Liverpool Life

One of the most affordable and safest student cities in the UK, Liverpool is packed with attractions. There’s a legendary music scene that’s bigger than the Beatles; a city centre brimming with clubs, pubs, bars, restaurants and cafes; award-winning shopping facilities, museums, galleries and theatres, not to mention two Premier League football clubs, golf courses, beautiful parks and outstanding countryside just a short drive away.

Come to study in this magnificent city and you are guaranteed a second home for life.

And when it comes to exploring Liverpool, thanks to our numerous cultural partnerships, you’ll have a host of opportunities to get involved with the city’s arts scene during your studies. Whether it’s listening to a classical concert in the newly refurbished Philharmonic Hall, watching a performance in the award-winning Everyman, or visiting Tate Liverpool in the Albert Dock, as an LJMU student you will have unprecedented access to world-class attractions.
Welcome to LJMU’s School of Humanities and Social Science

LJMU’s School of Humanities and Social Science strives to break boundaries and develop new thinking. We have a thriving postgraduate community characterised by high quality teaching, supervision and scholarship. Our postgraduate portfolio is made up of well-established and evolving programmes which are relevant to the contemporary global society.

Our learning disciplines are organised into five subject areas:
- Criminology
- English
- History
- Media, Culture and Communication
- Sociology

These are underpinned by our well-established research centres:
- the Centre of the Study of Crime, Criminalisation and Social Exclusion
- the Centre for Literature and Cultural History
- the European Institute for Urban Affairs

We also have strong partnerships in Port and Maritime History Liverpool and Merseyside Studies.
In 2016, LJMU became the first university to receive two commended judgements in the Higher Education Review by the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA).

All UK universities undergo a rigorous independent review by the QAA to check that they meet set standards. Our review saw us far exceeding the criteria, being commended for the quality and enhancement of our student learning opportunities and being praised for nine other areas of good practice.

The benefits of studying at LJMU were clearly outlined by the QAA. The report commented on our:

- provision of clear expectations for students
- curriculum enhancing placements
- continual development of teaching staff
- work, enabling students to reach their graduate potential
- programme monitoring and improvement processes
- ability to collect and act on student feedback
- identification of enhancement opportunities for students
- strengthening collaborative partnerships
- partnerships with postgraduate research students

This ground-breaking result means that, as a future student, you can have total confidence that LJMU delivers an exceptional learning experience and ranks amongst the very best in the UK.

Leading the way in education

Postgraduate study options

QUALIFICATIONS AVAILABLE

LJMU offers a wide range of taught and research programmes delivered by academics actively involved in innovative research and ground-breaking consultancy projects. Indeed, it is this combination of academic expertise and ‘real world’ experience that helps ensure our programmes are up-to-date, accredited by key professional bodies and deliver the knowledge, skills and experience required to achieve your professional ambitions.

Postgraduate Certificates (PgCert) and Diplomas (PgDip)

- can act as stand-alone professional qualifications
- can mark interim achievements en route to a full (taught) masters qualification

Taught Masters (MA)

- builds on undergraduate knowledge and skills
- can be studied 12 months full-time or two year part-time option often available
- often enables you to select specialist optional modules based on your own interests
- involves a dissertation
- sometimes available for those with little/no academic experience in the subject area

Master of Research (MRes)

- focuses on individual research project work
- ideal if you want to pursue a research career
- provides you with an academic mentor who will become your Director of Studies should you progress to a PhD programme

MPhil

- focuses on using appropriate research methods and techniques to conduct an independent enquiry
- can be completed in one to four years, depending if you are a full or part-time student

Doctorate or PhD

- focuses on making an original, personal contribution to the understanding of a problem, the advancement of knowledge or the generation of new ideas
- takes between three and six years to complete, depending on your mode of study

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This ground-breaking result means that, as a future student, you can have total confidence that LJMU delivers an exceptional learning experience and ranks amongst the very best in the UK.
Why study at LJMU?
A global university

LJMU is a global university, welcoming students and staff from over 100 different countries and working in collaboration with businesses, professional bodies and educational institutions from all over the world.

