Jesus College, Oxford

Subject Notes: HISTORY AND ECONOMICS

Academic Staff

Fellows

**Professor Patricia Clavin** is a Fellow and Tutor in History at Jesus. She has written books on the history of international economic diplomacy between the two world wars, the history of the Great Depression in Europe, a history of Europe from 1789 to the present (with Asa Briggs), and edited a history of Internationalism in the Twentieth Century (with Glenda Sluga). She has also published some thirty articles and book chapters on the international history of the twentieth century. Her book *Securing the World Economy. The Reinvention of the League of Nations, 1920-1946*, published by Oxford University Press in 2013, was awarded the British Academy Medal. Her latest book project, supported by a grant from the Leverhulme Trust, explores the history of human security in the twentieth century. Patricia teaches the history of Britain and Europe in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and offers specialist teaching on the history of the two world wars and the history of international and transnational co-operation in the twentieth century.

**Dr Alexandra Gajda** is also a Fellow and Tutor in History at Jesus. She teaches sixteenth- and seventeenth-century British and European history, with specialisms on Tudor politics and religion, and religion, literature and politics in the early modern period. She has published on the political, intellectual and religious history of English and European history in the early modern period. Her book on late Elizabethan political culture was published in 2012. She is currently writing a book about the evolution of the parliaments of the British Isles during the Reformation.

**Professor Péter Esö** is the Fellow and Tutor in Economics. He teaches Core Microeconomics and Game Theory at the undergraduate level. His research interests and publications are in microeconomic theory, game theory, and the economics of information.

Lecturers

**Dr Thomas Brodie** joined Jesus College in Michaelmas Term 2015 as a Departmental Lecturer in Modern History. He studied for an undergraduate degree at Hertford College, Oxford between 2006 and 2009, and was inspired to become a historian of modern Germany. He completed an MSt and DPhil at Hertford between 2009 and 2014, focusing on the social and cultural histories of German society during the Second World War, and specifically, the roles played by religious belief and practice in shaping Germans’ attitudes towards the conflict and the Nazi regime. Thomas teaches a range of papers about modern European and global history.

**Dr Conrad Leyser** is a Fellow and Tutor in History at Worcester College, who also teaches for Jesus College. His interests lie in the religious and social history of the Latin West, 300-1100; law, memory and narrative.

About the Course

The Joint School of History and Economics integrates Economics and History to form a coherent and intellectually stimulating programme. The combination allows insights that neither subject can realise alone. However, it is possible to specialise primarily in either history or economics while still preserving the benefits of an integrated approach. The combination of economics, economic history and history (political as well as social) means that you will be equipped to view issues in the real world from a variety of contrasting perspectives. You will learn both the historian's careful approaches to evidence
and argumentation and the economist's analytical and quantitative methods, providing an excellent preparation for a range of professional, financial and academic careers.

The course is designed to equip you with the basic tools of both history and economics, whilst introducing you to some of the areas that you can study later in more depth.

You will be given a wide choice of subjects. Everyone studies introductory economics, which is designed to give a solid understanding of the foundations of both micro- and macro-economics, including some of mathematical tools used in these subjects.

First Year (The Preliminary Examination)

Students study four papers and sit an examination in June at the end of the first year. The examination is intended only to consolidate your work at the end of the first year and the result does not count towards the final degree classification.

1. Introductory Economics, which is designed to give a solid grounding in both micro- and macro-economics

2. General History (primarily European). A choice of four options is available:
   - AD 370–900: The Transformation of the Ancient World
   - AD 1000–1300: Medieval Christendom and its Neighbours
   - AD 1400–1650: Renaissance, Recovery and Reform
   - AD 1815–1914: Society, Nation and Empire

   These papers are studied thematically.

3. A paper on historical methods. A variety of options is available: ‘Quantification in History’; ‘Historiography: Tacitus to Weber’, which looks at great historians and their works; and the ‘Foreign Texts’ option which allows students to study one or two seminal historical works in a foreign language (options in Greek, Latin, French, German, Italian, Spanish and Russian are available).

4. An Optional Subject involving the use of primary sources. ‘Industrialization in Britain and France 1750–1870’ is a paper only open to History and Economics students.

The Second and Third Years

There are two core papers in Economics (which cover Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, and Quantitative Economics), and there is one core paper in Economic History (British Economic History since 1870). Thereafter there is a great choice of subjects enabling you to use the skills acquired in the first year and from the study of the core papers.

Apart from the core papers mentioned above, students must also study:

1) Either a period of British History or a period of General History (European or World History), of the History of the United States, or of the History of European expansion overseas. There are twenty-five options to choose from. It is possible to study social, economic, and cultural as well as political themes within these options.

2) Any two papers from the History Further Subjects and Economics options. There are currently thirty-four History Further Subjects to choose from. The Economics Options are listed below.


A full list of History Further Subjects will be found on the History Faculty Website.
The Economics Options are listed on the website of the Department of Economics, and currently include (in addition to British Economic History since 1870, which is part of this course’s core): Behavioural and Experimental Economics; Econometrics; Economics of Developing Countries; Economics of Industry; Finance; Game Theory; International Economics; Labour Economics; Microeconomic Analysis; Money and Banking; Public Economics.

You will be expected to attend about five lectures per week during the first year, participate in regular meetings with tutors to discuss work, research in libraries and write at least one essay a week. In the second and third year there is the opportunity to substitute a thesis for one of the required papers, which will enable you to do a piece of independent research.

**Joint Schools**

Economics cannot be studied as a single discipline for a degree, but it is available as a joint course as follows:

- Economics and Management
- Philosophy, Politics and Economics

History can be studied as a single discipline and is also available as a joint course as follows:

- History and English
- History and Modern Languages
- History and Politics

**Admissions**

Submitted work and UCAS personal statements are likely to form starting-points for discussion in your interview. The tutors are not so much interested in the level of your knowledge as in your ability to think analytically, and (in the case of History) historically.

All candidates must take the **History Aptitude Test (HAT)** and the **Thinking Skills Assessment: Section 1 (TSA: S1)** in schools on **Thursday 2 November 2017**. Both the HAT and the TSA are administered by the Admissions Testing Service. Separate registration is required for each of the two tests and the deadline for this is **15 October 2017**. Please see the following links for further details on admissions tests:


Candidates will also be asked to submit one essay on an historical topic. Some colleges may require you to read a short passage of historical writing while you are up for interview, which they will ask you to discuss as part of the interview process.

In a total College entry of about 100 undergraduates, 8 are offered places in a typical year to read History and related joint schools. Offers made to pre-A level candidates will be conditional upon A level results (normally AAA, with an A in History). Offers made to post-A level candidates will usually be unconditional. Prior study of Economics is not a requirement for entry for the History and Economics course. It is highly recommended to study Mathematics to A2 level or equivalent as the Economics side of the course requires strong mathematical skills.

**Deferred Entry:** Applications for deferred entry to Jesus College are welcomed. You must apply for deferred entry at the time of application to Oxford: you cannot change your mind after an offer has been made. Please refer to departmental web sites for subject-specific advice. You should be aware that
applicants who are offered places for deferred entry will generally be among the strongest of the cohort for their subject. We would not usually offer more than one or two deferred places per subject in order not to disadvantage the following year’s candidates. In some cases, an applicant for deferred entry may be offered a place for non-deferred entry instead. If you require any further advice, please contact the Admissions Officer at: admissions.officer@jesus.ox.ac.uk

Postgraduate Studies and Careers

The Faculty of History offers a range of taught graduate courses at master’s level and two research programmes leading to the degrees of Master of Letters or Doctor of Philosophy.

In addition to the traditional fields of historical research, in political, social, and cultural history, History at Oxford embraces more specialised areas, such as medieval history, economic and social history, the history of science, medicine, and technology, and the history of art.

The Department of Economics has around 200 graduate students. As a research based community, the Department puts great weight on developing its graduate students. The following degrees are offered at postgraduate level:

- MLitt or DPhil Economics
- MPhil Economics
- MSc Economics for Development (joint with Development Studies)
- MSc in Financial Economics (joint with Said Business School)

Although a History degree is not vocational in any strict sense (and many students undertake the course for reasons of sheer intellectual pleasure) it does equip students with a set of transferable skills applicable to many careers. Historians are used to the sifting of large quantities of often conflicting information; they are skilled in the evaluation of differing interpretations; they are trained in presenting complex issues in a lucid and convincing fashion; their verbal and critical skills are highly developed. These qualities have enabled generations of Oxford historians to excel in a wide range of careers. Oxford historians typically move on to careers in business, the law, investment banking and consultancies, advertising, accountancy, the civil service, publishing, journalism and the media, global charity work, museums, librarianship and archive work, and teaching.

Preliminary Reading and Further Information

Further information about History and Economics can be found on the faculty websites at:

- www.history.ox.ac.uk
- www.economics.ox.ac.uk

Information about Admissions is available at: http://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/courses-listing/history-and-economics

Contact details

If you have any questions about our entrance requirements, or about applying to study at Jesus College, please contact the Admissions Officer:

Tel: 01865 279721
Email: admissions.officer@jesus.ox.ac.uk
Web: www.jesus.ox.ac.uk/study-here

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