

# BA (Hons): History with Combined Studies

**Programme Specification** 

**June 2013** 

# Introduction

This document describes the degree of **BA** (Hons): History with Combined Studies awarded by Richmond the American International University in London using the protocols required by *The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland* (QAA, 2008). Also key to the background for this description are the following documents:

QAA (2011). UK Quality Code for Higher Education. Part A: Setting and maintaining threshold academic standards A3: The Programme Level and Part B: Assuring and Enhancing Academic Quality B1: Programme Design and Approval. (www.qaa.ac.uk)

QAA (2008). Higher Education Credit Framework for England: guidance on academic credit arrangements in Higher Education in England.

SEEC (2010). Credit Level Descriptors for Higher Education. Southern England Consortium for Credit Accumulation and Transfer (www.seec.org.uk).

Middle States Commission on Higher Education. *Characteristics of Excellence in Higher Education:* Requirements of Affiliation and Standards for Accreditation. 2006, Rev. Ed. 2011. (http://www.msche.org/publications.asp)

The degree is delivered within the framework of a US Liberal Arts undergraduate degree programme. Typically students complete 40 separate courses over the programme which takes 3.5 to 4 years (approximately 10 courses per year, with summer courses allowing for accelerated progress in some cases). Normally, each course carries 3 US academic credits (equivalent, approximately, to 3 classroom contact hours per 15 week semester). On this basis, students are required to earn a total of 120 US academic credit hours in order to complete their degrees. Of these 40 courses, roughly half are at the "lower-division" taken in the first two years of study and coded 3000-4999, and half are at the "upper-division", taken in years three and four, and coded 5000-6999.

Richmond degrees are also articulated in terms of UK Regulatory Frameworks, chiefly the FHEQ and the Higher Education Credit Framework for England. Each course has been assigned to an appropriate level on the FHEQ, based on the course's learning outcomes and assessment strategies (note that the courses comprising the first year of the 4-year US undergraduate degree are normally at Level 3). US undergraduate credit can generally be translated to ECTS and UK CATS credits in the following manner: 1 US credit = 2 ECTS credits = 4 UK CATS credits. So a US degree of 120 credits would translate as 240 ECTS credits and 480 UK CATS credits (with a minimum of 360 UK CATS credits at Levels 4-6 on the FHEQ).

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# 1. Overview/Factual Information

Programme/award title(s)	BA (Hons): History with Combined Studies
Teaching Institution	Richmond, the American International University in London
Awarding Institution	The Open University
Date of latest OU validation	September 2013
Next revalidation	2017-2018
	122 US Credits
Credit points for the award	488 UK Credits at <i>FHEQ</i> Levels 3-6 (124 at Level 3; 124 at Level 4; 120 at Level 5; 120 at Level 6)
UCAS Code	University Code: R20
OCAS Code	Course Code: V100
Programme start date	September 1996
Underpinning QAA subject benchmark(s)	History 2007 <a href="http://www.qaa.ac.uk/Publications/InformationAndGuidance/">http://www.qaa.ac.uk/Publications/InformationAndGuidance/</a> /Documents/history07.pdf
Other external and internal reference points used to inform programme outcomes	See sections 2.3 and 2.4 below.
Professional/statutory recognition	N/A
Language of Study	English
Duration of the programme for each mode of study (P/T, FT,DL)	FT– 4 years (including one year at FHEQ Level 3)
Dual accreditation (if applicable)	Middle States Commission on Higher Education (First accredited 1981; renewed 1996 and 2006. Institutional Review scheduled for 2016.)  QAA – IRENI May 2013
Date of production/revision of this specification	August 2013 (see chart below for list of revisions)

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.

More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content, and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in course specification documents, syllabi, and the student handbook.

The accuracy of the information contained in this document is reviewed by the University and may be verified by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.

# **Programme Specification Publication Dates**

First Edition	July 2007
Revision 1	February 2008
Revision 2	July 2008
Revision 3	September 2009
Revision 4	June 2012 (substantive revision, including FHEQ and credit mapping)
Revision 5	June 2013

# 2. Programme aims and objectives

# 2.1. Educational aims and mission of the programme

#### **MISSION**

The History Major at Richmond aims to demonstrate how the past has impacted upon, and shaped, the present, by making use of the intercultural resources provided by students, faculty, and the museum and archival collections of London itself. The Major provides a broad base of historical knowledge in the first year, upon which is built a gradually more complex and more specific understanding of key historical themes and periods. The curriculum emphasizes varied methodological approaches to the discipline, ranging historically from the ancient and medieval worlds to contemporary political and cultural issues, such as imperialism, propaganda, fascism, racism and nationalism. In doing so it strives to foster research and scholarship in historical enquiry and to teach key critical and transferable, skills. By responding to the interests of the students and providing a supportive, fair, and intellectually challenging cultural environment, the Major aims to be intellectually rewarding for its own sake, while simultaneously preparing students, especially by way of the internship programme, for careers and postgraduate study.

