

<p>Institution: University of Westminster</p>
<p>Unit of Assessment: 30 History</p>
<p>a. Overview</p> <p>The University is committed to high-quality, practice-informed research with global impact. Our framework for research provides facilities and support for early career researchers, and pump-priming for early stage research. The Graduate School provides a focal point for all staff, doctoral researchers and post doctorates engaged in research activity, offering a range of developmental activities, including seminars and networking events to facilitate sharing of best practice. A professional doctorate scheme operates at the interface between academia and practitioners to influence research. Each subject area is allocated a Research Development Officer, responsible for identifying new directions and opportunities in research funding, and for the development of research bids.</p> <p>In keeping with the key goals of the REF, the research environment attempts to maximise the quality of research outputs in History within the supportive wider contexts of both the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, and to realise the research commitments of historians at the University of Westminster.</p> <p>The History Subject Area at Westminster is located in the Department of Social and Historical Studies, based within the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities (previously the School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Languages). The Departmental Management Group (DMG) within the Faculty is the basic administrative unit at departmental level for the management of research. Research Strategy is defined at University level and locally. The Research, Enterprise and Knowledge Transfer Committee (REKTC) develops research strategy in the context of the Faculty, and meets regularly to discuss research, in line with the Faculty's Research Plan for 2012-15. The meetings are usually chaired by Director of Research for the Faculty.</p> <p>b. Research strategy</p> <p>Following RAE 2008 History identified a number of key goals that reflect the wider objectives of the University, and the realisation of a dynamic and sustainable research culture in our subject area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to increase the number of research-active staff entering the REF (from four in 2008) - to encourage individual members of staff to complete their best outputs in time for REF 2014 - to increase the number of doctoral students, as a base for an expanding postgraduate culture - to develop an internal culture of research dissemination, and to encourage early career scholars, through Westminster conferences and a seminar programme - to gain external funding - in general, to engage in research and research dissemination that increases our London-wide, national and international recognition <p>c. People</p> <p>i. Staffing strategy and staff development</p> <p>The Department of Social and Historical Studies is committed to supporting the personal and career development of its staff. The department currently has a Staff Development budget, in addition to the QR income, which is strategically used to assist completion and dissemination. Funds have been used to enable staff to speak at conferences and seminars. The department also facilitates transfer of successful part-time visiting staff onto fractional and eventually full-time contracts. Staff can also access a wide variety of training and development activities, supported by the Human Resources Development Unit, and can pursue courses leading to the Postgraduate Certificate of Higher Education or the Professional Doctorate.</p>

ii. research students

In the context of research training, postgraduate students are supported at school level by a research-based training programme which includes advice on writing, research skills, viva preparation and teaching, and a number of social events to facilitate contact with other research students. The Faculty Research Student Forum meets twice per academic year to give students the collective opportunity air their views, and to contribute to the development of the school's research culture.

A key element in developing our research culture has been to expand the number of PhD students from zero (at RAE 2008), both through internal supervision, and by publication. Two PhD students have completed since 2008, one by publication; three are currently registered, and two are in the process of registration.

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Postgraduate training at Westminster also prepares our doctoral students for increasing external participation, and thus engagement with the wider community of historians in London, Britain and overseas, the fruits of which can be seen in section E below.

With the appointment of Peter Catterall, we are moving forward to a new MA in History and Policy, which passed the first stage of the internal validation process in semester two of academic year 2012-13. This will enhance our reputation for postgraduate teaching, and enable staff to connect their research with postgraduate policy-orientated teaching.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

Historians applying for external income are assisted by the Research Development Office, based at the Research and Enterprise Services in the New Cavendish Building of the University of Westminster.

Income and External Research Funding Policy

The QR income for History is allocated by the Dean and the Research Director of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, expenses and other research-oriented activities being approved by them. The Readers in History and the Professor of History have been able to access sums from £4,000 to £6,000 per annum from the QR monies each year. The remaining sums of the QR income have been set aside for our fractional staff and early career researchers.

Most of our income has been in the form of conference and seminar payments, and consultancy fees.

e. Collaboration and contribution to the discipline

Introduction

The consultancies and engagements detailed below stem from the established and emerging reputations of the historians. They embrace local, national and international scholarly activity within the broad contexts of modern and contemporary British history, and modern and contemporary European history.

