| Detailed information on learning outcomes, content, delivery and assessment of modules can be found in module descriptions.  |  |
| The University reserves the right to modify this overview in unforeseen circumstances, or where processes of academic development, based on feedback from staff, students, external examiners or professional bodies, requires a change to be made. Students will be notified of any substantive changes at the first available opportunity.   |  |