#### **GOALS**

Successful students should be able to:

- research, engage with and evaluate a wide range of primary sources critically;
- read secondary sources critically;
- question assumptions, assess evidence, and evaluate material in its historical context;
- understand a variety of methodological approaches to studying history and how these have changed over time and geographical space

## 2.2. Subject benchmarks

History 2007

http://www.gaa.ac.uk/Publications/InformationAndGuidance/Documents/history07.pdf

#### 2.3. Internal contexts

#### BA (Hons): History with Combined Studies features:

Detailed published educational objectives that are consistent with the mission of the institution: All course outlines contain course specific objectives that are regularly monitored by the individual instructors and by the History faculty as a group.

Processes based on the needs of the programme's various constituencies in which the objectives are determined and periodically evaluated: Each degree's Annual Programme Evaluation (APE) is a central element of Richmond's internal quality assurance and enhancement processes. APEs measure the academic quality and standards of the programme, identify good practice, record any issues to be addressed, and, from year to year, track the ways in which those issues have been addressed. During the APE process, the academic schools:

- consider student input via course evaluations;
- consider any formalized faculty course evaluations conducted;
- consider all External Examiner reports;
- examine the Programme Specification, and note any changes required;
  - o any major changes ("those which change the basic nature of the programme or student experience") to existing programmes are first approved by LTPC;
  - o in the case of validated programmes, they are also submitted to the Open University (Centre for Inclusion and Collaborative Partnerships) for external approval.

A curriculum development process that assures the achievement of the programme's objectives, and a system of ongoing evaluation that demonstrates achievement of these objectives and uses the results to improve the effectiveness of the programme: Ongoing evaluation is carried out for both the US (*Middle States*) and UK (*The Open University – CICP*) institutional reviews, and independently by departmental members (when updating modules) and by students (during regular faculty-student meetings). The LTPC closely analyses the APEs of all degree programmes, and The University's response to the AMR is considered at the Schools and at LTPC An additional formal and substantive review takes place every five years during the revalidation process of Richmond's degree programmes by The OU.

#### 2.4. External contexts:

BA (Hons): History with Combined Studies is provided through a system of ongoing evaluations that demonstrate achievement of the programme's objectives, and uses the results to improve the effectiveness of the programme. Ongoing evaluation is carried out for both US (the Middle States Commission on Higher Education) and UK (The Open University – CICP) reviews. Richmond is a voluntary subscriber member of the QAA, and underwent its first full Institutional Review in May 2013 (http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/admissions/about-richmond/american-british-accreditation.aspx).

Students are encouraged to attend meetings, lectures at other London universities, institutions, think-tanks, agencies and organisations as is appropriate.

Faculty are members of a variety of professional organisations such as The British Association for Canadian Studies, The British, Czech and Slovak Historians' Forum, The Institute for Historical Research, New Zealand Studies Association, New Zealand Historical Association, The Royal Historical Society, The Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies.

Classroom-based instruction is supplemented by opportunities to participate in class visits to the British Museum, the Imperial War Museum, the Museum of London, the National Archives in Kew, National Gallery, the Royal Academy, the Women's Library, as well as visits to Wales, Brussels and Paris.

The Major provides an excellent foundation for subsequent careers in law, media, and journalism as well as within international organizations, government agencies, the diplomatic service, and business. Students can complement this foundation with the opportunities for taking up internships in London's unique environment, including the *British Museum*'s Department of Egyptology. It also prepares students for more specialized graduate studies in History or Law.

Richmond graduates have strong records in postgraduate study at some of the best universities in the UK and around the World.

Students are encouraged to attend meetings, seminars at the *Institute of Historical Research*, plus conferences, and lectures at other London universities such as the *London School of Economics* as appropriate.

# 3. Programme outcomes

Programme-level learning outcomes are identified below. They are based on SEEC categories associated with specific levels of the FHEQ.

The History programme at Richmond the American International University in London is a four year programme where the discipline is studied along side a range of other subjects. Progression through the History programme is set out down each of the four columns of the Programme Outcome grid – with level-specific programme outcomes at the 3000, 4000, 5000 and 6000 level. The programme outcomes are then applied in each module on the History programme through assessed, courses-specific learning outcomes. The four broad categories of Programme Outcomes are:

- A) Historiographical Knowledge Base
- B) Practical Knowledge Base
- C) Cognitive Skills
- D) Personal Development

On successful completion of **BA** (Hons): History with Combined Studies, a student is expected to be able to demonstrate all of the Programme Outcomes.

