



University
of Glasgow

History

Undergraduate study



Founded in 1451, the University of Glasgow has inspired thinkers from the father of economics, Adam Smith, to the pioneer of television, John Logie Baird.



Choose Glasgow

Introduction

The University of Glasgow is rated as one of the top 100 universities in the world (*Times Higher Education QS World University Rankings*).

All of our students study for degrees that are recognised and respected by employers throughout the world, but we can guarantee you will receive a lot more besides. Some of the key benefits of student life at Glasgow are

Satisfied students

Our students report high levels of satisfaction with their studies. According to the independent National Student Survey, an impressive 90% of the University's final-year students rated themselves as satisfied with their course in 2009, well above the national average of 81%.

Flexible course choices

We offer more than 900 degree programme combinations and our flexible system allows you to study a broad range of subjects during your time at university and, in many cases, makes it possible to delay choosing specialist subjects until the end of second year.

Teaching based on research

Glasgow is a research-led university, which means that you will be taught by academics at the forefront of knowledge in their subject areas.

A student experience worth having

You will take away more than a degree from Glasgow. Over the last 550 years our students have built up a fantastic array of initiatives to keep you engaged, entertained and energised. The result is a student experience to be proud of. We have

- four award-winning student media teams
- over 100 clubs and societies
- two undergraduate student unions
- sporting facilities for all levels of fitness
- a study abroad and exchange programme that offers opportunities to study across the world as part of your undergraduate degree.

‘Glasgow is an exciting place, rich in culture, groaning with history, but most of all I found it to be welcoming.’

Laura Sayers graduated in 2001 and is a BBC Radio 1 producer

Our campus

The University's compact main campus combines grand historical buildings with up-to-the-minute facilities. It's centred on a neo-gothic building with a spire offering breathtaking views across the city.

Come and visit us

Open Day

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 academic staff, 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.

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?

Our website has more information about studying history: www.glasgow.ac.uk/history.

The **University of Glasgow** has one of the **largest groups of historians** in a UK university.



www.glasgow.ac.uk/history

The study of history is the study of change and continuity in human society through time. The scope for investigation is endless because, in one form or another, the legacy of the past is around us in the present. Studying history enables us to come to terms with that inheritance in an enjoyable but critical fashion.

History is not a matter of memorising facts and repeating them in examinations. You will have to read widely on each topic, and make your judgement based on the controversial material before you. In history, the absolutely right answer does not exist.

In this wide-ranging programme you will learn different approaches to studying the past as a way of understanding the present in its political, economic, ideological, social and artistic sense.

History

Degree: MA

Typical offer

Highers AAB (first sitting)
AAAB (two sittings)

A-levels AAB (first sitting)
AAA (two sittings)

IB 34 points

For entry requirements visit www.glasgow.ac.uk/undergraduate/degrees/entryrequirements

In order to be eligible to enter Single Honours History, you are required to take five history courses over your first and second years. You can also take history courses in combination with other choices if you wish to study history as part of a Joint Honours degree.

What can I expect in first year?

In Level-1, you take two core courses: **History 1A**: The three orders: Medieval Europe 800-1500 and **History 1B**: Nation, community and conflict: Europe 1500-2000.

Between them, these courses introduce you to the history of Europe from the Medieval period to the present day. Each course offers you a fresh and stimulating approach to the major forces instrumental in the shaping of politics, society and culture in Europe and will explore the rich diversity of the period covered.

Common themes across the courses are:

- social order and hierarchy
- state formation
- urban development and identity
- popular rebellions and revolutions
- race and ethnicity
- gender relations
- culture and learning
- ecology and disease
- spiritual and temporal power.

The courses are designed to be studied as a pair, but can be taken separately. You can also choose to take one of the following courses:

- **History 1C**: The independent kingdom of Scotland 1100-1707, which is designed to introduce you to the development of Scotland from earliest times to the Union of Parliaments in 1707.
- **Economic and social history 1A**: Industrialisation and social change, 1750-1914, which explores the causes and consequences of industrialisation from the mid-eighteenth century to the First World War.

