

<p>Institution: University of Hull</p>
<p>Unit of Assessment: D30: History</p>
<p>a. Overview</p> <p>History research at Hull ranges from Palaeolithic America to the contemporary Philippines, by way of modern Australia, India, the Middle East, and Britain and Europe from the early middle ages to the twenty-first century. Thematic strengths include global, cultural, environmental, political, social, economic, intellectual, maritime and military history, as well as the history of slavery and of adaptive technologies. The UOA received the top grade of 5 in the 1996 and 2001 Research Assessment Exercises, while research income totalled £3.67 million during the 2008 RAE period when 65% of History's research output was rated as world-leading, or internationally excellent, with the remainder judged of international or national quality. The UOA has an excellent track record of supporting postgraduate and early career researchers, as well as engaging with a broad range of individuals, communities and organisations in the UK and overseas.</p> <p><i>Organisation</i></p> <p>Hull's UOA30 is largely based in the Department of History, located in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS), but includes colleagues working in managerial roles and other academic units. Staff from other Departments (English, Geography, American Studies, Politics, Law, Biological Sciences, Business) contribute to the UOA's research effort through engagement in interdisciplinary research projects, joint funding applications, participation in research and training seminars and contributions to History undergraduate teaching. Research is managed at departmental level through a Research Committee, chaired by the Director of Research (DoR), which formulates strategy, oversees PGR monitoring, and ensures supervisor training and research expenditure according to university codes of practice. The DoR coordinates internal peer review of all grant applications (including to external bodies), and liaises with Faculty Research Executive (FRE) and University Research and Enterprise Committee (UREC). There is a separate Director of PGR who is a member of both the Departmental Research Committee and FRE. Research activity is further supported by the Research Office (grant applications), Finance Office (grant management), the Graduate School (PGR administration) and the University Strategic Development Unit (for review and monitoring issues, and long-term planning).</p> <p><i>Interdisciplinary Research Units</i></p> <p>The UOA is a key stakeholder in three interdisciplinary research units. The Maritime Historical Studies Centre (MHSC) is embedded in the Department, but collaborates with colleagues in the Law School, the Business School, Geography, the Institute of Coastal and Estuarine Studies and the Centre for Adaptive Science and Sustainability in a range of projects that focus on the interaction of human societies and the marine environment. Historians initiated and continue to drive much of the research undertaken by the Wilberforce Institute for the study of Slavery and Emancipation (WISE), which is administered by FASS and benefits from the substantial input of colleagues in Social Sciences, Law and Business. The Andrew Marvell Centre for Medieval and Early Modern Studies is also based in FASS, its mission being to cohere the medieval and early-modern research interests of colleagues in English, History, Music, Drama and Languages and Cultures.</p> <p>b. Research strategy</p> <p>Hull's history community has substantially adapted its management of research activity in the assessment period to enhance the reach and impact of its outputs and to sustain and expand activity within the current challenging financial climate. Building on the strengths manifest in RAE2008, our overarching aims remain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to enhance historical knowledge and understanding by conducting research in accordance with the highest professional standards; • to disseminate research findings via publication in suitable media, through the provision of

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research-informed learning to full and part-time postgraduate and undergraduate students, and through conference presentations and engagement with the wider public;

- to cultivate a working environment characterised by a supportive, inclusive and productive research culture;
- to develop areas of established strengths, while fostering activity in innovative, complementary and interdisciplinary fields.

The pursuit of these goals has been informed by the University Strategic Plan 2011-15, which identified six cross-institutional research themes (Connected Communities; Creative Economy; Energy and Environment; Ethics and Social Justice; Global Economy, Maritime and Security; Health and Wellbeing) as a means of realising interdisciplinary research potential and optimising the use of resources and expertise. These themes inform, but do not dictate, research planning, and the Strategic Plan provides support and encouragement at all levels for individual projects outside these fields, and for innovative, cross-cutting ideas. Within this framework, the History Department has reoriented its research activities to achieve a better alignment between its outputs and those who use and benefit from our research. This entails developing our research to address a variety of target audiences rather than organising it through groups or clusters based solely on staff interests. The majority of individual or collaborative projects therefore engage with one or more of the following communities:

- heritage and cultural engagement
- education, skills and knowledge
- business
- public policy

In pursuing this strategy, we aim to sustain and enhance the high quality of our research, enabling us to continue engaging with the scholarly community in HEIs and delivering research-informed teaching, while improving the impact of our research beyond the academy.