Refer to Apprendix I – Curriculum Map for details of how outcomes are deployed across the study programme. The programme is designed such that every learning outcome, at all levels of the programme, are assessed for every student.

#### 3.1. Historiographical Knowledge Base ('A')

#### LEVEL 3

i. Demonstrates an understanding of historical processes

# LEVEL 4

- i. Demonstrates a broad understanding of historical processes
- ii. Demonstrates a broad insight into problems of constructing history and a respect for historical context and evidence

iii. Demonstrates an ability to conceptualise time-depth and to appreciate the 'otherness' of the past

#### LEVEL 5

- i. Demonstrates a detailed understanding of historical processes up to the present, including an informed judgement of time-depth and appreciation of the 'otherness' of the past
- ii. Demonstrates a detailed understanding of problems of constructing history, and exercises a degree of critical judgements regarding historical context and evidence
- iii. Demonstrates a critical engagement with key scholars in history, and with varied historical traditions

#### LEVEL 6

- i. Demonstrates a systematic understanding of historical processes up to the present, including a sophisticated judgement of time-depth and appreciation of the 'otherness' of the past
- ii. Demonstrates a systematic understanding of the problems of constructing history, and is able to develop critical responses to historical context and evidence
- iii. Demonstrates a systematic understanding of different historical traditions, and the significance of key historians in the development of the subject area
- iv. Demonstrates a systematic understanding of key texts and debates in the subject area, and the reflexive relationship between these and the interpretation of history

# 3.2. Practical Knowledge Base ('B')

#### LEVEL 3

i. Demonstrates an awareness of historical knowledge across both time and space

#### LEVEL 4

- i. Demonstrates the accumulation of a broad body of historical knowledge across both time and space
- ii. Demonstrates a broad ability to differentiate between continuity and change when presented with historical narratives
- iii. Demonstrates a broad understanding of causes and consequences in international history

#### LEVEL 5

- i. Demonstrates the accumulation of a detailed body of historical knowledge across both time and space
- ii. Demonstrates a historiographical engagement with core historical patterns and events
- iii. demonstrates a detailed understanding of the continuities and change in, and causes and consequences of, historical processes at the international levels

#### LEVEL 6

- i. Demonstrates the accumulation of, and historiographical engagement with, a substantial body of historical knowledge across time and space, along with a sophisticated understanding of processes of continuity and change, and of causes and consequences
- ii. Demonstrates a systematic insight into, and sophisticated understanding of the significance of, the cultural, economic, geographical, political, and social dimensions of history
- iii. Demonstrates a systematic understanding of a core problem or issue in the subject area, along with a sophisticated application of historiography and historical method to historical evidence

iv. Demonstrates a systematic understanding of major thematic debates in the subject area, with a sophisticated historical analysis that utilises knowledge from other cognate fields as is appropriate

## 3.3. Cognitive Skills ('C')

#### LEVEL 3

i. Demonstrates the ability to gather, organise and deploy ideas and information in order to communication arguments effectively in written, oral or other forms, with an understanding of appropriate methods

#### LEVEL 4

- i. Demonstrates the ability to gather, organise and deploy ideas and information in order to evaluate their strengths and weaknesses, and express them effectively in written, oral or other forms
- ii. Demonstrates a broad understanding of quantitative and/or qualitative research methods
- iii. Demonstrates an ability to judge the reliability of sources, and begins to identify the strengths and weaknesses of concepts and theoretical frameworks

#### LEVEL 5

- i. Demonstrates the ability to formulate and synthesize arguments cogently, retrieve and generate information, and select appropriate criteria to evaluate sources, with a detailed understanding of quantitative and/or qualitative methods
- ii. Delivers work with limited supervision to a given length, format, brief and deadline, properly referencing sources and ideas and making use, as appropriate, of a problem-solving approach
- iii. Exercises a degree of independent and informed critical judgement in analysis

#### LEVEL 6

- i. Demonstrates the ability to gather, organise and deploy complex and abstract ideas and information in order to formulate arguments cogently, and express them effectively in written, oral or other forms
- ii. Demonstrates the ability to organise and manage supervised, self-directed projects, through which a sophisticated understanding of research methods is demonstrated
- iii. Demonstrates the ability to produce detailed analyses of competing perspectives and concepts, to make comparisons and connections and to identify the possibility of new concepts
- iv. Demonstrates the ability to provide critically appraisals of some of the widespread common sense understandings and misunderstandings of the subject area, and the debates and disagreements to which these give rise

#### 3.4. Personal Development ('D')

#### LEVEL 3

i. Demonstrates an awareness of views other than their own and adapts behaviour to meet obligations in personal and/or group outcomes and/or output

