MILITARY HISTORY
Canterbury
MILITARY HISTORY AT KENT

What makes countries, individuals or ethnic groups go to war? How has warfare changed with the use of new technology? How has propaganda been used? At Kent, you can explore the causes and effects of war, as well as the operational aspects of warfare. It’s a fascinating subject that could involve looking at anything from the tactics of modern warfare to the study of wartime cinema.
WHY STUDY MILITARY HISTORY AT KENT?

Wide range of topics on offer
Your study of military history covers the tactical, structural and political facets of conflict – and your module options are incredibly wide-ranging, from the Vikings to a global history of empires, Churchill’s army in the Second World War or the rise of the United States.

Inspirational teaching
Great teachers inspire and challenge. Whether they’re lecturing on history of the Great War or sparking a discussion on the relationship between armed forces and politicians, our staff are skilled at bringing their subject to life and drawing you into the conversation.

World-leading research
You learn from leading experts. Our staff undertake research of international quality, write and contribute to journal articles and books, are active practitioners and provide expert comment to the media. They put you in touch with the latest ideas.

Academic support
University is different to school. You need to be self-motivated and well organised to succeed. We help by assigning you an academic tutor and organising peer mentoring. You can also get help with academic skills, such as essay writing, from the University’s dedicated service.

Our ‘front-line’ historic setting
Kent has always been ‘front-line Britain’ with military sites ranging from Roman forts to Cold War nuclear bunkers. We offer many field trips, for instance to Second World War battlefields, the remnants of the Maginot Line, or museums and archives across the Channel.

Special study resources
As a historian at Kent, you have access to many inspirational resources, including the British Cartoon Archive, a set of British official histories of both world wars, and access to rare books and manuscripts at Canterbury Cathedral Library and Archives.

Lively campus
Kent is a campus university, so everything you need is within walking distance. You can watch a play or put on your own at the Gulbenkian arts centre; dance at The Venue nightclub; keep fit at our sports centre or relax at one of the many campus cafés and restaurants.

Great location
The city of Canterbury combines medieval buildings, traditional pubs, modern bars and restaurants and chain and independent shops. London is less than an hour away by high-speed train or you can be in Paris or Brussels in around two hours.

Career success
Employability is a priority at Kent. By studying, you sharpen skills that are useful in working life, such as time management and developing an argument. You have opportunities to gain work experience, and access to careers advice, boosting your CV and your confidence.
Professional network

We have links with many institutions, from the historians at the Joint Services Command and Staff College, Shrivenham to the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, and the Centre for First World War Studies. We also have links with the National Army Museum and the Royal Engineers Museum Library & Archive.

These connections can enhance your studies by providing short or long-term placement opportunities, as well as the chance to gain access to important archives, handle historical weapons and military artefacts, and attend lectures from military experts.

Independent rankings

The Times Good University Guide 2019
• History at Kent was ranked 20th overall (out of 95 UK universities).

National Student Survey 2018
• Over 93% of final-year History students who completed the survey were satisfied with the overall quality of their course.

Research Excellence Framework
• Based on the most recent Research Excellence Framework, Kent was ranked 8th for research intensity by the Times Higher Education.

Teaching Excellence Framework
• Kent was awarded gold, the highest rating, in the UK government’s Teaching Excellence Framework.*

*The University of Kent’s Statement of Findings can be found at www.kent.ac.uk/tef-statement
Katie Thomas is in the final year of her Military History degree.

What attracted you to studying at Kent?
The Military History course – not many universities offer it. I really enjoyed studying history at A level but I wanted to branch out and try something new. I wanted a different spin on history. War interests me because nobody can justify it and yet it’s so prevalent in the world.

How did you find the transition to university study?
I settled in quite quickly because I’ve always enjoyed independent study and this course was more geared to what I was interested in. Going to lectures and seminars is very different to being at school and I really liked getting into a discussion in the seminars. In Military History there can be quite big contrasts in terms of what people think, so that’s really interesting.