Aspirations for 2014-19

The History research effort will intensify in three areas during the next census period. First, interdisciplinary research, beyond that undertaken by the MHSC, WISE and the Andrew Marvell Centre, will develop. Work planned or underway includes projects on war and memory with the English Department, several projects relating to War Studies (based in Politics) and Social Justice (primarily involving Law and Politics staff), and the investigation of sovereignty in European history and as a contemporary political issue (with Politics). The programme of research and training seminars is being revised through closer coordination of events with other departments to encourage interdisciplinarity. Second, the Department will coordinate the UK's only AHRC Centre for Doctoral Training (CDT) in Heritage in collaboration with six other universities, eight heritage organisations and a wider network of around 70 other organisations in the UK, Europe and South Africa. Third, the effective management of research data is an emerging strategic goal. In 2012, the Department devised a History Data Management Plan (DMP) on the basis of JISC funding (£58k), an initiative that yielded in January 2013 a further £49k from the AHRC in collaboration with the IHR and the University of Sheffield. This will facilitate the delivery of Data Management Training (DMT) to postgraduate students, which will enable them to collate, store and use research data more effectively.

c. People, including:

i. Staffing strategy and staff development

Staff Recruitment Strategy

In responding to, and anticipating, staffing changes across the census period, the History Department, with University and Faculty backing, has invested strategically in six new appointments. These include the enlistment of a new Professor of Indigenous History (Porter), whose remit is to expand the chronological, geographical and thematic range of the UOA's research. The other five recruits are early career researchers (Baker, McCarthy, Thomas, Veach, Wall), who have been appointed to enhance the sustainability and vitality of the UOA into the next REF cycle and beyond. As well as strengthening the Department's expertise in global history, the

research interests of the appointees align with the University's strategic themes of Health and Wellbeing (Wall, medical history), Connected Communities (Baker, nationalism), and Global Economy, Maritime and Security (Baker, contemporary security issues; McCarthy, prize-taking at sea; Wall, medicine and empire), as well as consolidating and diversifying established strengths in medieval history (Thomas, Veach).

Staff Development

The University has adopted the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers (<http://www2.hull.ac.uk/theuniversity/research/theconcordat.aspx>), and was awarded the European Union's HR Excellence in Research badge in January 2012 in recognition of its work to support vital and sustainable research environments. The University has embraced the Researcher Development Framework since its publication in 2010. This is embedded into researcher training provided by the Staff Development Unit through focused briefing sessions and more extensive workshops that examine the framework with case studies of effective practice. Equality and diversity training is mandatory for all staff, with regular updating monitored by the HoD. Newly appointed staff are required to complete the Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education, and all staff undertake doctoral supervisor training with annual updating.

The Department has improved its mentoring and monitoring provision as part of its contribution to the University's Academic Investment Initiative, launched in 2013. This includes better coordination of appraisal, mentoring and workload meetings, as well as an innovative system of short, medium and long-term planning developed by the Department and subsequently adopted as good practice across FASS. A Research Advisory Panel has been established by the Department to help new colleagues and early career researchers to identify and access the support they need to develop their careers and research projects. This supplements existing individual mentoring and workload adjustments provided for early career staff. The planning and advisory mechanisms also encompass individuals' wider contributions to History as a discipline, encouraging (where appropriate) staff to undertake work such as external examining, or serving on advisory or review boards. Advice and training is provided to assist colleagues in taking on such roles, and/or to access appropriate training and support provided by other bodies outside the University (e.g. time to attend training courses).

