

Course Information Sheet for entry in 2021~22

Undergraduate Diploma in English Social and Local History

About the course

This course provides a stimulating introductory survey to the social history of England and the development of English local communities from the early medieval period to the late twentieth century. You will have the chance to study two topics in depth, either relating to a specific period, or to one theme over a long period of time.

The wide historical span of the course gives you scope to engage with periods in local and social history that you may not yet be familiar with. We will also guide you through some of the major sources you are likely to encounter, helping build your skills of critical interpretation and your ability and confidence in undertaking independent research.

Taught mainly through residential weekends, the course makes use of Oxford's historical resources, with activities usually including a tour of the city's pre-Reformation college chapels and a trip to the Ashmolean Museum.

The Diploma has two modules, which divide into pre-1660 (Module One) and post-1660 (Module Two). You can take the modules in either order.

In 2021~22 *Module 2: English Social and Local History from c.1660* will be running.

Each year there will usually be 6 residential weekends of 12 hours each, plus a field trip and remote or face-to-face tutorials.

As well as the time spent in teaching sessions, you will need to spend around 12 hours a week studying in term-time. This might include reading, preparing course work, and visiting museums, libraries and sites.

Please be aware that teaching events which are usually held in-person may be moved online, rescheduled or revised if necessary e.g. as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic. All practical sessions, tours, visits and field trips are subject to alteration in this way.

Module 1: English Social and Local History to c.1660

This module covers the period from the later Anglo-Saxons (roughly c. 800CE) to the Restoration of the monarchy following the Civil Wars and Republic (1640-60). Its emphasis is on the lives, occupations, beliefs and environments of people, and the communities they lived in. It covers such diverse topics as Church and religion, monasteries, the changing nature of towns and rural communities, the worlds of work and leisure, migration and population change, and the Black Death. Later parts cover the Reformation, social change under the Tudors and early Stuarts, and the breakdown of English society leading up to and during the Civil Wars. Additional activities may include work at Oxford Castle on the medieval city, a field trip to Winchester, a handling session at the Ashmolean museum, and a tour of the pre-Reformation chapels of the Oxford colleges. Special subjects are currently 'Riot, Rebellion and Popular Politics, 1381-1607' and 'The English Civil War: Social and Local Impacts'.

Module 2: English Social and Local History from c.1660

This module covers the period after the Restoration and up to the late twentieth century. It looks at how the dramatic social changes of modernity have changed the lives of English people and their communities. Topics span from the vibrancy of Restoration society – the age of Samuel Pepys, the Great Fire of London, coffee houses, and the East India Company – through the Georgian and Victorian worlds. It covers the impact of enclosure, industrialization, and the growth of empire, as well as the wealth and poverty of Victorian England. Later topics include the impact of the World Wars, and the drastic social changes brought by the twentieth century. Additional activities may include a field trip to Georgian Bath, work on sources about eighteenth and nineteenth century crime at Oxford castle, and a workshop on oral history. Special subjects are currently: ‘Family and Community in Rural England, 1650-1900’ and ‘Social Unrest and Popular Politics, 1840-1940’.

Assessment

For each module, students will be required to complete three coursework assignments, each of which shall not exceed 2,500 words in length; one extended essay which shall not exceed 6,000 words in length, based on material taught during the course; and one source-work exercise, commenting on selected primary sources.

Attendance

In each module candidates are expected to attend a minimum of 80% of the sessions.

Changes to courses

The University will seek to deliver this course in accordance with the description set out in this course page. However, there may be situations in which it is desirable or necessary for the University to make changes in course provision, either before or after registration. The safety of students, staff and visitors is paramount and major changes to delivery or services may have to be made in circumstances of a pandemic (including Covid-19), epidemic or local health emergency. In addition, in certain circumstances, for example due to visa difficulties or because the health needs of students cannot be met, it may be necessary to make adjustments to course requirements for international study.

You can find full information under “Changes to Courses” (sections 29 to 41) in the [Terms and Conditions](https://www.conted.ox.ac.uk/mnt/attachments/terms-and-conditions-for-entry-in-2021-2022-for-non-matriculated-courses.pdf) for this course (<https://www.conted.ox.ac.uk/mnt/attachments/terms-and-conditions-for-entry-in-2021-2022-for-non-matriculated-courses.pdf>).

Expected length of course

2 years

Annual fees for entry in 2021~22

Fee Status	Course Fee
Home (UK/Republic of Ireland/ Channel Islands & Isle of Man)	£2,978
Overseas (including EU)	£5,031

Course fees are payable each year, for the duration of your fee liability (your fee liability is the length of time for which you are required to pay course fees). For courses lasting longer than one year, please be aware that fees will usually increase annually. For details, please see our [guidance on likely increases to fees and charges](#).

Course fees cover your teaching as well as other academic services and facilities provided to support your studies. Unless specified in the additional cost information (below), course fees do not cover accommodation, residential costs or other living costs. They also do not cover any additional costs and charges that are outlined in the additional cost information.

EU applicants should refer to our detailed [fee status information](#) and the [Oxford and the EU webpage](#) for details of the implications of the UK's exit from the EU.

Additional cost information

Accommodation may be available at Rewley House during the residential weekends at an additional charge.

You will need a computer which meets our minimum specification, with access to the internet and various other software programmes. Please see the [course webpage](#) for full details.

Living costs

In addition to your fees, you will need to ensure that you have adequate funds to support your living costs for the duration of your course.

For the 2021-22 academic year, the range of likely living costs for full-time study is between c. £1,175 and £1,710 for each month spent in Oxford. Full information, including a breakdown of likely living costs in Oxford for items such as food, accommodation and study costs, is available on our [living costs](#) page. When planning your finances for any future years of study in Oxford beyond 2021-22, you should allow for an estimated increase in living expenses of 3% each year.

The living costs above are based on single, full-time students living in Oxford. While it may be the case that, as a part-time student, you will not be based in Oxford during your studies, you will still need to cover your cost of living on a full-time basis. If this applies to you, you should calculate your living costs to be sure that you have sufficient funding to meet these costs for the duration of your course. In particular, part-time students who are not based in Oxford will need to calculate travel and accommodation costs carefully. Please note that living costs outside Oxford may be different from those shown above.

Document accessibility

If you require an accessible version of this document please contact undergraduate@conted.ox.ac.uk