The UK’s European university

MILITARY HISTORY

Canterbury
ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND INSPIRATIONAL TEACHING

Taught by the School of History, the Military History programme at Kent focuses primarily on historical perspectives on warfare. As well as looking at the causes and effects of war, you also examine the operational aspects of warfare. The programme covers everything from the tactics used in modern tank warfare to a study of wartime cinema.

All of the modules offered on the Military History programme are rooted in the research interests of academics. As a result, module options are incredibly wide-ranging, from the Vikings to a global history of empires, Churchill’s army in the Second World War and the rise of the United States.

The range of modules on offer is broad, both in terms of chronology and geography, with the possibility of taking ‘wild modules’ with the School of Politics and International Relations or the School of European Culture and Languages, to provide alternative perspectives on war and combat.

Many academics within the School of History have a strong interest in military history and, as a result, new modules are frequently added.

Stimulating environment

The School has a lively and engaging student body. For the past eight years, our courses have consistently achieved over 90% for student satisfaction in the National Student Survey. You learn within a challenging and inspiring academic environment, and are encouraged to study widely and formulate your own opinions while being guided and taught by our world-class academics in a dynamic school.

Students are invited to attend regular talks from visiting speakers, and the student-led History Society organises lectures, social events and trips during each year.

Supportive academic community

We want you to feel part of the academic community at Kent. You are taught by top academics whose opinions are welcomed in class and you are invited to extra-curricular lectures and events throughout the year.

All academics within the School have dedicated office hours and our students are assigned an adviser to support their academic development. We have a policy of one-to-one feedback for the first essay on every module and a dedicated Student Support Officer, who can provide academic support and help with pastoral issues.

What makes countries, ethnic groups or individuals go to war? How has warfare changed with the introduction of new technology? How has propaganda been used? Can we learn anything from history? These are just some of the questions addressed by this programme.
External partnerships

Over the years, the School has forged close relationships with several institutions, including the historians at the Joint Services Command and Staff College, Shrivenham, the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, and the Centre for First World War Studies, Birmingham.

We also have close links with the National Army Museum and can provide you with access to its unique archive and information about the modern British Army, and the Royal Engineers Museum Library & Archive in Chatham. These links mean you can gain a fascinating insight into war and the contemporary armed forces, and have the option to undertake short and long-term work placements in institutions at the forefront of military history. The School also arranges lectures from military experts, visits to archives and the chance to handle historical weapons and military artefacts.

A successful future

As well as providing a first-rate academic experience, we want you to be in a good position to face the demands of a tough economic environment. During your studies, you develop key transferable skills that are considered to be essential for a successful career.

For more information on the careers help we provide at Kent, go to p8 or see www.kent.ac.uk/employability

World-leading research

In the most recent Research Excellence Framework, Kent was ranked 17th* for research intensity, outperforming 11 of the 24 Russell Group universities.

Research in the School was ranked 8th in the UK for research intensity in the Times Higher Education, with 99% of our research judged to be of international quality. Academics within the School have a diverse range of expertise, ranging from the early Middle Ages to the 21st century, encompassing Europe, the United States, Africa and Russia, with disciplinary interests including archaeology, politics, science, warfare, medicine, literature and the history of art.

A global outlook

Kent is known as the UK’s European university and has developed international partnerships with a number of prestigious institutions. We have an international community on campus, with 42% of our academic staff coming from outside the UK and students representing 158 different nationalities.

The School of History has established links with institutions across Europe as well as in Canada, North America and South Africa, allowing for a truly global outlook and opportunities to study abroad.

Independent rankings

**School of History**

National Student Survey (NSS) 2016
- 94% of History students were satisfied with the overall quality of their course

The Complete University Guide 2018
- 14th for graduate prospects

The Guardian University Guide 2018
- Over 93% of History students were satisfied with the teaching on their course

Destination of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE)
- Of History students who graduated from Kent in 2015, 92% were in work or further study within six months

**University of Kent**

National Student Survey (NSS) 2016
- 1st in London and the south-east
- 4th highest score for overall student satisfaction

The Guardian University Guide 2018
- 22nd in the UK

*of 122 universities, not including specialist institutions
SUPERB STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Our Canterbury campus provides a stunning location for your studies, within easy reach of sites of military importance.

Kent’s historic setting
Canterbury and Kent have always been ‘front-line Britain’ and contain significant military sites ranging from Roman forts to Cold War nuclear bunkers. We also have easy access to the battlefields of the First and Second World Wars.