#### LEVEL 4

- i. Acts with limited autonomy under direction or supervision and engages in evaluation of own work and capabilities and outputs in key areas
- ii. Demonstrates broad skills that are relevant to the workplace, including the ability to work productively in a group or team, and to recognise factors that affect performance, including changing contexts, audiences and degrees of complexity
- iii. Demonstrates the ability to use a range of information communication technology (ICT) skills to perform tasks

#### LEVEL 5

- i. Demonstrates well-developed skills that will translate into the workplace, including the ability to work effectively within a group or team, to engage in self-reflection, and to adapt own actions and interpersonal communication skills to changing contexts, audiences and degrees of complexity
- ii. Delivers work with limited direction or supervision, demonstrating the capacity to consider and evaluate their own work using justifiable criteria
- iii. Demonstrates the ability to adapt to complex and non-routine performance tasks using information communication technology (ICT)

#### LEVEL 6

- i. Demonstrates the ability to act with minimal direction or supervision, to engage in selfreflection, use feedback to analyse own capabilities, appraise alternatives, and plan and implement actions
- ii. Demonstrates personal responsibility and professional codes of conduct, while taking responsibility for their own work, learning and development, and effectiveness in professional and interpersonal communication
- iii. Demonstrates flexible skills that translate directly into the workplace, including the ability to plan and manage for changing contexts, audiences and levels of complexity, and advanced group or team work capacities, for example listening, contributing, leading, negotiating and proactively managing conflict as is appropriate
- iv. Demonstrates the ability to flexibly locate their own normative views and cultural commitments within the practice of research, with a level of autonomy

# 4. Teaching, Learning and Assessment Strategies

# 4.1. Teaching and learning strategy

The teaching and learning strategy adopted within **BA** (Hons): History with Combined Studies.

- Teaching is through lectures, seminars, tutorials, and workshops
- Regular use of individual and /or team based projects
- Use of audio-visual aids and a variety of multi-media sources
- Regular use of individual and/or group presentations
- Regular use of in-class debates.
- Regular use of self-directed and directed reading in all courses
- Use of Library resources, historical archives, digital resources and online catalogues
- Use of occasional guest lecturers from specialist areas
- Frequent feedback on coursework and through one to one meetings with faculty and small group discussions
- Regular use of tutor and student led discussions groups via e-learning platforms such as PowerCAMPUS in many courses
- Using London as a resource

The combination of teaching and learning approaches mentioned above develops our students' knowledge, thinking skills and practical skills.

Their knowledge is acquired through

- Structured lectures and supporting materials
- o Directed reading and use of internet materials
- o Independent research

Their thinking skills are developed through

- Conducting research
- Making presentations and preparing other assessments
- Helping others to learn
- Project work employing a problem solving methodology

Their practical skills are gained through

- Application of theory to practice, especially during internships
- Using information technology to retrieve and manipulate data
- Negotiating with others in group projects

#### 4.2. Assessment strategy

Most of the courses in the *BA (Hons): History with Combined Studies* will follow the University Assessment Norms table or the Writing Intensive Assessment Norms table.

Standard Assessment Norms									
FHEQ level	Richmond/UK Level  Normal number of items (including final exam)*		Total assessment						
Level 3	R3000/UK A-Level	3-4	1 two-hour final exam plus 2000-2500 words						
Level 4	R4000/UK Year 1	3-4	1 two-hour final exam plus 2000-3000 words						
Level 5	R5000/UK Year 2	2-3	1 two-hour final exam plus 3000-4000 words						
Level 6	R6000/UK Year 3	2-3	1 two-hour final exam plus 3000-4000 words						
Level 7	R7000/UK MA	2-3	5000-7000 words						

<sup>\*</sup> Reasonable adjustments should be made for assessment activities such as midterm exams, in- class presentations, group assignments, tests etc. Any summative assessment activities must be reflected in the final overall assessment count.

Excluding all atypical courses, the following should apply to all courses:

- All undergraduate courses should include one 2-hour final exam, with exceptions approved by the department.
- Final exams should normally be no less than 25% and no more than 50% of the overall final grade.
- Instructors may not fail a student solely for failing the final exam if all graded activities result in a passing grade for the course.
- Midterm exams are not obligatory.
- At Level 3, the normal length per item should be between 500-1000 words, or equivalent (not including finals).
- At Level 4, the normal length per item should be between 1000-1500 words, or equivalent (not including finals).
- At Level 7, word count will need to take into account the inclusion of a final exam.
- Attendance and participation cannot be assessment activities.

• Formative assessments are at the discretion of the instructor and do not count toward the number of items or toward the total word count.