- **Economic and social history 1B**: Industrialisation and social change, 1914-1985, which builds on Economic and social history 1A by following the advanced economies of the world into the 20th century.

What can I expect in second year?

Level-2 courses you can choose from are:

- **History 2Em**: Government, culture and society in Europe, c.1550-1715, which concentrates on three fundamentally significant themes of the history of Europe in the 'early modern' period to give you a broad impression of the nature of pre-industrial Europe.
- **History 2Am**: Society, culture, politics and power in North America, from first contact to the present, in which you study several eras and themes in the history of the portion of North America that became the United States, covering the period between first contact between Native Americans and Europeans and the present.
- **History 2Med**: England and its neighbours c870-c1450, which is designed to give you an understanding of the political culture of England and its neighbours over the period from the Vikings to the Hundred Years War.
- **History 2Sco**: Scotland: The stateless nation 1707-1999, in which you explore six key themes of modern Scottish history, which all relate to the central axis provided by the loss of the Parliament.
- **Economic and social history 2A**: Economic and social history of Britain, 1770-1914, provides a background for understanding the main trends in British economic and social development from its rise as the first major industrial nation, to its position as a 'mature' economy in the early 20th century.
- **Economic and social history 2B**: Economic and social history of Britain, 1914 to the present, provides a background for understanding the economic and social position of contemporary Britain, including the effects of two World Wars on economic and social trends, the difficulties created by the international depression of the inter-war years, the growth of the labour movement and big business, the development of a consumer society and the sexual revolution.



The **stunning architecture** of the University's main building is **steeped in history**

What happens next?

Honours

If you successfully complete the courses in first and second year, you may progress to Honours (years three and four). You may take Honours either as a Single Honours student specialising entirely in History or as a Joint Honours student, taking History in combination with another subject. Whichever you choose, the Honours programme involves two years of study (Junior and Senior Honours).

Our Honours programme consists of an exceptionally large variety of courses across the whole range of history. In Single Honours you take nine courses over two years and in Joint Honours, depending on the other options you choose, you take from three to eight courses.

The options you can choose span medieval, early modern, late modern, Scottish, and economic and social history. Some examples are:

- Christian society and crusading
- Popular rebellion in late medieval Europe
- Saints and sinners
- Patriarchy, sex and gender
- Nuclear weapons and the Cold War
- The American Civil War
- Picts and the formation of Alba
- Victorian and Edwardian Glasgow.

As an Honours student, you will also have the chance to write a dissertation and/or study a special subject. Writing a dissertation will give you an opportunity to study a historical topic of your choice in depth and improve your research skills.

The special subject is taken in your final year and is the most advanced course you will take. It aims to prepare you for independent and original analysis of a complex range of evidence and to show you how professional historians work. Topics you may study include:

- Richard the Lion Heart
- The French Revolution
- Women and feminist movements in Europe, 1789-1945
- The Irresponsible Age? America at home and abroad 1918-1929
- The making of the Union of 1707.

General Humanities Degree

If you decide to continue to a three-year General Humanities degree, the University offers a variety of Level-3 courses, including one entitled **Folk belief and the witch-hunts**. This course provides you the opportunity to explore the role of the supernatural and folk belief in Europe, North America and Africa.

Joint Honours combinations

You can choose to combine your History programme with the following subjects:

- Archaeology
- Arts & Media Informatics
- Business & Management
- Celtic Civilisation
- Celtic Studies
- Central & East European Studies
- Classics
- Comparative Literature
- Computing Science
- Economic & Social History
- Economics
- English Language
- English Literature
- Film & Television Studies
- French
- Gaelic
- Geography
- German
- Greek
- History of Art
- Italian
- Latin
- Mathematics
- Music
- Philosophy
- Politics
- Psychology
- Russian
- Scottish Literature
- Slavonic Studies
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Theatre Studies
- Theology & Religious Studies

What are my career prospects?