We offer students and staff exciting opportunities to work, train or study overseas, encouraging them to embrace international employment opportunities. Our appetite for collaboration has created huge success and inspired our graduates to see beyond national boundaries and cultural traditions.

Our School of Humanities and Social Science proactively engages with communities, fellow institutions, politicians, policy makers, activists and media on local, national and international levels. You will often see our academics and researchers profiled in the media, giving opinions, writing features and being interviewed on specialist topics. For example, the Centre for the Study of Crime, Criminalisation and Social Exclusion runs the Critical Seminar Series, which invites high profile speakers to come and speak on topics which encourage debate, such as penal reform, injustice, austerity and youth policy. Recent speakers have included Hillsborough campaigner, Sheila Coleman and two former Black Panthers and members of the Angola 3, Robert King and Albert Woodfox.

Excellent facilities

The School is based in the John Foster Building on the Mount Pleasant campus and here you’ll find high specification learning and teaching rooms, lecture theatres and a large IT suite.

The building itself, a former convent, has a fascinating history and many of its original features remain, including the Moot Room which hosts large lectures, seminars and Faculty events.

First class learning resources

LJMU has three libraries: the Aldham Robarts library at the Mount Pleasant Campus, the Avril Robarts library in the City Centre and the IM Marsh library.

A hub for all front-line student services, our libraries are the place to: register and enrol, hand in your coursework, pay fees and get guidance on anything related to the student experience. All libraries have WiFi so you can work on your own device, borrow a laptop or book a PC. You can also book a space to work quietly with friends and can print, copy and scan items here too.

In essence, our libraries offer:

- 2,000 study spaces - including designated postgraduate areas for when you need some quiet time to focus and meeting areas so you can collaborate in groups
- helpful and friendly academic liaison librarians for each Department/Faculty

World-leading research

In the 2014 REF, 81% of research from the School of Humanities and Social Science, relating to Communication, Cultural and Media Studies, was recognised internationally or considered internationally excellent. This research helps ensure our postgraduate courses are positioned at the forefront of developments in the field.

Over the past six years, staff from the School of Humanities and Social Science have produced a wealth of published research, authoring or editing 52 books, producing 192 articles and contributing to 95 chapters in books or entries to edited collections. They have also been involved in interdisciplinary collaborations throughout the University and have forged external research partnerships both nationally and internationally. We feed all of this cutting-edge research into our teaching. The MA International Relations, for example, receives input from several academic schools.

Employment opportunities

The School of Humanities and Social Science has an excellent employability record.

Recent alumni are now working in roles including: Editor, Lecturer, Business Administrator, Premier Banker and Project Manager. They are employed by organisations including Hargreaves Lansdown, Barclays, Santander, Tesco, the higher education and charity sectors.

“I would encourage anyone to come to LJMU to study at postgraduate level.”  Mature student, Catherine Gadd
Our people

Our academics have the specialist knowledge and industry insight to make a real difference to your future. Here are just some of the tutors based in the School of Humanities and Social Science.

**DR KAY STANDING**

**Sociology**

“I enjoy both teaching and research, and particularly like seeing students research interests develop at masters level. I’m passionate about my research and enjoy working in collaboration with students, academics and community partners.”

A reader in gender studies, Kay has worked in the LJMU sociology team since 1997. She is currently working on a HEFCE funded project. Her research in Nepal with Dr Sara Parker on gender and education was part of a collaborative project with Tribhuvan University, Nepal and Dhaka University, Bangladesh.

Kay’s research interests span gender, education and violence against women and girls in the UK and Nepal.

Outside of University, Kay is a member of West African drumming group, and enjoys running and walking her dogs.

**DR MATTHEW HILL**

**International Relations**

“The best parts of my job are that I get to talk with students and colleagues about topics I am curious about. I love a good discussion, and was captivated by the twists and turns of the run up to the US presidential election. I also get to conduct research on these same topics and further develop my understanding of international relations.”

Matt joined LJMU as a senior lecturer in History in April 2014, previously working as a course convenor in international relations at Anglia Ruskin University and a lecturer in US politics at the University of London. In this last post Matt was also the principal investigator for two US-based research projects. He interviewed people involved and affected by contemporary US foreign policy and created an online database on official UK perspectives towards the US during WWII.