## Writing Intensive Norms

Writing Intensive Assessment Norms									
FHEQ level	Richmond/UK Level	Normal number of items	Total assessment						
Level 3	R3000/UK A-Level	3-4	3000-3250 words						
Level 4	R4000/UK Year 1	3-4	3000-4500 words						
Level 5	R5000/UK Year 2	2-3	4500-6000 words						
Level 6	R6000/UK Year 3	2-3	4500-6000 words						

# Courses designated as Writing Intensive differ from the Standard Assessment Norms by:

- No final exam
- The total amount of written words will normally increase by 50%

There are some other exceptions and those courses will follow a Special Programmes (eg. ADM, ARW) or Dissertation table approved on 28 June 2012 by Academic Council. Details of these can be found at: <a href="http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/academic-affairs/academic-standing.aspx">http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/academic-affairs/academic-standing.aspx</a>

For courses that have atypical assessment norms and do not follow one of the approved tables, assessment will first be approved by Learning and Teaching Policy Committee.

#### Grade Assessment Criteria/Marking Scheme

Assessment in the *BA (Hons): History with Combined Studies* is by examination; book reviews, essays, dissertations, and other forms of written work; oral presentations and participation in group and sub-group work; and individual and group projects.

In order to obtain a *BA (Hons): History with Combined Studies* students require (amongst other requirements) a cumulative GPA across the entire degree of 2.0. This is a 'C' average. A minimum GPA of 2.0 must also be achieved in all courses taken to fulfil major requirements. For information on the calculation of the OU GPA as a basis for final degree classifications, see the myacademics page of the university portal at: <a href="https://my.richmond.ac.uk/myacademics/default.aspx">https://my.richmond.ac.uk/myacademics/default.aspx</a>

Course syllabi documents clarify, for each learning outcome, how that particular learning outcome is assessed, and what the threshold criteria for that particular learning outcome is, specified at the 'C' (GPA 2.0) level (i.e. a passing grade)

There are three 'pass' grades (and 7 sub-categories of 'pass' grade) in the *BA (Hons): History with Combined Studies*.

#### **Grade A** applies only to the exceptional piece of work which:

- has continued beyond the B grade band to develop a more advanced analytical and integrative command of the material and issues
- gives evidence of very wide reading and extensive knowledge of relevant theory and recent research
- is very well structured, putting forward cogent arguments which are well supported by carefully evaluated evidence
- engages with historiography and source material.
- superior (A-) or outstanding (A)

## **Grade B** applies to work which:

- goes beyond the foundation level to develop a more questioning and analytical approach
- goes beyond the basic required reading, to study and discusses recommended texts and articles
- indicates an increasing ability to appreciate an extensive body of knowledge and to conceptualize the key theories, issues, debates and criticisms
- demonstrates the skills to present a balanced and comprehensive discussion
- has been completed with a thoroughness aimed to get the most learning out of the exercise
- acknowledges issues relating to historiography and source material
- good quality (B-), very good (B), or excellent (B+)

#### **Grade C** applies to work which:

- is basically competent, although undeveloped
- fulfils the requirements of the assignment at a foundation level, involving:
  - adequate coverage of the essential information specified, and
  - the skill to present that material coherently
- selects relevant named references and quotations
- mentions but does not discuss issues relating to historiography and source material
- just below average (C-), average (C), or showing signs of reaching above average (C+)

#### **Grade D** applies to work which:

- has been done without proper understanding of the requirements
- is too short, or long and unedited or lacks structure
- relies on superficial, subjective statements
- uses unreliable and inappropriate sources, such as Wikipedia
- uses incorrect, or confused information
- fails to make proper use of named references and quotations
- fails to even mention historiography
- unsatisfactory work (D-), very poor work (D) and work which is weak (D+)

#### **Grade F**, a fail, applies to:

- non-submission of work or work which is illegible
- late work after one extension has been given
- work which may be competent, but is either:
  - irrelevant (i.e. does not address the requirements of the assignment), or
  - uses un-attributed material (plagiarism)

# 5. Programme structure

# 5.1. BA (Hons): History with Combined Studies

A normal courseload per academic year is 30 US credits, equivalent to 120 UK credits. Students complete 120 UK credits at Level 6 in the major.

Please see degree chart below and refer to Appendix 2: Programme Structure Flowchart.