As well as being steeped in history, Canterbury has excellent transport links with both London and mainland Europe. The School organises frequent field trips to sites of significance, with many of our students touring the Second World War battlefields, investigating the remnants of the Maginot Line, or visiting a host of museums and archives across the Channel.

Excellent study resources
The University library has a vast collection of relevant material, including a rare, complete set of British official histories of both world wars, a complete run of Second World War Ministry of Information pamphlets on the armed services, and a comprehensive collection of Nazi, Soviet, American and British propaganda films, all of which are used in teaching and study. To help you work and study online, we provide student PCs and Wi-Fi-enabled study hubs across campus.

International community
Kent offers an incredibly diverse and cosmopolitan campus – 158 nationalities are represented here. We also have strong links with universities and research centres around the world.

Beautiful green campus
Our campus has plenty of green and tranquil spaces, lawns and wooded areas, and is set on a hill with a view of the city and Canterbury Cathedral.

Kent has a reputation for being a very friendly university with a lively environment. For entertainment, the campus has its own cinema, theatre, concert hall and a student nightclub. There are also many restaurants, cafés and bars on campus, as well as a sports centre and well-equipped gym.

Attractive location
Canterbury is a lovely city with medieval buildings, lively bars and atmospheric pubs, and a thriving shopping centre. The attractive coastal town of Whitstable is close by and there are sandy beaches further down the coast. London is less than an hour away by high-speed train.

www.kent.ac.uk/history
Jenny Kent is in the second year of her Military History degree.

Why did you choose Kent?
I came to an Open Day and the lecturers seemed really good, very enthusiastic about their subjects. Plus I love Canterbury and the University, and the fact that it’s only minutes from the countryside. I’m not really a city person and this is the perfect balance.

How is your course going?
It’s going really well, and I’m loving the people on the course too. It’s quite a small group compared to other courses – there are only about 50 of us – which is one of the reasons why I chose it; I love history and knew classes would be smaller doing this subject so you’d get more one-to-one teaching. There’s an enormous amount of reading and more pressure in the second year, but I’m enjoying it.

Do you have any favourite modules?
I particularly liked Blitzkrieg to Baghdad, about armoured warfare; it goes into the Cold War and the problems in the Middle East – it pretty much takes you up to the present day which makes it all the more fascinating. And I’m looking forward to Marvels, Monsters and Freaks, which studies changing attitudes to people seen as ‘different’. My father’s a doctor so when growing up there was always an element of medicine around, and I think that’s why I’ll find this so interesting.

What is the level of support like in your studies?
The lectures are always really good and whenever you need any help you can get it. If you email a lecturer you get a prompt reply and they’re always happy to help you.

What is the accommodation on campus like?
I lived in Turing for my first year, in a 12-bedroom house, and it was perfect. I really liked the people I was sharing with, and there was a bathroom for every two bedrooms, so you were never fighting to get in there.

And what about the campus facilities?
The Library is brilliant; it has a very good range of journals and books, and so many of them are online which makes things much easier – you can study anywhere. And there’s everything else you need here too. The Gulbenkian is awesome and the amount of music, whether you want to listen or take part, is wonderful – there’s always so much going on. I was in the University’s Cecilian Choir for my first year but sadly don’t have time for it this year.

How would you describe your fellow students?
Everyone is really nice, especially the people you meet through University societies. There’s a very good mix of people here, and on the Military History course we tend to mix quite a bit with people studying Politics and International Relations – I suppose it’s a natural link.

What do you do in your spare time?
I’m a member of the University of London Officers’ Training Corps – there are about 60 of us from Kent – and we meet every Tuesday night, plus a monthly training weekend. In a funny way it helps with studying Military History – when you’re doing battle drills, you can see how strategy and offensives work, and imagine how things are done on a global level.

Any advice for students coming to Kent?
It’s a great place to be, so if you’re thinking of coming, do it! It gives you the best of city and countryside and there’s more than enough going on to make sure you’ll have fun – not just the usual student activities but lots of niche things too, because of all the different societies.
Kent equips you with essential skills to give you a competitive advantage when it comes to getting a job.

Good career prospects
According to recent employment statistics, Kent graduates are doing better than ever in the changeable job market. More than 96% of our 2016 graduates found a job or further study opportunity within six months of graduation.