How did your studies develop?
One compulsory module in the first year laid out the basic principles and the different theories of war that we had to become familiar with. Apart from that module, you have a lot of freedom; you can choose to study anything – it’s really great.

I kept my options quite open in the second year by taking some social and cultural history options. I do a lot of wider reading too – I have an extensive collection of history books now, which I’m very proud of.

By the third year I knew exactly what I wanted to specialise in. I looked at war and medicine and how they coexist. War can create a huge amount of disease and so medicine has developed quickly in times of war. I was interested in military leaders and how they often become cult personalities so I did a module on war leaders, looking at Hitler, Napoleon and Churchill. I wrote my dissertation on Winston Churchill and went to the War Office and the National Archives in London for my research.

What’s the support like?
The lecturers and seminar leaders are very supportive – if you send them an email they always reply. In Military History, the support system is very strong because it’s a small course and the academics in this area have really close contact with us all the way through our degrees.

What about campus and the facilities?
In terms of facilities, the library is amazing; I revised for my exams and wrote my dissertation in there because it’s such a nice space to be in. But studying is only part of the university experience. I really enjoyed my first year on campus, making friends and socialising.

The restaurants are good and The Venue nightclub is great, obviously! There’s a lot to do without going into town. When I was a first year I hardly ever left campus.

Have you joined any societies?
Me and some other students revamped the Military History society in our second year. We’ve done some debate evenings and they’re popular – we usually get about 30 people. We’ve also organised trips away and that’s been really fun.

What are your future plans?
We had a lot of careers talks in the School of History so I went to all of them. Our options were very clearly laid out and I decided that I wanted to go into teaching. The huge amount of support I’ve received here made me want to give something back.

I’ve also been to the Careers and Employability Centre. They checked over my CV and gave me advice on where to start my teacher training and how to make my application – so I had a lot of help.

Any advice for new students?
Military history isn’t just about tanks and planes. It’s about strategy and politics and relationships and it makes you conscious of what’s going on in the world. It’s just an incredible subject to study. I would do it all over again if I could. So my advice is – you’re going to love it!
CHOOSING YOUR DEGREE

Our History programme develops your knowledge of history in a highly flexible way. Because we offer such a wide range of modules, you can pursue your passions and discover new interests.

Single honours
Military History (V391) www.kent.ac.uk/ug/90
A degree in Military History allows you to tackle one of the most significant aspects of human behaviour – conflict and organised aggression. The programme examines war from a historical perspective and seeks to understand the influence of war on the development of human societies. The degree allows you to explore the moral and philosophical judgements on war, its operational art and conduct, and its political, social and cultural implications. Military History students may also choose many of the modules available on our standard History programmes, and vice versa.

For example, some students might choose to explore war and history (allowing you to examine conflict in different periods of history), history in film (considering cinema as a document and a construction of the past) or early modern studies (drawing on Kent’s rich Tudor remains).

History joint honours
History can be taken as a joint honours degree with:
- Ancient, Medieval, and Modern History (Q801)
- 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)
- Italian (RV31)
- Law (VM1C)
- Philosophy (VVC5)
- Politics (LV21)
- Religious Studies (VV61)
- Social Anthropology (LVP1).

Visit www.kent.ac.uk/ug to find out more about the joint honours programme you are interested in.

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 on to the history degree programmes. For more details, see www.kent.ac.uk/ifp

Further information
For details on all our programmes, see www.kent.ac.uk/ug
At Kent, you have the opportunity to broaden your experience either by studying overseas or through a work placement.

Students taking Military History can apply to spend a year studying abroad or on placement as part of their degree programme. The year usually takes place between the second and final years of study.

Year abroad

Going abroad as part of your degree is an amazing opportunity and a chance for you to develop academically, personally and professionally.

You gain confidence and independence and further develop many of the transferable skills employers are looking for, such as the ability to communicate effectively and being able to plan and organise your time. You also demonstrate that you are flexible in your outlook and have the enthusiasm and drive to succeed in a new environment.