Table 1: Lower-Division/Levels 3 and 4 degree requirements

		US Credits	UK Credits
LOWER-DIVISION R	62	248	
FHEQ Level 3			
(Total)		31	124
HST 3100	World Cultural History I	3	12
HST 3105	World Cultural History II	3	12
	5 further courses (core curriculum requirements)	16	64
	3 further courses (mathematical or Academic Literacy	9	36
	requirements, or electives for students with		
	exemptions)		
FHEQ Level 4			
(Total)		31	124
DEV 4100	Rich World/Poor World	3	12
HST 4100	When Worlds Collide: Race Empire US 1776	3	12
HST 4105	Versailles to Vietnam: US & the World	3	12
HST 4110	Birth of the Modern World: Enlightenment	3	12
INR 4105	Evolution of International Systems	3	12
	1 further course (core curriculum requirement)	3	12
	4 further courses (Academic Literacy requirement		
	and/or electives)	13	52

Table 2: Upper-Division/Levels 5 and 6 degree requirements

	<u> </u>	US	UK
		Credits	Credits
	I MAJOR REQUIREMENTS	30	240
FHEQ Level 5			400
(Total) HST 5100	Cultures of Imperial Power	30	120
HST 5105	Rise of the Right: History of Fascisms	3	12
HST 5110	Nationalism And Conflict	3	12
HST 5200	Roman & Medieval Europe	3	12
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	3	12
HST 5210	Of Myths and Monsters: A History of History	3	12
plus one of the f	British Art and Architecture	3	12
ARH 5405	The Renaissance: New Perspectives		
COM 5105	Modern Popular Music		
HST 5400	History of London		
HST 5405	US and UK Comparative History		
HST 5410	Comparative Monarchies		
HST 5415	The Crusades		
INR 5405	Miracle to Meltdown: East & Southeast Asia		
LIT 5105	Postcolonial Women's Writing		
PHL 5400	Modern European Mind		
PLT 5200	Political Economy: Capitalism and its Critics		
PLT 5205	British Politics: Inside Parliament		
PLT 5100	Politics of the Middle East		
PLT 5410	Islam and the West		
PLT 5415	Politics of Sub-Saharan Africa		
PLT 5420	Russian Politics and History		
PLT 5425	Modern China		
SCL 5105	Religion, Magic and Witchcraft		
	1 further course (core curriculum requirement)	3	12
	3 further courses (electives)	9	36
FHEQ Level 6			
(Total)		30	120
HST 6200	History and Culture	3	12
HST 6205	Pictures of Power: History, Image	3	12
HST 6215	History and Film	3	12
HST 6296	Senior Seminar in History 1	3	12
HST 6297	Senior Seminar in History 2	3	12
plus five of the	following OR Internship and three of the following	15	60
COM 6410	International Cinema		
COM 6415	Mainstream Cinema: Studies in Genre		
DEV 6205	Postcolonial Theory and Development		
HST 6220	US History Since 1972		
HST 6400	Island to Empire: British History Since 1800		

HST 6962	World Internship in History (6 CREDITS)	
HST 6972	Internship in History (6 CREDITS)	
INR 6205	International Political Economy	
INR 6400	Conflict and Peace Studies	
INR 6410	Diplomatic Studies	
PLT 6405	Citizenship: National and Global	
PLT 6410	Politics of Environmentalism	
PLT 6415	Ethnicity and Identity	
PLT 6425	Religion, Identity And Power	
PLT 6430	Democracy and Democratization	

For details of courses from other programmes that contribute to the *BA (Hons): History with Combined Studies*, please consult the relevant programme specification.

# 5.2. Minor requirements

Students may select History as an optional minor to complement their major field. Both the major and minor will be recorded on the student's transcript at graduation. At least three of the upper division courses required for a minor must be taken at Richmond. A maximum of three courses only may overlap between a student's major and any minor.

		<b>US Credits</b>	<b>UK Credits</b>
Minor Requirements		18	72
one of the following		3	12
HST 3100	World Cultural History I		
HST 3105	World Cultural History II		
<i>Plus</i> one lower division History			
courses		3	12
<b>Plus</b> four history courses at 5000-le	12	48	
for the history major			

# 6. Distinctive Features and Regulatory Framework

BA (Hons): History with Combined Studies is distinctive in that it broadens the academic experience of the students as a consequence of Richmond's US Liberal Arts framework and General Education requirements, and deepens it through the sequence of course requirements within the programme. This balance between a core of requirements and a range of choices is a key characteristic of the US system of Liberal Arts undergraduate education. While mapping of the US system onto UK regulatory frameworks has presented another opportunity for quality enhancement, accommodation of the special nature of the US liberal arts degree is achieved in the additional "Combined Studies" designation for each major. Developing this distinctive approach, the Richmond programme aspires to the best theory and practice from both sides of the Atlantic.

The *BA (Hons): History with Combined Studies* is operated under the policy and regulatory frameworks of Richmond the American International University in London, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, the *Framework of Higher Education Qualifications*, *UK Quality Code for Higher Education*, and The Open University policies and procedures for validated institutions.

The following sub-sections include the relevant University or institutional policy documents, where applicable.