A wide career choice
Career possibilities for Military History graduates are wide-ranging and include journalism and the media, management and administration, the civil service and local government, museum and heritage management, commerce and banking, the law, teaching and research, as well as the armed services and defence analysis.

Graduates may find their skills useful in library and information work, in public, academic or specialist libraries, managing library collections and assisting library users. The Security Service – better known as MI5 – recruits graduates who can find themselves investigating and countering threats to national security, intelligence-gathering and advising on protection.

Gain transferable skills
Studying Military History at Kent, you gain many of the valuable skills demanded by modern employment. Alongside developing precise and concise writing skills, you hone verbal communication during in-class discussion and debate. You also become adept at research, analysing large quantities of information from what are often conflicting sources, assessing complex arguments and forming your own ideas.

In addition, you gain a broad perspective on military history, understanding tactical, structural and political facets of conflict – an ideal grounding for a career in the armed forces or defence.

Careers advice
The University’s award-winning Careers and Employability Service offers advice on how to choose your career, how to apply for jobs, how to produce a good CV and perform well in interviews and at aptitude tests. It also provides information on graduate opportunities before and after you graduate.

Further information
For more information on the careers help we provide at Kent, see www.kent.ac.uk/employability
Jonathan Stebbing completed his War Studies’ degree in 2016; he is now studying for an MA in Modern History.

What attracted you to this course?
The main attraction for me was that Kent offered a specific programme in military history. I considered taking a generic history degree; however the opportunity to do military history ensured that I would be able to focus more on my specific historical interest than would have been possible with a general history course.

How were your studies?
I very much enjoyed the experience of studying, particularly conducting my own original research for my final year dissertation. Formulating my question, researching and writing the dissertation almost entirely on my own, was an interesting and ultimately rewarding process. In terms of actual course content, I have been greatly interested by the study of the First World War, something which the School of History at Kent possesses a particular expertise in, and have continued to focus on this specific period.

What did you think of the teaching at Kent?
My experience has been very positive. Academic staff have a clear passion for their chosen fields and are very happy to share their knowledge with students. My lecturers and seminar leaders were very accessible, either through email or face-to-face meetings, with the majority being able to make time for you when needed. With a course such as military history, you are likely be taught by the same people throughout your degree and class sizes may be slightly smaller, so over time you establish a good rapport and get to know staff well.

Was the course flexible enough to allow you to pursue your own passions?
The modules fitted well with my existing interests, while also providing scope to explore new areas and develop new fields of interest. We covered a basic understanding in first year, after which I had the opportunity to focus on specific areas of interest in the following years. The final-year dissertation project is the main opportunity to really pursue your own passion, and the fact that the military history dissertation project is longer than the general history one, gives you even more scope to investigate a subject of your own choosing.

What did you gain from the course?
Through my course I feel I greatly developed my skills of research and analysis, as well as extended writing. Alongside that, I believe my critical thinking skills grew, as did my confidence in my own ability to undertake work and complete it to a high standard.

How did you enjoy your time at Kent in general?
My years at Kent have been great. The university experience is about much more than just academic life – the life experience you gain from living and working independently, away from home, is really invaluable. Through University societies and the local community I’ve made friends from a whole variety of backgrounds and there’s generally something available on campus to fit everyone’s academic and social interests.

What are your plans for the future?
My undergraduate degree helped me progress to postgraduate study both by equipping me with the necessary skills to continue studying at a higher level and giving me the genuine interest in the academic study of history which allows me to still really enjoy my work. I’m not sure what my long term plans are after I complete my Master’s; I may continue my studies to PhD after a short time out.

What would you recommend about studying at Kent?
By studying in the School of History at Kent, you are part of a department which seems to genuinely strive to improve itself in as many ways as possible – whether through teaching, research, student support or giving the opportunity for extra-curricular activities. University is a worthwhile and highly enjoyable experience for those willing to apply themselves and engage with both academic study and university social life.
CHOOSING YOUR PROGRAMME

Not sure which programme to choose?
Here’s a quick guide to the degrees on offer within the School of History.

Military History
www.kent.ac.uk/ug/90
Our single honours Military History programme allows you to tackle one of the most significant aspects of human behaviour – conflict and organised aggression. It examines war from a historical perspective and seeks to understand the influence of war on the development of human societies. You explore the moral and philosophical judgements on war, its operational art and conduct, and its political, social and cultural implications. On this programme, it is also possible to choose from modules available on our single honours History programme.