For many students, their year abroad is a life-changing and rewarding experience. Having risen to the challenge of living in another country, they have a renewed belief in their ability to succeed.

Previous history students have spent their exchange year at universities in Canada, France, Hong Kong, Japan, South Africa and the USA. For the latest destinations, see our A to Z course list at www.kent.ac.uk/goabroad/opportunities/az.html

Placement year

The placement year provides the opportunity for you to gain experience in the workplace as part of your degree. The placement can be either paid work or an internship. Our professional network (see p5) can provide students with the opportunity to apply for a placement within institutions at the forefront of military history.

It gives you the opportunity to increase your contacts and networks so that you can hit the ground running when you graduate. If taken, the year is assessed on a pass/fail basis through employer feedback and a written report that you submit.

Tuition fees for the placement year are greatly reduced and employers may offer expenses or a salary.

There are many benefits to taking a placement year: it gives you the chance to gain some knowledge of the work environment, acquire new skills and develop your confidence.

For more information, see www.kent.ac.uk/humanities/studying/placement
YOUR STUDY PROGRAMME

Your studies are divided into stages. At Stage 1, your modules give you a broad background in the subject. At Stages 2 and 3, you develop specialised knowledge and skills.

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
The module lists below are not fixed as new modules are always in development and choices are updated yearly. The details are correct at the time of publication (June 2019). Please see www.kent.ac.uk/ug for the most up-to-date information.

To read a full description of the modules listed, go to: www.kent.ac.uk/courses/modules and search using 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:
• 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)
• The British Army and Society since 1660 (HI427)
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.

Compulsory modules are:
Military History Dissertation (HI757)

Optional modules may include:
- Civil War America, 1848-1877 (HI5102)
- 'The Jewel in the Crown': India and the Making of Imperial Britain (HI5103)
- The British Army and Empire c1750-1920 (HI6002)
- The Cultural History of the Great War: Britain, France and Germany In Comparison (HI761)
- Rifles, Railways and Factories (HI6083)
- The Nature of Command (HI787)
- The Legacy of the Second World War (HI6094)
- Global Insurgency and Counterinsurgency in the Modern Era (HI6101)
- The International History of the Vietnam Wars (HI7002)
- From Crisis to Revolution: France 1774-1799 (HI6012)
- Work Experience at the Royal Engineers Museum (HI6017)
- The Great War: British Memory, History and Culture (HI6029)
- African History since 1800 (HI5032)
- The American Revolution (HI5072)

Stages 2 and 3
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.
SUPERB STUDY SUPPORT

We’ll support you throughout your time at Kent, from helping you adjust to university study to discussing module choices and essay topics with you.

You are assigned an academic adviser in your first year, and they help you get the most from your degree programme. They meet with you regularly to discuss general academic issues or specific assignments. They can assist you in developing academic skills and refer you to other sources of help if you need it.

Peer support
The best advice often comes from people who’ve been in your situation. On our Academic Peer Mentoring scheme, first-year students can ask to be matched with second- or third-year students on a similar degree programme.

Peer mentors can help you settle in to university life and find your feet. They also help you to discuss ideas and improve your study skills as you progress through your first year.

Study skills advice
Successful students take control of their own learning. Kent’s Student Learning Advisory Service (SLAS) can help you increase your competence and confidence and fulfil your potential. You can request a one-to-one appointment or attend workshops on a diverse range of topics from making the most of lectures to writing well and avoiding plagiarism.

Student support and wellbeing
You might need extra help to get the most from university. If you have a medical condition, specific learning difficulty, mental health condition or disability, the Student Support and Wellbeing team is there to support you.

They are committed to improving access to learning for all students at Kent and can assist with many things, including:
• talking to your lecturers about any help you need in lectures or seminars
• arranging note-takers, signers and other support workers for you
• discussing exam access arrangements
• helping you with emotional, psychological or mental health issues
• applying for relevant funding to support you.

