



University of Glasgow | Faculty of Law, Business & Social Sciences

# Economic and social history

## Undergraduate study 2010





## Economic and social history

### Introduction

It is not necessary to have studied economics or history before coming to university. In fact, many of our students discover that despite intending to study another subject to Honours level, they find our first and second year courses so engaging that they opt to complete our programme.

Reasons for choosing to study in the Department of Economic & Social History include:

- our expertise and vitality – we are one of only two departments in the UK dedicated to the study of economic and social history
- our highly-graded research – in the most recent independent Research Assessment Exercise over 90% of our research outputs were of international standing and our expert research informs our teaching.

The University's Archive Services has one of the **largest collections of historical business records in Europe** and includes much of the archive history of Scottish industries such as banking, brewing and shipbuilding.

‘There is a real culture of discussion and debate – we are encouraged not only to attend the department’s seminar series, but also to contribute to it, which enhances your academic confidence.’

Campbell Wilson, Economic & Social History

## Economic & Social History

Degree: MA (SocSci), MA

### Typical offer

**Highers** ABBB (first sitting)  
AABB/AAA (two sittings)

**A-levels** ABB (first sitting)  
AAB (two sittings)

**IB** 32 points

For entry requirements visit [www.glasgow.ac.uk/undergraduate/degrees/entryrequirements](http://www.glasgow.ac.uk/undergraduate/degrees/entryrequirements)

Economic and social history is the study of the way societies change in their economic activities and social organisation. It is concerned with how people in the past lived and worked, and how this has affected the development of today’s world. In modern times, economic and social changes have been more rapid than previously. At Glasgow we study economic and social forces from 1750 to the present day, both in Britain and internationally, and with an emphasis on the development of a wide range of transferable skills.

### What can I expect in first year?

Level-1 is made up of two courses that are built around the key themes of:

- the workplace
- social order and conflict
- gender and the family
- migration and the community
- international economic relations.

The changes in all these areas are tracked from Britain, to Europe, and then to the rest of the world. We place national histories in an international perspective and rapid transitions against the background of long-term trends.

In this way, you will be able to understand the experiences of your own society and economy more fully.

You will be introduced to major themes in history, including:

- sources of economic growth
- sources of social change
- the international transmission of social and economic trends.

Initially, Level-1 focuses on the advanced economies and societies of Britain, France, Germany, Japan and the USA and charts how these have changed from the 1750s onwards. Later, you will move onto the period of 1914 onwards, opening with the legacy of the First World War and the subsequent crises of the inter-war years.

### What can I expect in second year?

In Level-2 you will study economic and social change in the UK from 1750 onwards. Again, this is covered by two courses, the first studying the period 1750-1914 and the second from 1914 to the present day.

The first course begins with the Industrial Revolution and deals with questions such as:

- why did the British economy grow so rapidly?
- what were the social consequences of change?

Attention then turns to the economic and social developments of the Victorian period. You will study:

- economic pre-eminence and relative decline
- the role of government
- the rise of trade unions
- leisure
- the changing position of women in society.

