

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School/Department:	Humanities and Social Sciences
Programme:	International History
FHEQ Level:	5
Course Title:	The Vikings
Course Code:	HST 5705
Student Engagement Hours:	120
Lectures:	22.5
Seminar / Tutorials:	22.5
Independent / Guided Learning:	75
Credits:	12 UK CATS credits 6 ECTS credits 3 US credits

Course Description:

The aim of this course is to examine Viking culture in Northern Europe. The course will be taught as a series of lectures, seminars, workshops and site visits and will examine a range of historical, archaeological and art historical sources. The course may involve site-based study in London and northern Europe (Norway, Sweden and/or Finland).

Prerequisites: HST 3200 or GEP 4180

Aims and Objectives:

- To examine Viking culture in Northern Europe
- To consider Viking literature in its historical context
- To examine different sources for the interpretation of history
- To engage with a range of different critical approaches
- To examine intertextuality and influence in literary history and practice

Programme Outcomes:

International History: 5A(ii); 5A(iii); 5B(i); 5B(ii); 5C(i); 5C(ii); 5C(iii); 5D(i); 5D(ii)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is found in the Programme Specification. This is maintained by Registry and located at:

<https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/>

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

- Demonstrate a systematic understanding of Viking culture in Northern Europe
- Analyse primary and secondary materials (especially archaeology, literature and art) in order to achieve a critical understanding of Viking society and culture
- Present research in a convincing and accessible manner
- Complete assigned work with a degree of clarity, technical competence and critical thinking, and a degree of independence and capacity for self-evaluation, appropriate for a 5000-level course

Indicative Content:

- Europe post-Rome
- Viking society in Scandinavia
- The Vikings in the British Isles
- Western and Eastern Voyages
- Paganism, Christianity and Islam
- Cultural legacies: language and literature
- Representations in film

Assessment:

This course conforms to the University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board and are located at <https://www.richmond.ac.uk/university-policies/>

Teaching Methodology:

The course will be taught through a combination of lectures, seminar classes and site visits. Students are expected to do the set readings for each week and to be prepared to contribute to class discussion and discussion sub-groups. The general approach to classes is informal, and discussion is viewed as an essential part of the learning process. Where possible the course will make use of museums and collections within the chosen site locations (London, York, Norway, Sweden and/or Finland).

Bibliography:

Indicative Text(s):

Brink, S. and N. Price (eds). *The Viking World*. London and New York: Routledge, 2008.
 Jones, Gwyn, *A History of the Vikings*. Oxford: Oxford University Press 2001.
 Larrington, C. (translator) *The Poetic Edda*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1996.
 Williams, Gareth, Pentz, Peter and Wemhoff, Matthias (eds.) *Vikings: Life and Legend*. London: British Museum 2014.

Journals

Web Sites

See syllabus for complete reading list

Please Note: The core and the reference texts will be reviewed at the time of designing the semester syllabus

Change Log for this CSD:

Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or LTPC)	Change Actioned by Academic Registry
Revision – annual update	May 2023	