#### 6.1. Admissions

To be considered for admission, prospective students should:

- normally be at least 17 years old, have completed a minimum of 12 years of schooling, and hold the required grade(s) in a complete US high School Diploma, UK GCE A levels, or other UK or international qualifications deemed equivalent by the University, by the start of the programme;
- have completed an application via UCAS, the Common Application or direct to the University, including a personal statement and academic reference and supplying verification of existing academic and English language attainments as required by the University.

Further details of qualifications accepted and grades required may be found on the University website, noting that these are common to all BA programmes at the University and there is no requirement as to the subject of entry qualifications. Prospective students from the United States should note that SATs are optional but not required. Whilst not routinely required, prospective students may be invited to interview where this is considered necessary in order to fully consider their application.

Prospective students with specific levels of subject achievement in Advanced Placement Tests, GCE A Levels and some other UK and international qualifications may enter with Advanced Credit and be given exemption from certain courses of the programme. Normally, Advanced Credit may be given for a maximum of 30 out of the total 120 (US) credits necessary to complete the programme. The University also welcomes applications from prospective students with previous Higher Education study who, depending on subjects taken and grades achieved, may be given up to 75 Transfer Credits against the total 120 (US) credits necessary to complete the programme.

Students who are not nationals of a majority English-speaking country should normally have achieved CEFR level B2 in a secure English Language test acceptable to the University prior to entry to the programme. At the University's discretion, students in this category who are EEA nationals may be excused this requirement where they have recently undertaken a full time programme of study of at least 2 years duration with English as the medium of instruction.

Prospective students who do not meet the above academic and/or English language requirements may be permitted to enter this programme at the appropriate point after having first satisfactorily completed a Foundation Year and /or Academic English language programme at the University.

Further details of all of the above may be found at the appropriate page of the University website, where a comprehensive Admissions Policy and Summary of Practice document is also published: <a href="http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/admissions.aspx">http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/admissions.aspx</a>

#### 6.2. Assessment

A proper assessment of student learning and progression of skills gained is fundamental to the work of the University. Much of what shapes the University's perspective on this has already been mentioned within section 4.2, above, under Assessment Strategy, which has been shaped in accordance with the expectations outlined in Section B6 of the UK Quality Code for Higher Education.

The University is also in compliance with Standard 14 on 'Assessment of Student Learning', as laid out by the Middles States Commission on Higher Education. Standard 14 includes the following passages:

"The systematic assessment of student learning is essential to monitoring quality and providing the information that leads to improvement. Implemented effectively, the assessment of student learning will involve the shared commitments of students, administrators and academic professionals... Assessment is not an event but a process and should be an integral part of the life of the institution."

(http://www.msche.org/publications.asp).

#### 6.3. Progression

Progression is built into the Programme Outcomes (Section 3 above), as they are dervied from the *SEEC* categories associated with specific levels of the *FHEQ*. Learning outcomes in each individual course are therefore level-specific, ensuring an appropriate structure of progression through the degree, with students at graduation meeting the requirements of the QAA subject benchmarks.

#### 6.4. Placement

The Internship Office the University offers a formal mechanism through which students may receive work-placement opportunities. These placements are supervised, career-related work experiences combined with reflective, academic study that help students apply theoretical knowledge in the workplace. Participation in the internship programme is optional, but students who choose to take up a placement receive academic credit for their placement and associated academic work. For full details of the internship programme, please see: <a href="http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/academic-programs/internships.aspx">http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/academic-programs/internships.aspx</a>

Expectations with regard to careers education, information, advice and guidance (as outlined in Section B4 of *The UK Quality Cole for Higher Education*) are handled by the university's Student Affairs department. This department conducts a variety of career services for students, ranging from resource provision to a CV service, and in particular through the LEAD (Leadership, Education and Development) seminar series. For full details of career services offered to students at Richmond, please see: <a href="http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/student-affairs/career-services.aspx">http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/student-affairs/career-services.aspx</a>.

In addition to these services, the alumni office offers networking opportunties where students may contact alumni working in a variety of fields. The alumni office also offers these services via social media such as LinkedIn and Facebook. Please see: <a href="http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/alumni.aspx">http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/alumni.aspx</a>

# 6.5. Study abroad

Richmond classes benefit every semester through the arrival of c. 100 study abroad students from colleges and universities within the United States. These students, who mostly enrol in classes at levels 5 and 6, very often bring with them a distinct set of values and approaches to learning that can be both enriching and challenging. Richmond faculty have the breadth of experience necessary with which to capitalise on the positive aspects of this class room dynamic. Please note that Study Abroad students register for classes *after* Richmond degree-course students have completed their registration process.