Of the established historians, Peter **Catterall** is a prize-winning political historian of contemporary Britain, with considerable networking skills and many important contacts both nationally and internationally. Mark **Clapson** has been published in social, urban and planning history since the 1990s, and is also engaged in both national and international dissemination. Richard **Harding** is a long-established and highly-respected historian of organisational history and of maritime history,

whose work has increasingly been public-facing. Frances **Lynch** has created a unique and internationally respected profile in economic history, notably of France and the European Union and in the history of taxation. She has also made a significant and unique contribution to historiography: Lynch is the leading expert on the work of Alan S. Milward, an influential historian of modern and contemporary European history.

Of the early career researchers, the newly-appointed (0.3) Research Fellow in History John **Law** is a social and cultural historian of interwar London. Katja **Seidel**, who became a 0.7 fractional lecturer in History at the University of Westminster in 2013, is developing rapidly as an increasingly respected political historian of the European Union.

Historians at Westminster have been involved in a significant range of activities to promote the health of the discipline of History since 2008, to develop the connectivity of History at Westminster with the work of historians in other universities, to enhance public perceptions of historical research, and to increase the local, national and international reputation of history research at Westminster. These activities are summarised here as: Westminster History Conferences and Witness Seminars; the Westminster History Seminar Programme; external conference and seminar invitations; editorial work; peer review and refereeing; knowledge transfer and collaboration, and external examining.

Westminster History Conferences:

Clapson was invited by the two-year UrbanBuzz programme, investigating the nature and potential of sustainable communities in London and the South East, to host the evening conference 'The Social Life of Suburbs', jointly organised with UrbanBuzz and held at the Old Cinema, University of Westminster, 23 April 2008.

On 3-4 September, 2010, Clapson organised 'The Blitz and its Legacy' conference which resulted in the co-edited *The Blitz and Its Legacy: From Destruction to Reconstruction* (Ashgate, 2013). Over fifty people were in attendance, with speakers from the USA, Japan and Britain.

On 25 July 2011 Dr. Martin Doherty, then Head of the History Subject Area at Westminster, in collaboration with the Institute of Historical Research, organised a Witness Seminar entitled *Internment in Northern Ireland: 40 Years On*. Witnesses included Patrick Mercer MP, Sir Kenneth Bloomfield, former Head of the Northern Ireland Civil Service, and six former internees, along with leading contemporary British and Irish political figures. Austin Currie (an ex-Labour MP) testified, along with leading Northern Irish politicians and members of the British military. Over 70 people were in attendance. Jack Sheldon, a PhD student at the University of Westminster (by publication) participated as a panel member, as he had served in the British Army in Northern Ireland during the 1970s. The proceedings are available online at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dY8Z7mFmzCk>

On 3-4 April 2012, Clapson organised the *Sport and the City* conference, at which twenty seven people were in attendance, with speakers from the Netherlands, Turkey, the USA and Britain.

On 23-24 April, 2013, the History Subject Area organised the *Educating Mind, Body and Spirit* conference at Westminster. Thirty four people attended, with leading historians of education from the UK, Finland, Hungary and Sweden.

The Westminster History Seminar Programme:

Our Seminar Programme was instigated in 2010, designed to give a platform to historians both within the university and beyond. Our programme has been small but diverse, with speakers from Aberystwyth University, Birkbeck, the Open University, the American Heritage Foundation in Washington DC, Flashback TV, and our own subject area.

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External conference and seminar activities:

Catterall and Clapson co-founded the Sport and Leisure History Seminar, and continue to convene the Seminar with Professor Dilwyn Porter (De Montfort).

Catterall has been invited to give the following papers: 'Macmillan and the Middle East', a talk to the Cambridge Intelligence History group, 17 May 2013; 'Harold Macmillan and Liberal Conservatism', Cambridge University, 13 May 2011; 'Political Culture, Institutions and Conflict', Queen's University Belfast (20 January 2012) 'Nonconformity and the decline of the Liberals', University of Paris-7-Diderot (17 February, 2012), 'A Special Relationship?' (McNeese State University, Lake Charles, Louisiana (September 2009) and 'Whatever happened to the New Elizabethans?', University of Central Oklahoma, September, 2012. In March 2010 he gave an invited paper on 'Globalisation and national identity' to the India International Centre, New Delhi.