Interested in state-building and liberal peace-building as well as the history and politics of US foreign policy, Matt is currently researching contemporary US democracy efforts in the Arab Spring’s Libya as well as sovereignty disputes between the US and the UK over Pacific Islands during WWII.

Over the years Matt has lived in many countries, including Spain and the US. In 2008 he took a career break to cycle around Cuba and work in an orphanage in Bolivia.

“We our distinguished reputation is strengthened by the relationships we have with key stakeholders outside the University.”
DR DAVID CLAMPIN

History

“I love bringing the past to life, challenging students to think about the past in different ways, and from different perspectives and I get real satisfaction from working with students in developing research projects. Their imagination and creativity never ceases to inspire me.”

Having worked in business for a number of years following graduation, David returned to academia in 2002, studying first for an MA and then for a PhD at Aberystwyth. He joined LJMU in 2007, developing a variety of innovative modules, and became involved with the MRes from its inception.

The core strand that flows through all of David’s scholarship is the history of marketing and advertising. Initially employed to gain an understanding of the nature of the British home front in the Second World War, he has subsequently applied the subject to topics such as the nationalisation of sugar refining and the marketing of British shipping lines.

A self-confessed ‘unlikely’ biker, David commutes to work on his motorbike which he considers, in all probability, “too large and ill advised.”

DR NEDIM HASSAN

Mass Communications

“I enjoy teaching and engaging with a range of different students. Helping students to develop their academic skills, critical thinking and confidence in their independent research is enormously satisfying. Working with internationally renowned cultural partners such as Tate Liverpool and seeing students benefit from such partnerships has also been highly rewarding.”

Programme leader for Mass Communications and a senior lecturer in Media and Cultural Studies, Nedim’s background is in popular music studies. He graduated with a doctorate from the Institute of Popular Music, University of Liverpool in 2008.

Nedim specialises in teaching ethnographic methods; political economy of the media and music industries; media audiences and fandom; and popular music studies. His research interests focus on the roles of music, media and culture in everyday life.

A proud “metalhead”, Nedim spends his spare time attending heavy metal music gigs and festivals. He is also a keen table tennis player, participating at local league level.

“Students are led by teaching staff who are national and global research experts.”
Robyn Evans studied for her undergraduate degree in English Literature at LJMU before moving on to a masters in Mass Communications. “These days I think you need a postgraduate qualification to stand out from the crowd and I decided to study mass communications as it seemed a good way of covering all aspects of media.

One of the great things about my masters is the small class size. Lecturers can focus on our individual interests. One session we can be talking about gaming or music and the next we will be looking at fashion blogging. I am particularly enjoying doing the research for my dissertation. I have been able to concentrate on my interests and so the research doesn’t seem like work at all.

Initially masters study was a little harder than I imagined but I think that was because I was studying a completely new subject. It is certainly manageable though - as long as you are able to work independently.

From being young I have always been drawn to LJMU as it seems a much more modern and creative university than many others. It has a lovely relaxed atmosphere but you always know that the help is there when you need it. The fact that the Faculties are in different areas of the city is also good as tutors encourage you to mix with other disciplines and that really helps to develop your networking skills.

In terms of the city itself I really love Liverpool and would happily move here to work.

Masters study for me has been a much better option than going straight into work. It has given me the opportunity to really think about what I want to do. I now know I want to get into digital writing and eventually work freelance. The experience has taught me how to work independently and given me more of a professional work ethic. If you are worried about the cost of a masters remember that you can work part-time and pay your fees in instalments. Postgraduate study has certainly been the right decision for me.”
This MRes in Critical Social Science explores the disciplines that inform society, organisations and institutions.

**Why study this course at LJMU?**

This interdisciplinary MRes brings together staff from criminology, geography, sociology and media, culture and communication. It fosters a creative and innovative research culture, which crosses traditional disciplinary boundaries and builds on the distinctive, critical approaches of each of the disciplines.