Find out more at: www.kent.ac.uk/studentsupport

“If I need any help, my academic advisor responds to emails quickly and will arrange a face-to-face meeting if necessary. The Student Learning Advisory Service is really good too – they can help when you’re first writing essays and show you how to reference things.”

Rebecca Noble
History with a Year Abroad
A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE

What do you hope to do once you have your degree? Whether you have a specific career path in mind or haven’t yet thought much beyond university, we can help you to plan for success in the future.

Build your CV

Your degree studies help you to develop skills such as thinking critically, expressing yourself clearly, solving problems and working independently and as part of a team. These transferable skills are valued by employers and will also be vital if you go on to further study.

At Kent, you have lots of other great opportunities to enhance your skills. For instance, you could:

• join a society or sports club (even better – get involved in running it)
• volunteer in the community
• work in a part-time job or take up a summer internship
• represent your fellow students as a student rep, or become a student ambassador
• learn a new language or skill with Study Plus.

Getting involved like this means that you can earn Employability Points, which you can exchange for employability rewards. The more points you earn, the more valuable the rewards. We work with local, national and international employers to offer internships, work experience and a range of other activities that prepare you for the world of work.

Experience work

Choosing to spend a year on professional placement can be a great way to make yourself more employable. Visit www.kent.ac.uk/humanities/studying/placement to find out more about the opportunities available.

Find a great job

Your degree can lead to a wide range of fascinating careers. Some graduates use their transferable skills to enter media roles within broadcasting and publishing, or to move into management or administration roles within, for example, the civil service, local government, commerce, banking or legal firms. Other graduates use their specialist knowledge to secure roles in areas such as specialist libraries, museum and heritage management, or research and teaching. We also have graduates working within armed services and defence analysis. The Security Service – better known as MI5 – recruits graduates who can find themselves investigating threats to national security, intelligence-gathering and advising on protection.

Your School supports you with employability events tailored to your degree, from exploring career options to presenting your skills and experience effectively to employers.

Visit our careers fair to talk to potential employers and use our award-winning Careers and Employability Service for advice on preparing your CV. Our track record speaks for itself: over 95% of Kent graduates who responded to the most recent national survey of graduate destinations were in work or further study within six months (DLHE, 2017).
Sam Cranny-Evans graduated from Kent with a degree in War Studies (now Military History). He went on to a career with IHS Jane’s as a defence industry analyst.

How were your studies at Kent?
It was a great course – challenging at times but it provided a breadth of topics to study and an encouraging environment to discuss them in. The chance to explore anything from the classics to the Falklands War meant I could finally study the Romans, a civilisation that I have an abiding curiosity in. I could also engage in an analysis of modern warfare and the human suffering it entails.

I enjoyed the way that professors, lecturers and seminar leaders encouraged me to question previous authors – especially when this led to debates on their own works. I also went to a lot of the guest lectures that were held by the War Studies course, including one by Anthony Beevor.

What about the teaching?
The teaching was often question-orientated, the seminar leader coaxing information and thought processes out of the class using insights and debates to stimulate discussion. At times my theories were challenged – a valuable experience as it proved I could build an argument and defend it, a skill that is needed throughout the working world.

What did you think of the facilities on campus?
The library was good, although I could never work in there without falling asleep and snoring! I enjoyed the books and often used sections such as law and philosophy to create and support my arguments. The different bars and the green spaces on campus are great and give you the feeling that you are nestled in the countryside. And the coffee in Dolche Vita is really good.

What about the level of support?
Academic support was always available and I had many discussions with lecturers out of seminar hours. I tend to work independently until something goes wrong. But I knew that if that did happen, there would be staff on hand to help.

How do you think your studies helped your career prospects?
I feel my degree at Kent made me a strong-minded and independent person. I have confidence in my education and capabilities.