### Joint Honours combinations

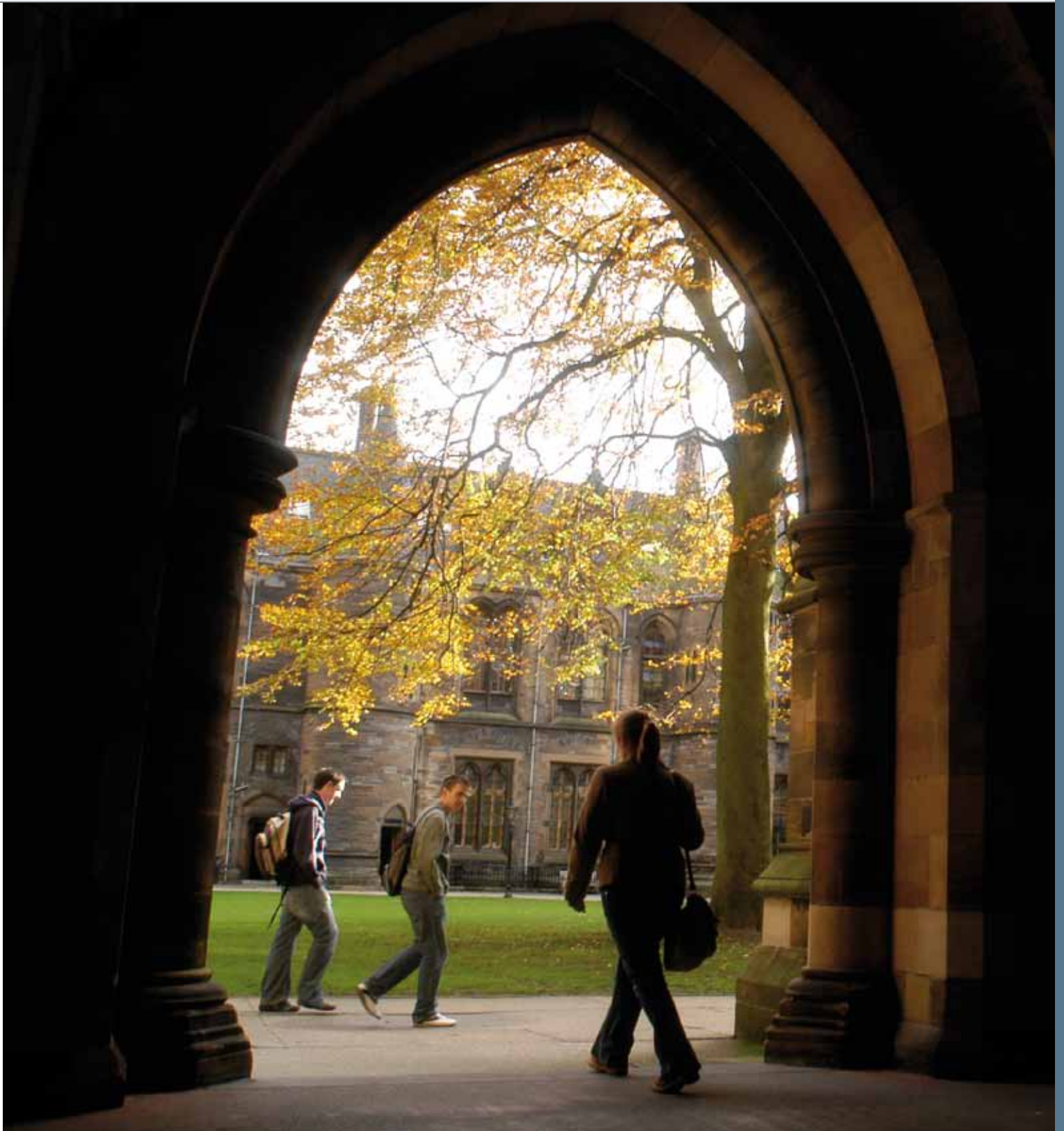
You may study Economic & Social History with another subject at Honours level. Subjects which may be taken in combination with Economic & Social History include:

- Archaeology
- Anthropology
- Arts & Media Informatics
- Business & Management
- Business Economics
- Celtic Civilisation
- Celtic Studies
- Central & East European Studies
- Comparative Literature
- Computing Science
- Czech
- Economics
- English Literature
- French
- Gaelic
- Geography
- German
- Greek
- History
- Italian
- Latin
- Mathematics
- Music
- Philosophy
- Polish
- Politics
- Psychology
- Public Policy
- Scottish History
- Scottish Literature
- Slavonic Studies
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Theology & Religious Studies.

The second course analyses many of the same themes in the context of the UK’s economic and social development in the 20th century. In particular, the impact of the two World Wars is considered, along with changes in inter-war Britain, the rise of the Welfare State and post-war economic decline.

We are **one of only two departments in the UK** dedicated to the study of economic and social history.

[www.glasgow.ac.uk/economicsocialhistory](http://www.glasgow.ac.uk/economicsocialhistory)



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## What happens next?

### Honours

If you successfully complete the courses in first and second years you may progress to study for an Honours degree. You can opt to study Economic & Social History on its own for a Single Honours degree or alongside another subject for a Joint Honours degree.

In your Honours years you will be able to choose from a wide range of options covering countries including Germany, Japan, USA, Eastern Europe, Scotland and the UK. These reflect the research expertise of the staff and allow the in-depth study of topics such as:

- economic policy
- social policy
- poverty
- gender history
- business history and the history of work
- medicine
- popular culture.

Other aspects of your Honours years will be:

- Core courses that encourage the development of skills in interpretation of texts and sources, and presentation of evidence and arguments through individual and group projects
- a dissertation on a subject of your choice (this is optional)
- a compulsory reading and study trip in year three.

## What are my career prospects?

Our graduates are trained to express themselves logically and to speak confidently. They have learned how to handle and analyse information, to make independent judgements, and organise their time effectively. This means you will have a great deal of flexibility in your choice of employment. Our graduates have found employment in (amongst other things):

- management in industry, retailing, marketing and financial services
- central and local government
- the media and information technology
- teaching at all levels
- libraries, museums and archives
- social work and other personnel services.