The programme enables you to think beyond traditional subject boundaries and construct a postgraduate level research project that showcases your interdisciplinary application of theory in your chosen area of specialist research. It gives you the breadth of knowledge necessary to make informed decisions, and to imagine positive new ways in which to direct social experience. You will consider the consequence of strategy within a number of different contexts and understand how your ability to analyse at this level can make a valuable contribution to the experience of future generations. During your studies you will secure the research training demanded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC/ Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) for postgraduate funding.

The course’s structure, content and approach are testament to both the expertise found in the School of Humanities and Social Science and LJMU’s commitment to interdisciplinary study. Our dynamic, professional and experienced staff excel in innovative and exciting research and this contributes to the teaching and learning methods you will experience.

Course tutors have good working relationships with Merseyside employers and these relationships frequently enhance the academic and personal career development of our students. Indeed, for those interested in taking their studies further, the programme can lead to doctorate study in social sciences.

**Graduate employment**

Postgraduate study in Critical Social Science enables you to progress to the next level in social analysis and influence in a range of rewarding roles for social change.

On successful completion of the programme you can progress to doctoral research in the social sciences or bring your new found skills in argument, presentation, organisation and research to a range of academic, professional and commercial occupations.

**You will study the following modules:**

- Critical Social Science Research Proposition and Development
- Critical Social Science Project Development

**Entry Requirements:**

Minimum 2:1 in a relevant discipline. Non-standard applications are welcome.

IELTS 6.5 with a minimum 7.0 in Academic Writing.

**Fees:**

See website for details.

**Programme Leader:**

Dr Kay Standing  
k.e.standing@ljmu.ac.uk
This MRes in English will enable you to carry out novel investigations on narrative, its function and potential to affect human experience and our ways of being.

Why study this course at LJMU?
This MRes gives you the opportunity to pursue your own interests in literature and cultural history, under the guidance of specialist supervision and amongst a diverse community of fellow researchers.

It will enable you to carry out your own investigations into the diverse forms and functions of literary writing. You will be based in our Research Centre for Literature and Cultural History, where you will work alongside active researchers in the field and become part of a thriving academic community.

The course combines supervised independent research with specialist training in research methods and academic skills, while also helping you to become aware of the wide variety of approaches currently practised in the discipline.

The programme will provide you with a valuable foundation for progression to PhD while also developing skills and highly prized competencies in many areas of employment.

The English MRes is delivered by academics actively engaged in research under the aegis of the Research Centre for Literature and Cultural History at LJMU. Key areas of specialism include: early modern literature and culture; gender and sexuality; medical humanities; 19th century literature and history; regional, national and postcolonial literatures; contemporary and everyday cultures; literature and cultural geography; 20th century and contemporary writing (British, Irish, Scottish, American). Research proposals related to these projects and specialisms are welcomed, but the capacities for supervision are broad and MRes students work in a wide range of areas within the discipline.

You will study the following modules:

- Contemporary Literary Studies
- English Project Development
- Research Methods for Arts, Professional and Social Studies
- Professional Development for Researchers in Arts, Professional and Social Studies
- English Research Proposition
- English Research Project

Teaching and assessment
Assessed work is designed to advance your progress at different stages of the project and help you realise your full potential as a postgraduate researcher.

Assessment is based on a range of research tasks and projects and includes: literature review; seminar presentations; reflective exposition and evaluation of appropriate methodologies; outline research plans; reflective and annotated bibliographies; oral presentations and the research project/dissertation.

Graduate employment
Thanks to our working relationships with a diverse range of Merseyside employers and organisations, you will enjoy excellent opportunities for academic and personal career development.

The programme develops the advanced skills of research, conceptualisation, analysis and argument, and presentation and these are highly valued in many sectors of employment.

The MRes is designed, in part, as a preparation for doctoral study and students who progress to PhD often acknowledge the important role it has played in their development.

Study full-time over one year

Entry requirements:
Minimum 2:1 in literature, cultural history or a relevant discipline. Non-standard applications are welcome.
IELTS 6.5 with a minimum 7.0 in written work.

Fees:
See website for details.

Programme Leader:
Dr Colin Harrison c.harrison@ljmu.ac.uk
This MA offers opportunities to pursue advanced study at the leading edges of English Literature, within a vibrant community of scholars.

Why study this course at LJMU?

The course explores the deeper potential of that most eclectic and interdisciplinary of subjects—English—and extends your reading and research into exciting new areas. You will master skills of research, analysis, argument and writing that are both a vital preparation for doctoral research and highly valued by employers.

It is structured around a series of themed modules on place, mobilities, objects and bodies. Within these broad themes we explore a wide range of texts from the early modern period to the present. These texts will cross national borders and literary genres, and may include the visual, cinematic and digital alongside the conventionally literary. The modules detailed opposite are indicative and subject to change depending on student numbers and interests, and staff availability.

English at LJMU has long had a reputation for innovative and interdisciplinary approaches to literary studies. The department was one of LJMU’s top performers in the most recent Research Excellence Framework (2014), with 68% of the work we publish rated as internationally excellent, and 22% of that as ‘world-leading in terms of originality, significance and rigour’. 50% of our research impact (a measure of the significance and reach of our work for public audiences) was world-leading.

You will be based in our Research Centre for Literature and Cultural History, where you will work alongside other postgraduate students and academics. You will be encouraged to attend our full programme of seminars, lectures, conferences and other events.

We are committed scholars and dedicated teachers and are proud of fostering a supportive and intellectually stimulating environment for all our students.

You will study the following modules:

- Place
- Mobilities
- Research Methods
- Dissertation
- Bodies
- Objects
- Public Culture and Collaborative Practice

Teaching and assessment

There will be a variety of assessments spread across modules, including in-class presentations, posters, online contributions, critical reflections and portfolios. The most common piece of assessment will be the extended essay, allowing you to develop advanced techniques of reading, research, writing and presentation.

The course concludes with your completion of a major piece of coursework: a 15,000-word dissertation on a topic of your choice.

Graduate employment

The MA will enhance your prospects in a wide variety of careers, such as teaching, freelance writing, research, academia, print journalism and the creative, cultural and heritage industries. The programme develops sophisticated skills of research, analysis, argument, theorisation, abstraction, evidence and writing. These are highly valued in many areas of employment.

The MA is also a recognised preparation for doctoral study and will strengthen applications for PhD programmes and funded scholarships at LJMU and elsewhere.

Study full-time over one year

Entry Requirements:

Minimum 2:1 in literature, cultural history or a relevant subject. Non-standard applications are welcome and will be subject to interview.

Overseas applicants require an IELTS score of 6.5, with a score of 7 in written work.

Fees:

See website for details.

Programme Leader:

Colin Harrison  c.harrison@ljmu.ac.uk
This MA is designed to help you examine the central challenges of the world we live in today in both contemporary and historical perspectives.

Why study this course at LJMU?

The MA in International Relations will provide a grounding in international relations theory while examining in-depth issues of enduring international significance.

The programme takes an expanded definition of International Relations and covers a range of subjects including history, economics, politics, law and culture. It also examines the actions of international organisations, nation-states and non-state actors.

Modules you will study cover topics including: conflict, US foreign policy, state-building in the colonial and post-colonial world, and the role of humanitarian actions.

We recognise the importance of networking when obtaining employment in a related field. This is why we will provide opportunities for an internship programme and will hold and attend regular events and workshops with experts in a variety of fields.

You will study the following modules:

- Understanding International Relations
- Research Methods
- The War/Peace Cycle
- Research Project in International Relations

Option modules are also available covering topics such as:

- Colonial and post-colonial statebuilding in the 19th to 21st Centuries
- Interpreting Conflict in Post-Colonial Africa
- Conflict and Welfare in International Law
- The United Nations International Security and Global Justice
- EU Foreign Security and Justice Policy
- Gender Perspectives and International Law
- Statehood, Peoples and Statelessness
- Democracy, Rights and Rule of Law

Teaching and assessment

All teaching and assessments methods are designed to aid the development of your knowledge of international relations.

Teaching will be delivered via: class discussions, lectures and workshops with core academic staff and guest practitioners, experts and lecturers. The aim is to give you as much insight into the world of international relations as possible and this is best achieved through a mix of academic discussion and real world experiences.

The aim in all assessments is to test your understanding of international relations. We all learn in different ways and so you will be assessed via essays, presentations, exams and portfolios.

Graduate employment

This programme has been designed to enhance your career prospects in international relations-related fields including government and non-government sectors. Our internship programme will provide experience and contacts.

For those wishing to pursue an academic career or embark on further study in the field of international relations, this MA will provide a solid basis for an MPhil/PhD.

Entry Requirements:

A good second class honours degree in a related subject, such as history or politics. IELTS 6.5 with a minimum of 7.0 in academic writing.

Fees:

See website for details.

Programme Leader:

Dr Matthew Hill  m.a.hill@ljmu.ac.uk
Mass Communications

Open to international students

“Completing my MA at LJMU was a stepping stone where I learned how to take control of my career choices.”

Fiona Torrance, MA Mass Communications graduate

Mass communications inhabit an increasingly digital landscape subject to cultural, economic and legal change. During this programme you will investigate the significance of media forms, the systems within which they operate and the challenges they face.

Why study this course at LJMU?

Media industries and their content are often subject to scrutiny and debates concerning their communicative power and influence, professional practice, ethics and law. This MA will enable you to join the cultural workforce with an understanding of how changes in policy and the politics of culture impact communication. You will examine how communications, institutions and media systems connect with contemporary audience experience and participation.

The course is designed for students from a wide range of academic or vocational backgrounds, including social media, public relations and journalism. It also provides a progression route for undergraduates on courses relating to media, journalism, cultural studies, marketing and communications as well as humanities and social science subjects.

The MA is delivered by academic staff with a proven record in research and teaching mass communications. It considers forms of communication power in a range of contexts to highlight their historical development and explore their continued relevance within a contemporary digital media environment. The knowledge you will gain on this course will strengthen your ability to create effective messages and forms of communication and enable you to understand how cultures are influenced and affected by such transmissions. You will be able to make ethical, relevant decisions with regards to journalism, academia, TV and radio broadcasting, PR and internet broadcasting and writing for the web.

You will study the following modules:

- Theories Concepts and Debates in Mass Communications
- Mass Communication: Research Methods
- Digital Cultures
- New Media: Policy and Practice
- Mass Communications Dissertation

Teaching and assessment

Programme learning is assessed via: presentations, essays, practical portfolio, research-based exercises, critical reviews, research plans, student-defined assessment and a dissertation.

You will need to consider different means of communicating your research findings, formulating your response to critical issues and contemporary debates and evaluating contemporary trends across a range of different types of assessment.

Graduate employment

The varied learning experiences, both creative and analytical, that you will encounter during this course will enable you to foster abilities which are valuable for working in a range of media industries. The postgraduate research training that is integral to this course will also enable you to pursue further study at doctoral level.

Former students who have studied Mass Communications at LJMU have gone on to work in: advertising, marketing, public relations, arts administration, publishing, industry, retail, leisure, charitable organisation management, educational administration, accountancy, the social services, teaching and the Civil Service. You may also pursue a career in broadcasting for radio and television.

Study full-time over one year

Entry Requirements:

A good second class honours degree in a related subject. Non-standard applications are welcome.

IELTS 6.0 (minimum 5.5 in each component) or equivalent.

Fees:

See website for details.

Programme Leader:

Dr Nedim Hassan  n.a.hassan@ljmu.ac.uk
Housed within the School of Humanities and Social Science you will be well-placed to conduct original research in your chosen area of Modern History with this MRes programme.

**Why study this course at LJMU?**

A valuable foundation for progression to PhD study, this MRes gives you the opportunity to pursue your own interests in Modern History, under the guidance of specialist supervision and amongst a diverse community of fellow researchers.

LJMU provides you with the freedom of a truly cross-disciplinary environment, fully equipped with the respective experts and facilities that will enable you to realise a project from conception to its final intended outcomes.

This programme invites you to complete an independent research project and become part of an intertextual academic community that will enrich your work, inspire new interdisciplinary ideas and open up a network of likeminded academic historians. Research, scholarship and consultancy work help to ensure the programme is up-to-date with new developments and contemporary thinking.

You will be encouraged to engage with ideas being developed by academics in history and scholars invited from other institutions for ‘Perspectives’, the History Research Seminar series, which runs several events each year.

In studying this MRes in Modern History you will become a highly skilled project manager and researcher, as well as a great ideas person, able to make connections and forge new thought pathways that enable alternative ways of seeing. You will develop skills in research, analysis, conceptualisation and argument.

As well as your independent study, the relationships you build within our academic community will enable you to bring in your own area of interest and, through your tutorials, explore how it interplays with the research interests of your academic guides and peers. This fertile ground for investigation will also be enriched through our interdisciplinary Research Cafés, Special Collection archives, and our subject dedicated library staff who will support your research.

**You will study the following modules:**

- Professional Development for Researchers in Arts, Professional and Social Studies
- Research Methods for Arts, Professional and Social Studies
- Research Proposition and Development: Approaches to History
- Research Proposition and Development: Identification and Analysis of Primary Sources
- Modern History Research Project

**Teaching and assessment**

Knowledge and understanding are assessed through coursework including: historiographical review essays, a reflective research diary, seminar presentations, evaluation of appropriate methodologies and primary sources, an outline research plan and the research project/dissertation.

The dissertation assesses: research skills, analytical skills, presentational skills and progress in the development of ideas.

**Graduate employment**

Thanks to our working relationships with a diverse range of Merseyside employers and organisations, you will enjoy excellent opportunities for academic and personal career development during your studies.

Successful completion of the course will place you in a position to progress to doctoral research in Modern History or a related area, or to bring the skills in argument, presentation, organisation and research that you have acquired to other areas of employment.

The course aims to equip you with the full range of research training that is demanded by the Arts and Humanities Research Board (AHRC) and other relevant funding bodies for grants given to doctoral researchers.

“Focusing on research meant that I was able to discover and develop skills that would have been oblivious to me if I hadn’t done the course and it undoubtedly played a major role in helping me to secure a PhD bursary.”

Lee Collins, graduate

**Entry Requirements:**

Minimum 2:1 in modern history or a related subject. IELTS 6.5 with a minimum of 7.0 in academic writing.

**Fees:**

See website for details.

**Programme Leader:**

Dr Lucinda Matthews-Jones, L.M.Matthew-Jones@ljmu.ac.uk
Former Police Inspector Sean Bell studied for an MRes at LJMU before moving on to PhD study.

“Coming to the end of my police career I undertook an undergraduate degree in Policing Studies at LJMU. My day job involved acting as an advocate for Police Officers experiencing mental health issues and, with the academic grounding provided by my undergraduate studies, I realised it was a topic I had to explore further. I didn’t think a taught course would give me the freedom to study a topic of my own choosing but then Dr Kay Standing told me about the flexibility of the MRes, explaining it welcomed punks, poets and potters. I decided to add policemen to that list and signed up.

The MRes was interesting because it was so varied. Cross curriculum sessions in the mornings saw us working with art and history students, whereas the afternoons saw us back with critical social science colleagues, researching our own topics. The programme combined a real breadth of learning with the ability to specialise in your own topic. Before I started the course I didn’t know a great deal about research but the programme taught me all about the various techniques and concepts, giving me a sound grounding in this area.

Postgraduate study is about self-reliance. It is quite a step up but the ability to share experiences with your peers makes it eminently achievable.

The academics on the programme were wonderful. They certainly challenge you, at times, but they do that to demonstrate that masters study is about making your own way. The extraordinary encouragement I received even saw me having a paper published in a police journal – something I could never have imagined.

Before embarking on the programme I was really worried how I would fit in as a mature student. I needn’t have worried, I was treated very well and certainly never felt like an outsider. The University provides an excellent study environment and I really can’t praise it enough. It’s a place that has set me on the path I want to be – and has also established the careers of two of my children.”
Join the School of Humanities and Social Sciences to conduct research in criminology, English, history, media, culture and communication, politics or sociology.

You can study for an MPhil full-time over 12 months or part-time over up to 48 months or a PhD full-time over 24 months or part-time over up to 84 months.

The School recruits the brightest and best students for doctoral research. Our vibrant and dynamic research culture engages staff and students in local, national and international projects across a range of disciplines. We invite applications from motivated, intellectually able students with the drive and propensity for original thought.

We are keen to promote research that crosses traditional disciplinary boundaries and exploits opportunities at the intersections of disciplines. Our subject areas are interdisciplinary by nature and our staff team include specialists in urban geography, world development and political science. Special areas of interest include:

- criminology - working alongside the School's Centre for the Study of Crime Criminalisation and Social Exclusion (CCSE)
- English and the work of the Research Centre for Literature and Cultural History
- history
- media, culture and communication
- sociology

For more information please visit:
ljmu.ac.uk/research
All LJMU students have access to a wealth of support services to make your time with us as happy and fulfilling as possible.

**Counselling and mental health**
Our free service offers one-to-one and group counselling sessions, as well as mental health guidance and support.

**Disability**
We have disability co-ordinators in every academic School and an on-site assessment room for those with additional needs.

**English language support for international students**
We provide pre-sessional English courses for those whose language capability does not meet entry requirements. See ljmu.ac.uk/isc for more details.

**Funding**
Our team provide information on postgraduate funding including loans, grants and bursaries as well as offering guidance on budgeting and money management.

**Spiritual support**
Confidential, non-judgemental pastoral care and support is available for students of all beliefs and backgrounds. We have facilities for quiet meditation, prayer and contemplation on each campus, as well as dedicated space for Muslim prayers.

**Student advice and wellbeing**
Our team offer advice and guidance on issues ranging from health to accommodation and childcare.

**Study skills**
Workshops are available on various aspects of postgraduate study, including academic writing, effective reading skills, exam and revision skills, report writing and IT skills.

**Support for international students**
As well as a ‘meet and greet’ service when you arrive in the UK, our international team will help with issues such as your visa, setting up a UK bank account and an email address and registering with the police, contact: international@ljmu.ac.uk

“In my opinion the support on offer is one of the main benefits of studying at LJMU.”

Stephen Smith, LJMU student
Research shows that postgraduates earn, on average, 24% more than those with an undergraduate degree.

Postgraduate study at LJMU is geared towards meeting the needs of employers and an impressive 96% of our postgraduates are in work or further study six months after graduation. ‘

**Develop the skills you need**

We offer an exceptional careers support service which enables you to demonstrate to potential employers that you have the skills and experience they are looking for.

**Additional support**

Our careers centre runs regular workshops and webinars covering topics such as CV writing, application forms, interviews, assessment centres, psychometric testing and more. Our Faculty careers zones at Byrom Street, IM Marsh and the Aldham Robarts library host regular employer visits where you can meet, network and discuss career opportunities.

**Careers support for postgraduate researchers**

Catering for the specific needs of Postgraduate researchers, our three month ‘Your Career, Your Choice’ programme enables you to complete up to 12 interactive workshops. You will receive one-to-one career coaching as well as developing practical skills in writing impactful CVs, job hunting, preparing for interviews and creating an online profile.

**Entrepreneurship**

If you have ambitions to be your own boss or work freelance, expert help is available from our Centre for Entrepreneurship. As well as providing mentoring services, the Centre helps entrepreneurs to achieve key milestones by offering advice on a wide range of topics including access to funding.

*HESA 2016

“My studies at LJMU and the help I have received from the careers team have given me the confidence to go out and work in industry, applying the knowledge and skills I have gained at LJMU.”

Omer Chiyoyo Kamwena, LJMU student
All new LJMU students are guaranteed a room endorsed by the University no matter what your level of study.

For further details of University endorsed accommodation, go to: ljmu.ac.uk/postgraduate/accommodation

For details of private rental accommodation go to: liverpoolstudenthomes.org.uk
Funding your studies

An annual tuition fee is payable for all postgraduate courses, either in full at the beginning of the academic year or in instalments throughout the year.

For details of full and part-time annual tuition fees, please see individual programme factfiles. You can search for your specific programme at [ljmu.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate](http://ljmu.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate)

For information about loans, scholarships and bursaries to fund your postgraduate study, go to: [ljmu.ac.uk/postgraduate-funding](http://ljmu.ac.uk/postgraduate-funding)

LJMU graduates will also find details of the 20% tuition fee reduction here.
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