Catterall organised and chaired a workshop on 'Analysing and Transforming Conflict' at the University of Salahaddin, Erbil (December 2011), a conference on 'Conflict and Identity in Kurdistan in Contemporary Context' in Amman, Jordan (February 2012) and a conference on 'The Waldegrave Initiative: Twenty Years On' with the Institute of Contemporary British History, held at King's College London, 20 April 2013. He has given papers at the Pacific Coast Conference on British Studies (Claremont CA, March 2010), Historical Society conference (Washington DC, June 2010), Britain and the World conference (Edinburgh, June 2012), and Social History Society conference (Glasgow, March 2010; Leeds, March 2013).

Clapson was invited to give the following papers overseas: 'The rise and fall of Monica Felton, British town planner and peace activist' to the School of Graduate School of Human Sciences, Osaka University, Japan, 16 May, 2011; 'Looking back at the British new towns programme, 1946-1990: successes and failures in the state's policy of decentralisation', in the Symposium entitled 'New Historical Approaches to the City and Urban Society in 20th Century Europe', Gakushuin University, 22-23 September, 2013. He was also invited to speak on 'Wartime air-raids in London and their consequences, 1940-45' to Saitama University on 20 September, 2013. The co-edited single output, *The Blitz and its Legacy*, formed the basis of these talks.

He was invited to participate in the roundtable 'Liberals and the Left in Metropolitan History: Part 2', LA History/Metro Studies Group, Doheny Library, University of Southern California, 16 February, 2012.

In addition, Clapson has spoken at the City Futures Research Seminar University of New South Wales, 3 July, 2013; the Institute of Contemporary British History Seminar, King's College London, 24 November 2012, and the International Planning History Society conference, Sao Paulo, Brazil, 15-18 July 2012 (where he also organised a strand on women town planners).

Harding's research and publications on the organisational history of the British Navy have resulted in a wide variety of conference invitations:

'How can the historian study naval operations? "Transmitting orders during British Eighteenth-Century landings", Sorbonne/Ecole Militaire 4th-5th October 2012; 'British Admirals before the French Revolution', *Naval Leadership in the Age of Sail, 1750-1840*, National Museum of the Royal Navy, Portsmouth, 3rd-4th December 2011; 'Contractors, Ships of the Royal Navy and British Naval Power, 1739-1738', *The Contractor State and Its Implications, 1659-1815*, Universidad de Las Palmas, 16th-18th November 2011; 'The Dardanelles and Naval History', Inaugural Lecture for the National Museum of the Royal Navy, Portsmouth, Research series 12th October 2011; 'British Maritime Strategy and Hanover, 1714-1763', National Maritime Museum, 10th March 2011; 'The Life of the SNR: An Exploration in Maritime History', Annual Lecture of the Society for Nautical Research, Royal United Services Institution, Whitehall, 16th June 2010; 'Parliament and the British Fiscal-Military State : Ideology, Consent and State Expenditure in Britain, 1739-1748', XVth World Economic History Conference, University of Utrecht, 3rd-7th August 2009; 'British Naval Administration, 1740-1783', *Les Marines de la Guerre d'Indépendance Américaine, 1763-*

1783,(Colloque International, Société des Cincinnati de France, Université Paris IV –Sorbonne, 11-13 June 2009); 'The Political Legitimisation of State Expenditure for War in Britain, 1739-1763', Preliminary Conference for the XVth World Economic History Conference, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, 8th-10th Sept. 2008; 'From Peace to War : Expectations Amphibious Warfare on the Outbreak of World War II, The War at Sea Lecture Series, National Maritime Museum, 3rd July 2008

In July 2011, Law co-organised a conference at the IHR on leisure and suburban London. This led to a special issue of the *London Journal*, to be published in November 2014, to which Law and Clapson are contributing articles based upon their papers. Law's appointment, and this publication, also proves our commitment to more London-focused local research that is of international significance. Law is also a member of an informal network of interwar historians comprising Lancaster, Oxford and Sussex universities, and the University of the West of England.