History
www.kent.ac.uk/ug/85
This single honours degree is a three-year programme and, within it, you can choose to specialise in a range of historical periods or subjects. Its modular structure allows you to tailor your degree to your own interests. For example, you could choose to focus on American history. Introduced through first-year modules, such a route takes you through second-year modules covering the American West and on to third-year special subjects such as The Rights Revolution: The Civil Rights Movement and the Law.

Other popular combinations include war and history, history in film and medieval studies (drawing on Canterbury's rich medieval and Tudor remains and associations).

History joint honours
It is possible to study History as part of a joint honours programme, with the following subjects:
- Ancient, Medieval and Modern History (V190)
- Archaeological Studies (VW14)
- Art History (VV13)
- Comparative Literature (QV21)
- Drama (VV14)
- English and American Literature (QV31)
- English, American and Postcolonial Literature (VQ13)
- English Language and Linguistics (VQ1H)
- Film (VV16)
- French (RV11)
- German (RV21)
- Hispanic Studies (RV41)
- History & Philosophy of Art (VV31)
- Italian (RV31)
- Law (VM1C)
- Philosophy (VVC5)
- Politics (LV21)
- Religious Studies (VV61)
- Social Anthropology (LVP1).

To download a leaflet on your chosen joint honours subject, go to www.kent.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/leaflets

Placement Year
The Placement Year provides you with the opportunity to spend a year in the workplace as part of your degree. It takes place between your second and final years of study, giving you work experience and the chance to acquire new skills and develop your confidence.

Previous students have found that the experience has enhanced their CVs and provided a valuable insight into their career potential. Some even end up working for their placement provider after graduation.

Kent’s Q-Step Centre
You can benefit from Kent’s Q-Step Centre, which provides advanced training in quantitative methods in the social sciences to enhance your degree and your employability. For more information, see www.kent.ac.uk/qstep

International students
If you are applying from outside the UK without the necessary English language qualifications, you may be able to take the Kent International Foundation Programme (IFP). The Kent IFP can provide progression to School of History degree programmes. For more details, see www.kent.ac.uk/ifp
YOUR STUDY PROGRAMME

Your studies are divided into three stages: Stage 1, Stage 2 and Stage 3. If you are spending a year on a work placement, you do this between Stages 2 and 3.

In Stage 1, you take the compulsory modules Introduction to Military History (Parts 1 and 2) and choose additional modules from a selection in the School, some of which are exclusively for Military History students.

You usually take four modules at Stage 2, selected from modules on the History programme as well as those on the Military History course.

During Stage 3, you complete a dissertation on a Military History subject of your choice, with a seminar programme to guide you. This gives you the opportunity to independently design a project and follow through with research, under the supervision of a member of our academic staff.

Teaching and assessment
Teaching is by a combination of lectures and seminars. Modules are assessed by either 100% coursework (essays, class participation) or a combination of coursework and examination.

Module information
Please note: the module lists below are not fixed as new modules are always in development and choices are updated yearly. Please see www.kent.ac.uk/ug for the most up-to-date information.

To read a full description of any of the modules listed, go to www.kent.ac.uk/courses/modules and search for the module code.

Stage 1
Compulsory modules are:
• Introduction to Military History (Part 1) (HI423)
• Introduction to Military History (Part 2) (HI424).

It is also recommended that Military History students take:
• War and Society in Europe, c1779-1990 (HI428).

Optional modules may include:
• Britain and the Second World War: The Home Front (HI353)
• Early Medieval Europe (HI410)
• Later Medieval Europe (HI411)
• The Emergence of America: From European Settlement to 1880 (HI390)
• The Rise of the United States since 1880 (HI391)
• A Global History of Empires 1500-1850 (HI435)
• A Global History of Empires 1850-1960 (HI436)
• Revolutionary Europe 1700-1850 (HI425)
• Victorian Britain: Politics, Society and Culture (HI416)
• The Vikings (HI438).
Stages 2 and 3
Modules may include:
- After Stalin: The Decline and Fall of the Soviet Union (HI6060)
- Anglo-French Relations 1904-1945 (HI6035)
- Armies at War 1914-1918 (HI5092)
- The British Army and Empire c1750-1920 (HI6002)
- Churchill’s Army: The British Army in the Second World War (HI767)
- From Crisis to Revolution: France 1774-1779 (HI6011)
- How the West was Won (or Lost): The American West in the 19th Century (HI763)
- Napoleon and Europe, 1799-1815 (HI6024)
- Origins of the Second World War (HI6045)
- Persecution, Repression and Resistance (HI6033)
- Work Experience at the Royal Engineers Museum (HI6017)

“There was a good selection of modules which allowed you to choose from a variety of topics and ages. We were also able to select modules from the History programme, which gave us an even greater diversity of options.”