In addition to the programme provided by the Staff Development Unit, the History Department holds 'development days' at least once a year which invariably include research issues and training. Further, specialist events are staged as required. The Department also provides career development opportunities for doctoral students to develop professional skills through employment as research and teaching assistants; since 2012, 15 PhD students have been employed in a coordinated teaching assistantship programme, which included formal induction, training and mentoring.

Research and Training Seminars

The Department runs regular seminars which are integrated into the PGR training programme, as well as hosting additional series through the MHSC and WISE, and participating in joint sessions with other departments across the University. These series provide additional opportunities for new staff, early career researchers and research students to present findings in a supportive and constructive environment, as well as to gain experience in organising and chairing sessions. Further opportunities are provided by Departmental public events, which include an annual public lecture, and an art history lecture series.

Research Leave Policy

The standard research leave entitlement for research active staff is one semester in seven. The three-stage approvals process is intended to ensure quality and standards within a finite budget: while the DoR assesses applications in relation to personal research plans and department research strategies, the HoD considers workload implications, and FRE takes account of equality and diversity issues and overall faculty strategic goals. Feedback is given to all applicants, and informs the developmental aspect of staff appraisal where appropriate. Special arrangements are

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in place to support staff early in their careers, or those seeking to restart research activity (e.g. after prolonged administrative roles). A total of 27 semesters leave were awarded during the census period, representing a notional investment of over £500k in the UOA's research work.

Procedures for Career Progression

Guidance on career progression is an important element of the annual appraisal system recently aligned with the Academic Investment Initiative. This scheme, together with revised and clarified promotion routes based on teaching as well as research excellence, is designed to facilitate career development through workload adjustment, strategic investment in research leave and staff development opportunities, and the formulation of individual plans that embrace all components of the academic role (research, scholarship, teaching, engagement and leadership). Such provisions extend to fixed-term and part-time academic staff. The effectiveness of these mechanisms is inferred by the progression of at least 7 post-doctoral and teaching assistants (Barnard, Rawson, Lambert, McCarthy, Nicholls, Robinson, Spicksley) to continuing academic roles in the UOA or other units during the census period. Moreover, three RCUK Research Fellows (Biskup, Evans, Hamilton) were successfully integrated into the History staff complement during 2010-11 and are now contributing fully to the teaching, engagement and management, as well as research, aspects of the Department's work.

Commitment to Equal Opportunities

The Department follows statutory obligations and University Codes of Practice in all aspects of recruitment, selection, promotion and management of staff. Maternity and parental leave does not affect entitlement to apply for research leave. Two permanent staff have been given temporary variance of contract to accommodate family commitments in the census period. While not a criterion of selection, the recent appointment of five female colleagues has improved the gender balance in the Department's academic staff.

ii. Research Students*PG Research Culture*

There are currently 29 PhD students in History (4 of whom are part time), all recruited on the basis of academic excellence. While the gender balance is good (15 female, 14 male), over 20% are international students. Four students are registered on the MPhil programme.

Students organise their own annual workshop and are actively encouraged to participate in the Department's three major seminar programmes. Our students develop international profiles as their research progresses: they have presented papers in the UK, Europe, North America and South Africa, and have won additional funding for research and training from a variety of bodies including the Omohundru Institute of Early American History and Culture, the Royal Historical Society, the Society for the Study of French History, the German Historical Institute, and the German History Society. Several have published significant research findings, either prior to, or shortly after, the completion of their doctorates.

Since 2008, 18 doctorates in History have been awarded, along with 40 Masters by research. Eight doctoral students have gone on to positions in HEIs during the census period: Craig Lambert (University of Southampton), Ahmed Reid (Brooklyn College CUNY), Stacey Sommerdyk (University of Witwatersrand, SA), Angel Smith (H. Lavity Stoutt Community College, British Virgin Islands), Mike Suonpaa (University of Turku), Mathew McCarthy, Stefan Ramsden and Mary Wills (Hull).