As a history graduate you will be able to enter many different careers, from teaching to the financial services. Although a history degree will not train you for one particular profession, the skills you will have developed are extremely popular with employers. These skills include:

- writing essays
- presenting seminars
- leading discussions
- reading large quantities of material with a critical eye.

Studies of the career paths of Arts graduates show within six months of graduation only seven percent were still seeking employment. Based on this survey, history graduates were working in areas including:

- education
- media
- civil service
- insurance and accountancy firms.

Can I study abroad?

You will be able to take part in different exchange programmes with leading universities in Europe and North America. There are regular exchanges with the universities of Athens, Mainz, and Stockholm. You may go abroad in your Junior Honours Year (third year) and return for Senior Honours.

The benefits are huge. You will not only be able to gain an entirely new perspective on your academic subject and enhance your employability, you will also find out new things about yourself, increase your independence, develop self-confidence, learn to live and work with people from different backgrounds and cultures and form a large circle of international friends.

Students who have studied abroad describe it as a life-changing experience – 'the best year of my life'.

Studying in Europe

You can study at more than 250 universities all over Europe under the Erasmus programme. Erasmus is an EC exchange programme that enables students in 31 European countries to study for part of their degree in another European country. Exchanges can last from 3-10 months and study credit is transferred to your home university.

Beyond Europe

The International Exchange Programme allows you to spend a year at institutions in Australia, Canada, Central & South America, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Singapore and the USA. All the institutions teach in English except Chuo University in Japan and those in Central & South America.

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

‘Glasgow came out best for me as one of the best universities in Scotland.’

Joanne Rhoden, History and Archaeology Joint Honours student (pictured below)

www.glasgow.ac.uk/history

There are many reasons why you should choose to study history at Glasgow.

We benefit from having one of the largest groups of historians in the UK.

Due to the wide-ranging research interests of our many staff, you will be able to pick from one of the most diverse range of history courses in the UK, both in terms of the number of courses and their chronological and geographical spread.

Many of the published works of our staff are recognised as standard works in their field

We have visits from distinguished scholars, often from overseas, to talk about their work

Some of our courses include visits to sites of importance for the study of the subject.

Through the study of history you will develop essential skills in:

- analysis
- research
- presentation
- communication
- information technology (IT).



‘Scotland at its artsy, riotous, high-octane, good-time best.’

Lonely Planet



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.

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 has fantastic venues for live music including 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 where everyone can be a barfly (the Horseshoe), or a pub with a log fire, 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 travel back to 1920s America at the Vegas clubnight on the Renfrew Ferry, it’s up to you.

Festivals

At least one festival every month of the year shows Glasgow loves to celebrate. Some of our favourites include Glasgow International Comedy Festival, Celtic Connections folk music festival, Glasgay, Piping Live!, Glasgow Film Festival and Aye Write!, the city’s book festival.

Culture

The city of Glasgow owns one of the richest collections in Europe, displayed in 13 museums and art galleries – and admission is free. You 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, located next door to the University.

Sport

The city will host the Commonwealth Games in 2014. Across the world people know Glasgow 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 West End. 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.



What our students say

‘Glasgow is such a diverse and vibrant city with lots to offer and a great social scene with a fantastic range of bars, clubs and music venues.’

Alexander Hutchison

‘I chose Glasgow because compared to the other cities I visited it just seemed like a much more lively place. I think the high student population makes it a very young city.’

Elizabeth Ritz

‘The campus at Glasgow is unbelievably beautiful. It’s hard to believe sometimes when walking down busy Byres Road and turning into University Avenue, that this Hogwarts is situated right in the heart of the West End.’

Beverley Simpson

‘Glasgow is very vibrant. The West End is like the village within the city.’

Sarah Gibson