Lynch has formed a network of historians from universities in Europe and the United States, which so far has generated two conferences held at the European Institute, Florence (September, 2010 and November, 2012), a book published by Routledge in 2012 (an output in REF2), and a debate in journal *Memoria e Ricerca* (also an output in REF2). In May 2013 Routledge invited Lynch and Professor Fernando Guirao (University of Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona) to co-edit a further historiographical volume on Milward.

Lynch's work has also resulted in a number of key conference invitations, notably to give a paper at the European Institute of University College, London, 8 March, 2011 entitled "Still the Europe of Milward? Is the EU Still Rescuing the Nation State and should it?" In December, 2009 she was invited to the universities of Keio and Yokohama, Japan to speak on 'The political economy of transnational tax reform'; The European University Institute, Florence, 23-24 November, 2012, 'History of Integration: History of Europe: Paradigms, Practices and Trends'. In November 2012 she was invited to chair the launch of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) Transition Report at an event jointly organised by the EBRD and the UCL School of East European Studies. In March 2013 she chaired an event to mark the 40th anniversary of Britain's accession to the European Community, organised by the University Association for Contemporary European Studies (UACES).

Invitations to a number of key historical forums evidence the growing reputation of Seidel in the field of EU history. These include invitations from Professor Kenneth Dyson (University of Cardiff): *Robert Marjolin: Planning, Parallelism and Prudence* (Workshop: Founders of the Euro: Individuals and Ideas in the History of European Monetary Union) British Academy, 24-25 October 2013; by Professor Laurence Badel (Université de Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne): *Portrait de groupe avec Commissaires. Écrire l'histoire à travers la biographie collective* (Colloquium: Autour de François-Xavier Ortoli. La biographie dans l'histoire de l'intégration européenne), Association Parlementaire Européenne, Strasbourg, 16 February 2012. She was also invited to speak at the *Legitimacy and the Institutions of the European Union: The Case of the Common Agricultural Policy* (Workshop: Transformation of the State) University of Oxford, 21 May 2011.

Our PhD students in History have been encouraged to give papers to our History Research Seminar Programme, as well as conference papers at other universities: Neil Matthews spoke on the subject of his thesis at the *Recording Leisure Lives* conference, co-organised by the Leisure Studies Association, and the University of Bolton, 3 April, 2012; Peter Speiser has presented on his work to the German Historical Institute, London on 15 January, 2010, on the British Army of the Rhine and the Germans. Caroline Watkinson has been very active in presenting her research since she joined Westminster from Queen Mary in October 2012. She has given three seminar papers based upon her research at the Institute of Historical Research, namely at the IHR *Modern Religion Seminar*, 17 October, 2012; the IHR Director's Seminar, 21 November, 2012 and the IHR *Culture and Belief Seminar*, 9 May, 2013. She spoke at the Social History Society Annual Conference on 27 March, 2013, and in August 2013 co-organised a very successful conference on *New Directions in Jacobite Studies* at the IHR.

Editorial work:

Historians at Westminster are involved in editing work of international significance:

Catterall is the editor of *National Identities*, a journal which he co-founded in 1999. He is also on the editorial board of *Contemporary British History*, the journal of the Institute of Contemporary British History, and a leading periodical in its field.

Clapson is a member of the editorial board of *Planning Perspectives: an International Journal of Planning History and the Environment*, and in 2012 was invited onto the editorial board of *Yönetim Bilimleri Dergisi (Journal of Administrative Science)*, based at Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University, Turkey. The editorial board comprises academics from many Turkish universities, and a number of British universities.

Harding edited the bibliography of online resources of the Society of Historians of American Foreign Policy from 2005-10.

Peer review and refereeing:

Catterall has recently refereed books for the following publishers: Ashgate, Biteback Publishing; Edinburgh University Press; Heinemann, I.B. Tauris and Manchester University Press. He has acted as a referee for the Irish Research Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences and the Fulbright Commission, and as a referee for *Cold War History; Comparative Politics; Contemporary British History; Distinktion: Scandinavian Journal of Social Theory; English Historical Review; Historical Journal; Nations and Nationalism; History; Parliamentary Affairs*.