Recruitment

PGR recruitment has followed an upward trajectory, despite a challenging funding environment. Whereas in 2009/10 2 students commenced PhD study, in 2013/14 10 new doctoral students were recruited, including 5 with external or university funding. During the census period, the UOA has secured: government scholarships from China and Saudi Arabia (1 each), 1 History CASE PhD

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studentship (in partnership with Hull City Council), 1 White Rose-plus Hull studentship (both from 2009) in the field of environmental history, 3 AHRC CDAs with the National Maritime Museum and 1 with Hull Maritime Museum, and 1 funded by the Victoria County History. The lead role of History in establishing WISE as a major interdisciplinary research institute has boosted overseas recruitment and secured two doctoral studentships in history from the Canadian Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, and the Government of the British Virgin Islands. WISE is a member of the EUROTAST Marie Curie network based on 13 doctoral students working in nine European universities on three broad themes: heritage, bio-archaeology and public understanding of the past.

The University has made a major, sustained investment in doctoral scholarships since 2008 when it marked the 80th anniversary of its foundation by agreeing to fund approximately 40 full studentships (fees and RC level stipend) over two years at a cost of £1.2 million to pump-prime postgraduate research recruitment. Subsequent studentship competitions have pushed the total number awarded in the six years since 2007/08 to 268, of which 18 have been won by History. While the University's Alumni Fund currently supports a further doctoral studentship in history, the Department has offered £1k fee discounts (17 in 2011/12, 22 in 2012/13) for its Masters programmes to build ladders of opportunity for those wishing to pursue doctoral research. This support has been expanded as the 'Loyalty Scholarships' scheme across the University in 2013. The University of Hull has coordinated an AHRC Block Grant Partnership with Huddersfield since 2011 (covering History, English, Music, Art and Design) and has match-funded the doctoral studentship awarded to History. The experience gained contributed to the Department securing £1.85 million from the AHRC and £1.11 million in match funding from seven partner institutions to coordinate the CDT in Heritage from 2014. This will provide for 40 doctoral students, plus each of the seven HEIs is committed to provide five fully-funded MRes studentships to build learning bridges to doctoral training.

Research Training

The Department runs an MA in Historical Research, a research preparation degree that incorporates specialist tracks in areas such as medieval, early modern, military and maritime history. Core training modules are provided for GEMMA (Joint European Master's Degree in Women's and Gender Studies), which is recognized as a 'Masters of Excellence' and is sponsored by the European Commission (funding renewed in 2012 for 5 years). Hull is the sole UK institution involved in the GEMMA consortium, which comprises 6 other institutions across 5 European countries. In addition, bespoke training is offered through the interdisciplinary research centres to students from Hull and elsewhere, as well as professionals and researchers, while Hull Graduate School has delivered Masters Certificates and Diplomas in Research and Transferable Skills since 1995. The UOA's PhD and MPhil students are required to complete the University's Postgraduate Training Scheme before their thesis can be submitted. This entails gaining 60 credits from a range of modules designed to equip students with the research and professional skills required to succeed in research and their future careers. Training is supported by the Graduate Virtual Research Environment, developed by Hull Graduate School, which uses the Researcher Development Framework as a bridge between online learning and academic staff. It provides an electronic repository for research and transferable skills development (specially-prepared teaching/training resources; research papers; virtual study groups; student-centred e-bulletins; personal development planning). The core training for the new CDT will be coordinated by, and delivered in Hull.

Progress Monitoring and Support Mechanisms

All students have at least two supervisors. Supervisory and monitoring arrangements have been enhanced during the census period with the introduction of an annual minimum of 12 supervision meetings, and the introduction of an additional 6-monthly stage to annual progress monitoring. In addition to dedicated PGR facilities (see below), all doctoral students are entitled to £450 towards research expenses across the period of registration, which can be doubled through match-funding from the Graduate School for specific purposes, such as presenting conference papers.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

Income

The UOA generated over £1.01 million in research income (spend £924k) during the census period. This has funded a range of international, interdisciplinary and inter-institutional research projects into major historical issues of considerable contemporary relevance, including the forced and free movement of peoples, hazards and risks, the conservation and exploitation of scarce marine and terrestrial resources, and the economic development of maritime communities. Ongoing developments beyond census date include Hull's participation in a £3m project on increasing resilience to earthquake hazards funded by NERC and ESCR, and a £138k Leverhulme Major Research Fellowship for three years from September 2013 for David Crouch to work on the 'genesis of chivalry', and a history of Howdenshire in the Victoria County History series funded by an endowment providing £12k per annum for 5 years from July 2012. An AHRC ECR grant of £187k will fund Sarah Thomas' prosopographical study of bishops' careers in medieval northern Europe for three years from November 2013.