Richmond students have the option to take a leave of absence and travel away from the university as a 'study abroad'. In practice, however, very few students take this option up. It is more common for Richmond students to take a limited number of classes at other accredited colleges and universities during the summer, and then transfer these back to Richmond for inclusion toward their graduation requirements. All courses taken elsewhere must be pre-approved by the Office of Academic Affairs. All such courses are rigorously scrutinized, and only credit from appropriately accredited programmes, earned with a grade of C or above, are accepted for transfer. There are strict requirements regarding the number of courses and at what level may be taken outside of Richmond. Please see under "Graduation Requirements" at:

http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/academic-affairs/graduation/graduation-requirements.aspx

#### 6.6. Student support and guidance

All students have an allocated full-time faculty member who acts as their academic adviser. Academic Advisers have on-going responsibility for students' academic progress, meeting with each advisee at least once per semester. Advisers assist students with registration, enabling smooth progression through the degree. They also advise on postgraduate and career opportunities, and also provide pastoral support in many cases.

A range of Maths, English, Technology and Writing workshops have been established to support students with particular needs in these areas. Librarians are on hand to assist with library use, which includes instruction in web-based resources.

In accordance with the 2010 Equality Act, and with Chapter B4 of the Quality Code for Higher Education (Section 2: Disabled Students) Richmond endeavours to make all practical and reasonable adjustments to ensure students are able to fully participate in the University community. Students who declare a physical disability or a special educational need are accommodated to ensure the quality of their educational experience meets their individual

requirements. SEN students, for instance, receive extra time in examinations, and have the option of writing exams on university-provided computers, and/or of taking exams in a separate room. Please see:

http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/student-affairs/students-with-disabilities.aspx

The university operates a well-staffed Student Affairs department that provides services intended to support and encourage student welfare, safety and development. This department oversees medical registration of students and provides counseling services. It also organizes a range of extracurricular activities and travel designed to further enhance students' educational experiences. Disciplinary and social grievance procedures are also overseen by this department. For a full description of Student Affairs' activities, please see: <a href="http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/student-affairs.aspx">http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/student-affairs.aspx</a>

# Appendix I - Curriculum map

# Green Cells are core course from within the History Programme

Pink Cells are core courses from other Programmes. Their learning outcomes are derived from their relevant programme specifications. They have been fitted as well as possible into the History Curriculum Map

Yellow Cells are optional courses from within the History Programme

LEVEL 3	HST3100	HST3105						
A3(i)	х	х						
B3(i)	x	x						
C3(i)	x	x						
D3(i)	x	x						
LEVEL 4	HST4100	HST4105	HST4110	DEV4100	INR4105			
A4(i)	x	x	x		x			
A4(ii)		x						
A4(iii)			x					
B4(i)		x		x	x			
B4(ii)	x		x					
B4(iii)		x			x			
C4(i)	х	x	х	х	х			
C4(ii)		x						

C4(iii)	x	x	x		х	x				
D4(i)	x	x	x		x	х				
D4(ii)			х		х					
D4(iii)	x	x	x		x	х				
Level 5	HST5100	HST5105	HST5110	HST5200	HST5210	SCL5200	HST5400	HST5405	HST5410	HST5415
A5(i)	x	x	x	x	x			x		x
A5(ii)		x	x	x	x		x		x	x
A5(iii)	x		x		x		x	x	x	
B5(i)	x	x	x		x		x		x	x
B5(ii)	x	x		x	x		x	x		x
B5(iii)	x	x	x						x	
C5(i)	x	x	x	х	х	х	x	x	x	x
C5(ii)	x	x	x	х		х	x	x	x	x
C5(iii)	x	x	x	х	х	х	x	x	x	x
D5(i)	x	x	x	x	x	х	x	x	x	x
D5(ii)	x	x	x	x	x	х	x	x	x	x
D5(iii)		x	x		x	x				

Level 6	HST6200	HST6205	HST6215	HST6296	HST6297	HST6400		
A6(i)	x	x	х			х		
A6(ii)	x	x	x					
A6(iii)		x	x			x		
A6(iv)	x		x	x	х			
B6(i)			x			x		
B6(ii)		x	x					
B6(iii)	x	x		x	х			
B6(iv)	x			x	х	x		
C6(i)	x	x	x	x	х	x		
C6(ii)	x			x	X			
C6(iii)	x	x	x	x	X	x		
C6(iv)	x	x	x	x	X	x		
D6(i)	x			x	X			
D6(ii)	x	х	x	x	х	x		
D6(iii)		х	x		х			
D6(iv)	x	x	x	x	х			

For the follow modules see relevant programme specifications: ARH, LIT, PHL, SCL please see Combined Studies; COM please see Communications; DEV please see Development Studies; INR please see International Relations; PLT please see Political Science,

# Appendix II - Programme Structure

Department of Communications, Art, and Social Sciences
Typical Degree Schema: *BA (Hons): History with Combined Studies*. (Note: Based on a Freshman entering Richmond with no Transfer Credit)

## YEAR ONE:

