



LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY

Course Specification

BAH History and Media

Course Code: BHISM

2026/27

BA (Hons) History and Media (BHISM)

Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2026/27 Entrants

Confirmed at 10/2025

General Information

Award	Bachelor of Arts (with honours) History and Media
Contained awards	Bachelor of Arts History and Media (Level 6) Diploma of Higher Education History and Media (Level 5) Certificate of Higher Education History and Media (Level 4)
Awarding body	Leeds Beckett University
Level of qualification and credits	Level 6 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 120 credit points at each of Levels 4, 5 and 6 of the UK Credit Framework for Higher Education (360 credits in total).
Course lengths and standard timescales	Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter. The length and mode of delivery of the course is: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 years (full time, campus based)• 6 years (part time, campus based)
Part time study	PT delivery is usually at half the intensity of the FT equivalent course, although there may be flexibility to increase your pace of study to shorten the overall course duration. PT students will be supported by the course team to determine an appropriate selection of modules from the level for each year of study. Some modules may be delivered in a different sequence from that defined within this information set but the modules offered within each level are consistent. Please note that a work placement option is not generally available to PT students.
Location(s) of delivery	The majority of teaching will be at City campus but on occasion may be at Headingley campus. The majority of teaching will be at Headingley campus but on occasion may be at City campus.
Entry requirements	Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. Details of how the University recognises prior learning and supports credit transfer

are located here: <https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning/>

Admissions enquiries may be directed to:
AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.

Course fees

Course fees are confirmed in your offer letter. A breakdown of any additional costs is included on the online prospectus entry for this course.

Fees enquiries may be directed to Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.

Policies, Standards and Regulations

<https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/our-university/public-information/academic-regulations/>

Standard regulations apply to this course.

Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course

Professional body

N/A

Accreditation/recognition summary

N/A

'In Year' Work Placement Information

Summary

The course contains a modular placement.

Placement Delivery

Students are responsible for obtaining their own placement, with assistance from the University.

The optional Level 6 module, 'Career Cartographies: work-integrated learning in the Humanities' involves 80 hours work placement.

Location

The locations will vary, dependent on the opportunity.

Approval

Whilst students source their own placements, they will need to meet requirements which will be outlined before module enrolment.

Timetable

Timetables for Semester 1 will be made available to students during induction week via:

- i) The Student Portal (MyBeckett)
- ii) The Leeds Beckett app

Any difficulties relating to timetabled sessions may be discussed with your Course Administrator.

Key Contacts

Your course director

Dr Rachel Rich
R.Rich@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Your course administrator

The name of your Course Administrator/s will be confirmed during induction. Their contact details are:
HistoryAdmin@Leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Course Overview

Aims

How has the past been experienced and recorded? How has culture been created and disseminated? How have evolving modes of communication and digital media transformed perceptions of history and culture? These are key questions that students studying the BA (Hons) History & Media course will grapple with. The course is designed to appeal to students with a combined interest in modern history and media contexts and forms. It allows them to examine how historical events have been interpreted and presented in media formats, as well as to appreciate how history can contextualise our increasingly media- and data-centric world.

The degree has been developed to provide students with a thorough grounding in competencies from each subject, including close analysis, data-gathering, information-processing and critical reflection as applied to a range of media formats, historical evidence and academic scholarship from both disciplines. To this end, first-year students are introduced to key concepts, methods and approaches in the History and Media subject areas through core modules. For the History component this entails an immersion in source analysis, academic history writing and engagement with historiography, whilst the Media component introduces students to empirical media research, television studies and links between media institutions, policy and public audiences. This underpinning allows students to build on disciplinary foundations before

engaging with the interconnections and frictions between the two subjects in advanced levels of the degree.

The interdisciplinary approach nurtured on the degree and the alignment of skills and methods from the two subject areas empowers students to become media literate in a unique way. The degree blends the historical scepticism, evaluation of evidence, consideration of context and scrutiny of agency integral to history, with the analysis of form and function and the appraisal of reception and consumption central to media studies. Students on the degree will encounter interdisciplinary modules and assignments which encourage them to challenge media conventions, mono-causal explanations, dominant values and behaviours, oversimplification, lack of evidence and data manipulation. As a result, the degree furnishes students with a conceptual and practical set of communicative, audio-visual, critical and historical skills that enable them to become the media literate consumers, contributors and critics sought in today's technologically-mediated society.

Option modules like 'Swinging Britain: Turned on & Tuned in to the Sixties' (L5) and 'Mediating Modernities' (L6) were developed specifically for this joint programme to allow students to develop progressively more complex appreciations of interdisciplinary perspectives, methods and contexts. The course is designed to allow students to specialise in aspects of the historical and media fields with elective modules introduced in the second and third years of study. These elective modules enable students to extend and sharpen their skills in media literacy by deconstructing news and entertainment, considering ownership and audience biases, examining how historical, socio-political and media structures exert influence and to become active media creators in their own right through various innovative assessments. The optionality at Levels 5 and 6 also reflects the current research interests of staff across both subject teams and offers student the opportunity to shape their own pathway through the degree. Students may also pursue professional development should they wish to do so, through elective modules such as 'Media Professionals' Workshop' (L5), 'Professional Project Workshop' (L5), 'Digital History' (L5), 'Public History Project' (L6) or 'Career Cartographies' (L6).

Overall the aims of the programme are to enable students to:

- develop an appreciation of the disciplines of History and Media and the interconnections between them from the early modern era to the present and across local, national and global arenas;
- engage critically with historical evidence and media forms, past and present, from a wide range of cultures, contexts and genres;
- evaluate theories, methods and approaches relevant to both disciplines and apply these with confidence and creativity;
- practice and hone media literacy through critical and creative evaluation of historical and media artefacts and tailor the outputs they produce to specific types of media, context and audience by using relevant software, applications and communication techniques;
- acquire the attributes and transferable skills relevant for professional careers or further study, including independent research, team work, oral and written communication, digital literacies, self-motivation, enterprise and networking.

Course learning outcomes

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1	Engage with the range of activities associated with undergraduate study, including seminar preparation and participation, reflecting on historical topics and approaches, and the use of digital platforms such as the university's library search tools and Virtual Learning Environment (VLE).
2	Have developed critical thinking skills, demonstrated, for example, through essay writing or presentations, in-class debates, and analysis of history and media texts.
3	Conduct independent research, with appropriate supervision, demonstrating the ability to identify and retrieve and analyse source materials relevant to the course, and reference them appropriately.
4	Have developed excellent communication skills, using appropriate media for the task and audience. This can include both oral and written communication, aimed at a range of audiences (academic and non-academic), using a range of both old and new media.
5	Have acquired knowledge of a range of topics in modern history and media and communication studies, with an understanding of interdisciplinarity and the points of connection between historical change and media representation.
6	Have acquired a range of transferable skills, though either coursework or placement work, including creative problem solving, and the skills of research, analysis, and communication as outlined above.

Teaching and Learning Activities

Summary

Lectures and seminars will be delivered in person. Additional learning resources will also be provided online via our Virtual Learning Environment. The course is delivered through a range of teaching and learning activities that build student knowledge both horizontally (in terms of breadth of historical and cultural subject matter each year) and vertically (in terms of depth of knowledge and engagement with interdisciplinarity year on year). This is done through weekly lectures, seminars, screenings and tutorials, although there is considerable variation in how these activities are developed within individual modules. Each module involves three hours of contact time for students, some colleagues teach in 1.5 hour blocks whilst, depending on activities and often in the final year, others are structured into 1-hour lectures/2-hour seminars. Where academic content and good educational practice make it appropriate, student learning may be facilitated through a range of digital technologies.

Lectures offer students an introduction to concepts, methods, historical contexts and theoretical perspectives. Lectures use PowerPoint slides, images, and audio/visual material and are supported by

handouts, slides and, where possible, lecture capture recordings posted on the virtual learning environment, MyBeckett. The lectures frame key issues which are then developed and applied in guided seminar discussion. Seminars involve a range of activities focused on small-group learning, including close reading of primary sources, discussion of media artefacts, student presentations and plenary sessions. This standard delivery is supplemented by other forms of inclusive learning such as group projects, IT lab sessions, and museum, archival and library visits. Digital resources and databases are also integral to the degree and create an inclusive learning environment through which students can engage when they are not present on campus or in the library.

Students gain experience of independent learning through, for example, the close reading of primary and secondary sources which are suggested by the module tutor, conducting research using books, journals, web-sites and electronic databases, completing seminar preparation tasks, keeping a reflective learning journal and collaborative work with other students on prepared topics (for both assessed and informal presentations). At Level 4 all modules involve an engagement component which acknowledges student achievement by rewarding students for attendance, using learning resources, online and in the library, to prepare for seminars. Students are also supported in their learning throughout their course through the Academic Advisors system in which individual students can receive one-to-one support and module tutors offer weekly consultation hours to support student needs on any given module. At Level 6 dissertations/major projects are taught exclusively via one-to-one supervision system with a research-active member of staff.

The degree also offers a number of opportunities for students to pursue work-related modules such as as 'Media Professionals' Workshop' (L5), 'Professional Project Workshop' (L5), 'Public History Project' (L6) and 'Career Cartographies' (L6). On these modules students will work closely with partner organisations and industry on 'real-life' employability scenarios. This is supplemented by a range of enhancement sessions that focus on graduate prospects including trips to Media City, the Get Involved/Get Hired careers fair and bespoke employment sessions, designed by the School of Humanities and Social Science's Careers' consultant and incorporating alumni who share their graduate experiences of work and jobhunting.

Your modules

This information is correct for students progressing through the programme within standard timescales. Part-time students will be supported by the course team to determine an appropriate selection of modules from the level for each year of study. Option modules listed are indicative of a typical year. There may be some variance in the availability of option modules. Students who are required to undertake repeat study may be taught alternate modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes. Details of module delivery will be provided in your timetable.

Level 4

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Emergence of Modern Europe (History)	20	1

Society and Culture in Modern Britain, c.1780-1914 (History)	20	1
Connecting with Audiences (Media)	20	1
Researching Television (Media)	20	2
Sound Studies (Media)	20	2
Century of Conflict? War and Peace in Europe, 1914-c.2000 (History)	20	2
Number of credits of compulsory modules	120	

Level 5

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Media: Past/Present, When/Where (Media)	20	1
Researching Media and Culture (Media)	20	2
Number of credits of compulsory modules	40	

Option modules

Students choose two options in Semester 1, to include at least one History option.

Students choose two options in Semester 2, to include one History option, and one History, Media or Interdisciplinary option.

*Semesters will be confirmed on a year-by-year basis unless otherwise indicated.

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
History Option Modules		
Atlantic Revolutions	20	1 or 2*
Digital History	20	1 or 2*
Everybody Hurts: Health, Disability and Wellbeing	20	1 or 2*
Genocide and the Politics of Memory	20	1 or 2*
Slavery and Unfree Labour in the British Empire: Comparative Case Studies	20	1 or 2*
Thatcher's Britain	20	1 or 2*
Totalitarianism: State Ideology and Mass Politics in the Twentieth Century	20	1 or 2*
War, Welfare and Society: Modern Britain, c. 1900-1950	20	1 or 2*
Media Option Modules		1 or 2*
Content Creators: Media Skills for a Changing World	20	2
Media Professionals' Workshop	20	2
Interdisciplinary Option Modules		
Professional Project Workshop	20	2
Swinging Britain: Turned on & Tuned in to the Sixties	20	1 or 2*
Number of credits of option modules a student should choose	80	

Level 6

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
History and Media Dissertation OR	40	1 and 2
Working with the Past Major Project	40	1 and 2
Number of credits of compulsory modules	40	

Option modules

Students choose two options in Semester 1, to include one History or Interdisciplinary option, and one Media or Interdisciplinary option.

Students choose two options in Semester 2, to include one History option and one Media option.

*Semesters will be confirmed on a year-by-year basis unless otherwise indicated.

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
History Option Modules		
Apartheid and After: Twentieth-Century South Africa	20	1 or 2*
Britishness: Nation and Society since 1707	20	1 or 2*
Britons Abroad: Histories of Overseas Travel and Holidaying, c. 1750-1970	20	1 or 2*
Communist Eastern Europe 1945-1990: Peeking Behind the 'Iron Curtain'	20	1 or 2*
People's War': Understanding the British Home Front, c.1939-45	20	1 or 2*
Prison Nation: Punishment, Power and Protest in the United States	20	1 or 2*
Public History Project	20	1 or 2*
Reformers, Radicals and Revolutionaries: Britain and Ireland, 1789-1922	20	1 or 2*
Restaurants, Roundabouts and Revolutions: Paris in the Nineteenth Century	20	1 or 2*
Streetlife: Urban Culture and Society Since c.1850	20	1 or 2*
The Four Seasons of Modern Italy: Nationalism, Liberalism, Fascism, Democracy	20	1 or 2*
Media Option Modules		
Digital and Media Cultures	20	1 or 2*
Human Obsolescence	20	1 or 2*
Lifestyle, Media, Identity	20	1 or 2*
Media Celebrity & Film Stardom	20	1 or 2*
Music and The Digital	20	1 or 2*
Race, Culture and Media	20	1 or 2*
Space Media	20	1 or 2*
Sports Media	20	1 or 2*

Surveillance Cultures	20	1 or 2*
Interdisciplinary Option Modules		
'Career Cartographies': work-integrated learning in the Humanities	20	1
Mediating Modernities: Visual Culture and Urban Space c.1850-1989	20	1 or 2*
Technologies, Health and Bodies	20	1 or 2*
Number of credits of option modules a student should choose	80	

Assessment and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities

The assessment balance and overall workload associated with this course are calculated from core modules and typical option module choices undertaken by students on the course. They have been reviewed and confirmed as representative by the Course Director, but applicants should note that the specific option choices students make may influence both assessment and workload balance.

A standard module equates to 200 notional learning hours, which may be comprised of teaching, learning and assessment, any embedded placement activities and independent study. Modules may have more than one component of assessment.

Assessment

Level 4

Level 4 is assessed by coursework predominantly, with some practical assessments.

Level 5

Level 5 is assessed by coursework predominantly, with some examinations and practical assessments.

Level 6

Level 6 is assessed by coursework predominantly, with some examinations and practical assessments.

Workload

Overall Workload	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
Teaching, learning and assessment	180 hours	180 hours	174 hours
Independent study	1020 hours	1060 hours	1026 hours
Placement	-	-	80 hours (on Career Cartographies only)