Scholarly Infrastructure

History at Hull benefits from the Brynmor Jones Library, a major research library on campus that is being refurbished and extended at the cost of £27.4 million in 2012-14 and will include purpose-built space for the University Art Collection, a major teaching and research resource curated through the History Department. There are additional specialist research libraries in maritime history at Blaydes, and in slavery and migration at Oriel Chambers. Through the University, the UOA is partner in the Hull History Centre (HHC) which opened in September 2009 as a unique joint venture of the University and the City Council. Supported by the HLF and National Lottery, HHC houses all the university and city archives, and serves as a state-of-the-art venue for public engagement activities of Hull's history researchers.

Operational Infrastructure

Hull's history community is primarily based in the Larkin Building at the heart of the main campus and contains a dedicated research resource room. Extensive additional facilities, located at Blaydes House and Oriel Chambers in the city centre, include full conference facilities, dedicated PGR space and staff offices. Further History PGR facilities are located in Ferens Avenue on the edge of the main campus, as well as the purpose-built facilities provided by the Graduate School available to all Hull students. The University's institutional digital repository (Hydra) enables the management, dissemination and preservation of research outputs, both data and publications.

Management

The Department manages its resources through engagement with UREC and the Faculty, especially through the annual planning round which includes equipment purchase, and other investment. Departmental and institutional assets are open to all researchers in the UOA. Additional support is managed strategically to concentrate funds and staff time on high-quality projects and activities aligned to the Unit's research strategy, which have good prospects of successful outcomes. All colleagues can apply through the History DoR for annual research expenses of up to £500. Additional support can be sought, subject to DoR and HoD approval, from the Faculty for archive field work and to develop funding applications. Combined, the two faculty funds have provided over £15k for history projects across the census period.

e. Collaboration or contribution to the discipline or research base

The Unit regards involvement in the wider academic community as a core part of its work and encourages its members to participate fully in activities promoting historical scholarship and understanding, regardless of whether such engagement results in grant capture or major monographs. The Unit's research centres provide platforms for international scholarly

collaboration, some of which is detailed further in the impact case studies. Other notable examples during the census period include MHSC as work package 2 coordinator of INCOFISH which was rated by the EU as one of the top 40 out of 10,300 projects funded under Framework 6, and WISE as pack leader within the FP7 EURESCL project with historians in Paris, Dakar and York (Canada) on the legacies of slavery and abolition in European histories and identities. Members of the UOA also collaborate as individuals or groups in international projects and networks, such as the Dai-ichi-Life project on corporate forms in insurance (Pearson as co-PI, involving 18 partners in 10 countries across 5 continents, 2010-13), or the Risk and Vulnerability network with the universities of Milan, Helsinki and Mexico City funded by the EU and Mexican government (Bankoff 2009-11). While these examples were funded projects, other collaboration has involved unfunded engagement in worthwhile activities, such as creating the European History Online (EGO) as a free resource since 2008 (Wilson as strand editor, coordinated through the European History Institute, Mainz), or establishing the International Society for First World War Studies (Macleod, co-founder). UOA members have held visiting fellowships at prestigious institutions such as Bielefeld (Bankoff); Hitotsubashi University, Tokyo (Pearson); Münster University and High Point University, North Carolina (Wilson); Herzog August Library Wolfenbüttel (Biskup). The unit has also welcomed visiting scholars from Springfield Illinois, Memorial University of Newfoundland, Deakin University Australia, Santa Clara and Sains University Malaysia.