I am now a senior Land Platform Analyst at the defence information publishing company Jane’s. I spend my time researching all of the land combat vehicles in the world and creating reference entries for each vehicle. This goes from finding each variant of the venerable T-72 family, the name of the armour and gun that goes on them, to writing about something called Didgori, deployed and built by Georgia.

I also write news reports and articles on developments within the defence industry. My first published piece covered a partnership between two firms to bring their products up to NATO standards.

What are your future plans?
I have a few plans or career goals: one is to become a subject matter expert in armoured fighting vehicles (AFVs). This will involve writing at least three books on AFVs and continuously developing my knowledge in this field.

What advice would you give to a new student in this field?
The research conducted by staff at Kent is at the forefront of its field. This ensures you always have the most current and relevant insights close to hand. And studying this subject means that, more than anyone, except maybe psychologists, you understand people. You can turn this skill set to literally anything – yes, teaching and lecturing but also personal training and consultancy.

So – be confident in your skills and seek the opportunities that you know will help you. The support teams are actively seeking ways to expand what’s on offer in terms of career guidance; this will undoubtedly benefit you at a later date, so use it and ask for it.
Choosing a university is a big step, so it’s important to find out as much as you can before you make your decision. Come and visit us to see what we can offer you.

Open Days
Open Days are a great way to find out what life as a student at Kent is like. For instance, you can:
• learn more about the course you are interested in at a subject presentation
• ask questions – talk to the academic teams at the information stands
• experience our teaching at a taster lecture*
• find out about student finance, opportunities to study abroad and extracurricular activities such as Kent Sport.

Explore the campus at your own pace on the self-guided walking tour. You will be able to visit different types of accommodation, chat to current students and enjoy the stunning views over the city of Canterbury.

Open Days are held in the summer and autumn. Book your place at www.kent.ac.uk/opendays

*Programme of events varies according to subject.

Applicant Days
If you apply to Kent and we offer you a place (or ask you to come for an interview), you will usually be invited to an Applicant Day. Applicant Days run in the autumn and spring terms and are an opportunity to find out about the course in more detail. You spend time with your academic school meeting staff and current students, and take part in activities that give you a flavour of your prospective course and university life.

Let us know you’re coming
Scheduled tours and personal campus tours (for international students) need to be booked in advance – you can do this via www.kent.ac.uk/informal

Meet us in your country
Our staff regularly travel overseas to meet with students who are interested in coming to Kent. We also have strong links with agents in your home country who can offer guidance and information on studying at Kent. Find out more at www.kent.ac.uk/courses/international

CONTINUED OVERLEAF
**Self-guided tours**

If you prefer to explore on your own, you can pick up a self-guided walking tour leaflet from us, or download it at: www.kent.ac.uk/informal

A self-guided audio tour is available too, which allows you to learn about Kent without even leaving home. See: www.kent.ac.uk/courses/visit/informal/audio-tour.html

**Explore online**

If you can't come and see us, you can find out more about the academic team, the course and events in the School of History online at www.kent.ac.uk/history

Keep in touch with us via social media:
facebook.com/unikenthistory
instagram.com/unikenthistory
twitter.com/unikenthistory
YouTube: unikenthistory

**Contact us**

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

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<th>Location</th>
<th>Required subjects</th>
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<tr>
<td>Canterbury</td>
<td>A level History, Classics-Ancient History or Classics-Classical-Civilisation grade B (or grade 6).</td>
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<th>Award</th>
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<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>For details of scholarships and bursaries at Kent, see: <a href="http://www.kent.ac.uk/ugfunding">www.kent.ac.uk/ugfunding</a></td>
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<td>Full-time and part-time.</td>
<td>BBB at A level; IB Diploma 34 points overall or 15 at HL inc History 5 at HL or 6 at SL.</td>
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Taking this course on a part-time basis means taking two years to complete each stage of the programme.

**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 2019. 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/termsandconditions

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 which is a requirement 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
COME AND VISIT US

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