## Can I study abroad?

At Glasgow you can take advantage of a range of opportunities to study abroad as part of your degree. Courses you take overseas form an integral part of your degree without adding an extra year or semester.

**The University holds a Study Abroad Fair every November. Information is also available on our website: [www.glasgow.ac.uk/studying/exchange](http://www.glasgow.ac.uk/studying/exchange)**

## Come and visit us

### Open Day

[www.glasgow.ac.uk/openday](http://www.glasgow.ac.uk/openday)

In June and September we hold an Open Day to allow you, your family and teachers to visit us on campus and see a little of the city.

Open Day allows you to speak to staff in academic departments, find out more about courses, tour the facilities, visit student accommodation and see for yourself what life would be like as a student at Glasgow. If you have a long way to travel you can also stay in one of our student residences.

### Alternative visiting arrangements

Open Day is the best way for you to get a comprehensive picture of what being a student here would be like. However, if for any reason you can't make it on that date, then we will be able to make alternative arrangements.

To find out more visit:

[www.glasgow.ac.uk/afternoonvisits](http://www.glasgow.ac.uk/afternoonvisits)

### Applicants' Visit Day

At Glasgow we go the extra mile. If you receive an offer of a place at Glasgow, we will invite you to visit us before making your final decision. Applicants' Visit Day usually takes place in March. Details will be sent to you together with your offer of a place.

## Where can I find out more?

For further information on studying economic and social history please see our website: [www.glasgow.ac.uk/economicsocialhistory](http://www.glasgow.ac.uk/economicsocialhistory)

Alternatively, you can contact us at:  
tel +44 (0) 141 330 5992

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Lonely Planet



www.seeglasgow.com

## City of Glasgow

### What is it like living and studying in Glasgow?

Named as one of the world's top ten cities by independent travel guide *Lonely Planet*, Glasgow attracts the largest student population in Scotland. The city's reputation for friendliness means that wherever you come from, you'll soon treat it as your second home. Glasgow is:

- situated in the central belt of Scotland on the River Clyde
- Scotland's largest city
- home to a population of 600,000.

Some of the city's many attractions include:

#### Music and nightlife

In an average week Glasgow hosts 123 bands, 72 classical composers, 49 choirs, 38 orchestras and 21 jazz bands. Renowned for discovering acts from Franz Ferdinand to Primal Scream, the city's fantastic live music haunts include King Tut's Wah Wah Hut – voted UK's best live venue by listeners of Radio 1 three years in a row.

More than 700 bars, pubs and nightclubs mean no two nights in Glasgow are the same. Whether you're after a record-breaking 100-foot long bar (the Horseshoe), or a pub with stuffed stags' heads and kilted staff that's as appealing as it is unpronounceable (Uisge Beatha), Glasgow has a venue to suit. Dance until you drop at the Subclub, or revisit 1920s America at the Vegas clubnight on the Renfrew Ferry, it's up to you.

What's more, due to our diverse and multicultural population, you can eat your way around the world in Glasgow restaurants.

#### Festivals

At least one festival every month of the year shows Glasgow loves to celebrate. Some of our favourites include the Glasgow International Comedy Festival, Celtic Connections folk music festival, Glasgay, Glasgow Film Festival and Aye Write!, the city's book festival. In the summer, you're only 50 minutes away from Edinburgh's International and Fringe Festivals by train.

#### Culture

Art lovers and museum wanderers are spoilt for choice, with the city's famous Burrell collection vying for attention beside Scotland's most visited attraction, the Kelvingrove Art Gallery & Museum. Discover live art within the cavernous brick archway spaces beneath Glasgow's Central Station at the Arches, or enjoy 'a play, a pie and a pint' at Oran Mor, a former church that has since been converted into a theatre, bar and nightclub.

#### Sport

Wearing its passion for sport on its sleeve, Glasgow's set to host the Commonwealth Games in 2014. Across the world people know the city as home of Celtic and Rangers football clubs, but with no fewer than 27 public fitness centres including swimming pools, running tracks, 11-a-side pitches and tennis courts, you're guaranteed to find something to get involved with, whatever your level of fitness.

#### Campus culture

Are you craving cosy campus living, or do you prefer big city excitement? Whichever is your style, you'll be impressed by the University's excellent location in the compact and friendly West End of Glasgow. Just two miles from the city centre, with great bus and underground links, the West End has a reputation as the bohemian, trendy and cosmopolitan quarter of Glasgow.

