

Course Summary: March 29, 2026

Ancient History and History BA Honours

- UCAS code: **VV11**
- Full time
- 3 years

Explore history from the ancient world through to the present day.

You are currently viewing course information for entry year: **2026**

Next start date:

- September 2026

Tuition fees (Year 1)

- Home: **£9,790**
- International: **£24,500**

Entry requirements and offers

- A-Level: **AAB**
- IB: **34 points**

UCAS Institution name and code:

- NEWC / N21

Undergraduate Open Day

Start your university journey. Find where you belong. Friday, June 26 (9:00-16:00)
Saturday, June 27 (9:00-16:00)

[Book your place now](#)

Course overview

Combine the study of the classical world with modern history and discover how the ancient world has shaped modern society.

On our **BA Honours in Ancient History and History** you'll develop a diverse set of research, communication, and critical analysis skills that will set you on a path to wide range of careers.

Build cultural awareness by making connections with the past and understanding important issues in history.

Examine historical issues such as political change, gender and sexuality, conflict, or even historical representation in film.

Discover the global ancient world using a variety of evidence. From analysing ancient texts to studying historical artefacts, you'll develop a broad range of skills.

Be inspired by our unique location. Your classroom extends beyond the University and into North East England's diverse heritage. From Hadrian's Wall to Bamburgh Castle on the Northumbrian coast, there's a rich past to discover on our doorstep.

Key features

You'll explore a range of global histories and develop your skills as a historian through compulsory modules. While optional modules allow you to tailor your degree to your interests.

Choose from a range of modules covering the Roman World and Hellenistic Empires, to fictional histories and slavery in the ancient, modern and early modern periods.

You'll also have the opportunity to discover the societies and cultures of the past, explore the culture and literature of the Greek and Roman world, and study an ancient language.

On this degree you'll have the opportunity to:

- Learn from experts in the ancient world and history, from the culture and literature of Ancient Greece to the history of Medieval Japan
- Access world-class facilities, including the University's Special Collections and Archives department and Great North Museum
- Enhance your employability by taking a 12-month year work placement and put your learning into practice
- Study abroad for a year at one of our partner institutions

Your course and study experience - disclaimers and terms and conditions

Please rest assured we make all reasonable efforts to provide you with the programmes, services and facilities described. However, it may be necessary to make changes due to significant disruption, for example in response to Covid-19.

View our [Academic experience page](#), which gives information about your Newcastle University study experience for the academic year 2025-26.

See our [terms and conditions and student complaints information](#), which gives details of circumstances that may lead to changes to programmes, modules or University services.

Quality and ranking

Professional accreditation and recognition

All professional accreditations are reviewed regularly by their professional body.

Modules and learning

Modules

The information below is intended to provide an example of what you will study.

Most degrees are divided into stages. Each stage lasts for one academic year, and you'll complete modules totalling 120 credits by the end of each stage.

Our teaching is informed by research. Course content may change periodically to reflect developments in the discipline, the requirements of external bodies and partners, and student feedback.

Optional module availability

Student demand for optional modules may affect availability.

Full details of the modules on offer will be published through the [Programme](#)

[Regulations and Specifications](#) ahead of each academic year. This usually happens in May.

To find out more please [see our terms and conditions](#)

Shape your degree to explore the periods and regions that excite you most.

Engage with a wide range of themes, including law and order, empire and resistance, slavery, gender, and religion.

Learn how to critically analyse complex and challenging sources, and how to articulate arguments to the highest standard.

Stage 1

In your first year you'll develop historical skills and knowledge through historical debate. You'll also investigate a range of global ancient histories, beyond the worlds of ancient Greece and Rome, exploring evidence and interesting historical problems from a variety viewpoints and sources.

You'll choose a core module from both History and Ancient History and then select from a range of optional modules.

Modules

You will take all of the following modules:

Compulsory modules	Credits
Evidence and Argument	20
Global Ancient Histories	20

All students will take **at least one** of the following modules:

History modules	Credits
Historical Sources and Methods	20

History modules	Credits
History Lab I	20
History Lab II	20
Introduction to Public History	20
What Is History For?	20

All students will take **at least one** of the following modules:

Ancient History modules	Credits
West meets East: Greek History and Society	20
The Roman World from Romulus to Trajan	20

There is also a list of recommended modules for students to pick any remaining credits from:

Recommended modules	Credits
Greek and Roman Art and Archaeology	20
The World of Latin Literature	20
Tragedy, Comedy, History: the World of Greek Literature	20
How Should I Live? An Introduction to Ancient Philosophy	20
Global Middle Ages	20
Stuff: living in a material world	20
One or two modules in Greek or Latin at Beginners' or Intermediate level.	20 - 40

During Stage 2 you'll take a training module to help prepare you for independent research. This is key preparation for your dissertation.