Adam Huse
War Studies’ graduate

*Programme now titled Military History
VISIT THE UNIVERSITY

Come along for an Open Day or an Applicant Day and see what it is like to be a student at Kent.

Open Days
Kent runs Open Days during the summer and autumn. These provide an excellent opportunity for you to discover what it is like to live and study at the University. You can meet academic staff and current students, find out about our courses and attend subject displays, workshops and informal lectures. We also offer tours around the campus to view our sports facilities, the library and University accommodation. For further information and details of how to book your place, see www.kent.ac.uk/opendays

Applicant Days
If you apply to study at Kent and we offer you a place (or invite you to attend an interview), you will usually be sent an invitation to one of our Applicant Days. You can book to attend through your online Kent Applicant Portal. The Applicant Day includes presentations in your subject area, guided tours of the campus, including University accommodation, and the opportunity to speak with both academic staff and with current students about your chosen subject. For further information, see www.kent.ac.uk/visit

Informal visits
You are also welcome to make an informal visit to our campuses at any time. The University runs tours of the Canterbury and Medway campuses throughout the year for anyone who is unable to attend an Open Day or Applicant Day. It may also be possible to arrange meetings with academic staff, although we cannot guarantee this. For more details and to book your place, see www.kent.ac.uk/informal

Self-guided tours
You can explore the Canterbury campus in person or from the comfort of your home. Our self-guided audio tour gives you a real flavour of the campus and you will hear from people who help make Kent such an inspiring place to study – our staff and students. Go to www.kent.ac.uk/courses/visit/informal/audio-tour.html to get started.
More information
If you would like more information on Kent's courses, facilities or services, please contact us on: T: +44 (0)1227 768896
www.kent.ac.uk/ug

To download another subject leaflet, go to www.kent.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/leaflets

For the latest departmental information, please see: www.kent.ac.uk/history

Location
Canterbury

Award
BA (Hons)

Degree programme
Single honours
• Military History (V391)

Joint honours
• Ancient, Medieval and Modern History (V190)
• Archaeological Studies (VV14)
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• Film (VW16)
• French (RV11)
• German (RV21)
• Hispanic Studies (RV41)
• History & Philosophy of Art (VV31)
• Italian (RV31)
• Law (VM1C)
• Philosophy (VVC5)
• Politics (LV21)
• Religious Studies (VV61)
• Social Anthropology (LVP1)

Programme type
Full-time and part-time.

Taking this course on a part-time basis means taking two years to complete each stage of the programme.

Offer levels
ABB at A level; IB Diploma 34 points overall or 16 at HL inc History 5 at HL or 6 at SL.

Required subjects
A level History, Classics-Ancient History or Classics-Classical-Civilisation grade B (or grade 6).

Scholarships and bursaries
For details of scholarships and bursaries at Kent, see: www.kent.ac.uk/ugfunding

Offer levels and entry requirements are subject to change. For the latest information, see: www.kent.ac.uk/ug

This brochure was produced in June 2017. The University of Kent makes every effort to ensure that the information contained in its publicity materials is fair and accurate and to provide educational services as described. However, the courses, services and other matters may be subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, see www.kent.ac.uk/ug and for full details of our terms and conditions, see www.kent.ac.uk/term sandconditions

For the University to operate efficiently, it needs to process information about you for administrative, academic and health and safety reasons. Any offer we make to you is subject to your consent to process such information and is a requirement in order for you to be registered as a student. All students must agree to abide by the University rules and regulations at: www.kent.ac.uk/regulations

Alternatively, we can provide you with a self-guided tour leaflet, which includes the main points of interest. For more details and to download a self-guided tour, go to www.kent.ac.uk/informal

More information
If you would like more information on Kent's courses, facilities or services, please contact us on: T: +44 (0)1227 768896
www.kent.ac.uk/ug

To download another subject leaflet, go to www.kent.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/leaflets

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COME AND VISIT US

To find out more about visiting the University, see our website:
www.kent.ac.uk/visit