All the senior and most of the junior UOA members are involved in peer reviewing for national and international funding bodies. For the UK these include all the major funders of historical research (AHRC, ESRC, British Academy, Leverhulme etc), as well as individuals serving as prize judges, for example the Wadsworth Prize for Business History (Pearson, 2008-9); Philip Leverhulme Prize (Yarrington). International peer reviewing includes one (Wilson) of only 3 historians as external assessors on the 2.4 bn euros German Federal Government 'Excellent Initiative' 2012-17, as well as peer reviewing for the EU FP7; HERA; Austrian Science Foundation; German Research Foundation; Estonian Research Council; Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research; Research Foundation Flanders; Israel Science Foundation; Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada; AXA Research Fund France; Marsden Fund New Zealand. UOA members have also served as external assessors on appointments and promotions panels across the UK and at the Universities of Athens (Greece), Vienna, Ohio State, and Wisconsin Milwaukee. Contributions to policy and advisory boards includes involvement with the Rachel Carson Centre for Environment and Society (in Germany), while activities in the UK range from representation on the Council of the Friends of the National Archives to leading positions in the Lincolnshire Records Society and the Hull and East Riding Historical Association. Special mention should be made of Professor Yarrington's roles as Chair of the Association of Art Historians; Governor of the Glasgow School of Art and chair of its Museum and Archive Committee; Member of the HEFCE expert reference group on monographs and open access; Member of the Advisory Committee for Research on European Paintings; Steering Committee member for the Tate Research Centre for the Study of British Art; Sculpture Digitisation Steering Panel member of the Public Catalogue Foundation; Elected Member of the Advisory Council of the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art. Early career researchers are also well represented, including Rosemary Wall, who is Secretary of the Society for the Social History of Medicine, and Baker, who is an early career representative on the AHRC Research Careers and Training Advisory Group.

Editorial Leadership includes notable monograph series, such as *The Environment in History* (Berghahn), *Texts and Contexts* (Brepols), *Historians Against Slavery* (CUP), *Studies in European History* (Palgrave), *Exeter Maritime Studies* (Liverpool UP). During the census period, colleagues have served on the editorial boards of journals covering almost all historical fields represented within the unit, ranging from leading publications in their fields, like *Art History*, *Business History*, *Environment and History*, *International History Review*, *International Journal of Maritime History*, *War in History*, and *Southeast Asian Studies*, to those in newly developing areas, like *Ethnomusicology Forum*, and the major international journals of other countries, such as *(Philippine) Journal of History*, *Journal of Maltese History*, *(Chinese) National Maritime Research* and *Narodna umjetnost: Croatian Journal of Ethnology and Folklore*. In addition to peer reviewing typescripts and proposals for all the major UK academic publishers, members of the Unit have performed this role for foreign presses, including Brill, Oldenbourg, Springer, and the university

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presses of Notre Dame and Wisconsin. Likewise, doctoral examining has taken place in major UK institutions, as well at the Australian Defence Force Academy (U. of New South Wales); Trinity College Dublin, Leiden (NL), Wageningen (NL), Poitiers (France), and Umeå (Sweden). Notable international conferences organised by Unit members include 'Flammable cities' (Washington DC, 2008); 'Insurance in History' (Zürich, 2009); 'Corporate forms in Insurance' (Hitotsubashi University, Tokyo 2011 + Kyoto Sangyo University 2012); 'Early Medieval Britain' (Oxford, 2011); 'Monarchical Heritage' (Potsdam, 2008); 'Frederick II and the Republic of Letters' (Oxford, 2012) and sessions at World Economic History Congress 2009 and 2012, and International Congress of Historical Science 2010. Keynote lectures have been delivered at the National War College Washington DC; Westphalian Academy of Arts and Sciences; Turin Academy of Sciences; Association of Italian Insurance Companies, Milan; as well as a lecture tour of the Philippines organised by University of the Philippines-Baguió.

Important scholarly awards include the Distinguished Book Award of the Society of Military History (Wilson, 2011); George Blazyca Prize and the British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies (both Baker, 2012); Ralph Gomory Prize from the Business History Conference (Pearson, 2013), and six major prizes for the *Atlas of the Transatlantic Slave Trade* (Richardson), including the R.R. Hawkins Prize of the Association of American Publishers.