Since 2008 he has reviewed books for many journals including the *American Historical Review, BBC History, Diplomacy and Statecraft, English Historical Review* and *Political Quarterly*.

Since 2008 Clapson has refereed articles for the *Journal of Architecture, the London Journal, Planning Perspectives and Urban History*. He has reviewed books for *Planning Perspectives*. Clapson has served on the Peer Review College of the Arts and Humanities Research Council since 2010 and in October 2013 was invited to serve for a further four years. He is currently a member of the Steering Committee of History (UK). He has been an external referee for the ESRC Research Grants Board, the Leverhulme Trust and the Canada Council for the Arts since 2008.

Lynch is a member of the ESRC Peer Review Panel. In October 2012 she was invited to continue in this role for a further two years. She has recently been invited to review books for *The American Historical Review, French History* and *National Identities*

Seidel is co-convenor of the PhD Abstracts column in the *Journal of European Integration History* (since 2009) and a co-chair of the History of European Integration Research Society (2005-2010)

Collaboration and contribution to the discipline:

Catterall has a wide-ranging portfolio of consultancy work, testament to the impact of his research and publications. He contributed to the Eastside Community Heritage Lottery Fund-funded oral history project on 'Working lives of the Thames Gateway in 2008-10. In 2010 he became Heritage Champion for the London Borough of Bexley, and in 2011 was invited to join the London Historic Environments Forum. He is a trustee of two Public History Trusts, namely Bexley Heritage Trust (2006-) and Crossness Engines Trust, from 2013.

He is also an active member of the Centre for Opposition Studies, working with them on political transition programmes in Jordan and Bahrain (see <http://oppositionstudies.weebly.com/our-people.html>). He also runs the 'Democracy and Public policy' programme of the Hansard Society, funded by the Open Society Initiative. He has been participant/adviser for Institute for Government seminar and subsequent publication on handling the transfer of power (2009-10), and was invited

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to advise English Heritage on their website (Dec 2010). He has been Chairman of the George Lansbury Memorial Committee since 2012. He was also invited to write two introductions to the Churchill Papers website: http://www.chu.cam.ac.uk/archives/collections/churchill_papers/. More recently, in June 2013 he was invited by Sir Stephen Sedley to advise the Dag Hammarskjold Commission on British Government responses to the death of Hammarskjold in September, 1961, and how this affected the British government and the United Nations. His advice was based upon his editing of the most recently published volume of the *Macmillan Diaries*, a single output in REF2.

Clapson is a member of the interdisciplinary Network Advisory Board for the Cultures of the Suburbs International Research Network, evidencing a wider contribution which synthesises social and planning history with urban sociology, urban studies and literary studies.

Harding has been Chairman of the Society for Nautical Research, and was a trustee of the Royal Naval Museum, Portsmouth and on its curatorial committee, also from 2005-2010. He serves on the British Commission for Maritime History, a charitable trust that encourages and promotes public interest in the maritime dimensions of history.

In 2013 Seidel was invited to become a member of the team research project on the History of the European Commission 1973-1986 (HISTCOM2), convened by Professor Michel Dumoulin, University of Louvain-la-Neuve.

External examining:

Catterall: History MA, University of Lancaster, 2006-9: Subject Board conferment; MA History, Newcastle University, 2013.

Clapson: School of Advanced Studies, University of London: upgrade from Masters to PhD, March, 2012; PhD viva, University of Sheffield, November, 2011; PhD viva, University of Edinburgh, December, 2009.

Summary

The years since 2008 have witnessed the foundation of a vibrant and sustainable research environment in the History Subject Area at the University of Westminster. This has encouraged and facilitated the research activities, outputs and wider academic responsibilities to be expected of a small but growing team of historians.

In keeping with the principles outlined in REF3a, we have developed research at the local, national and global levels, and participated in public and professional activities that bring our research to wider audiences. Importantly, we have also created a critical mass within the broad areas of modern and contemporary British and European history. Taken together, the institutional context and research strategy have helped into place a dynamic culture of historical research, and laid a strong foundation for the future development of historical research at Westminster. Considerable achievements have been made, and realising the potential of all research-active historians, but particularly the early career researchers and newly-appointed fractional lecturers, is now an institutional priority.