Modules

Students must select one Dissertation training module from the list below, they cannot take both modules.

Module title	Credits
Issues in Ancient History	20
Crafting History: Developing a Research Proposal	20

Students choose a remaining 5 modules from a large range of optional modules ensuring they take both Ancient History and History modules.

Optional Modules	Credits
From Lascaux to Knossos: Prehistoric Europe	20
Archaeologies of the Roman Empire: The Roman World from Augustus to Justinian	20
Colonial Worlds: History and Archaeology	20
Food for Thought: Greco-Roman Dining and Symptotic Culture	20
Epic Journeys: The Odyssey and Homeric Epic (stage 2)	20
Warlike women, one-eyed warriors and gold-guarding griffins: The World of Herodotus	20
Hellenistic Empires from Alexander to Cleopatra	20
The Roman World from Hadrian to Heraclius	20
Greek and Roman Religions	20

Slavery in Greco-Roman Antiquity	20
Issues in Ancient History	20
Sacred words and dirty deeds: Thriving in Late Antiquity	20
The Mediterranean: a connected past	20
Africa: History of a Continent	20
Social Histories of Alcohol: Britain and Ireland, 1700 - Present	20
Oral History of Modern Britain	20
1968: A Global Moment?	20
Culture and Communication in Medieval Eurasia	20
Crafting History: Developing a Research Proposal	20
Famines in History	20
Researching History	20
The Aftermath of War in Europe and Asia, 1945-56	20
Revolutions of the Mind: European Thought, 1550–1750	20
Destroying Nature: Disasters, Diseases and Environmental Injustice	20
Diversities of Sexuality and Gender in History	20
Career Development for second year students	20

During Stage 3 you'll continue with a mixture of Ancient History and History, choosing which areas to undertake your dissertation in and then selecting 4 further optional modules.

Modules

All students will choose a dissertation module:

Module title	Credits
Writing History	40
Dissertation in Classics and Ancient History	40

Optional Modules	Credits
Survival and turmoil in Byzantium and beyond: Byzantine archaeology, art and text	20
Neolithic & Early Bronze Age Britain in its European Context	20
Regionality and the Fall of Rome	20
Fundamentals of Digital Humanities: Computer literacy, data analysis and GIS	20
The Sharp Edge of Empire? The Armies and Frontiers of Imperial Rome	20
Dissertation in Classics and Ancient History	40
Food for Thought: Greco-Roman Dining and Sympotic Culture	20
Epic Journeys: The Odyssey and Homeric Epic (stage 3)	20
Sex, bodies and identities in Classical Greece	20
Warlike women, one-eyed warriors and gold-guarding griffins: The World of Herodotus	20

City of Athens: Power, Society and Culture	20
Gods in the Material World: Religion and Material Culture in Greece, Egypt and Mesopotamia 2000BC-338BC	20
Businesswomen in the ancient world: Challenging Prejudices and Inequality	20
Reading History	20
Writing History	40
Public History In Practice	20
The Irish Revolution, 1879-1923	20
Reconstruction and the New South, 1865-1900	20
British Foreign Policy since Suez	20
Birth Control in the 19th and 20th Centuries	20
Civil Rights in America, 1948-1975	20
Gender and the British Empire: Violence towards Men and Women in the Making of Modern South Asia	20
The Rise and Fall of the Berlin Wall, 1961-1990	20
The Rising Generation: Youth, Age and Protest in Cold War Britain	20
Buddhism and Society in Medieval Japan	20
May 1968: All Power to the Imagination	20
British Colonialism in Sudan: Violence, Gender and Race, 1899-1956	20

Fictional Histories: from medieval to modern	20
Exhausted! The problem of sleep (and not sleeping) from 1500 to the present day	20
Insiders and Outsiders: Migrants, Refugees, and the Making of Modern Europe	20
Beyond Brexit: The UK and European Integration since 1945	20
Riot, Reform and Revolution: Britain c.1760-1832	20
Read All About It! The News Revolution in Georgian Britain, 1714-1800	20
Career Development for final year students	20
Envious Show: Wealth, Power and Ambition in Narratives of the Country House, 1550-2000	20

Note: Students may not take the CAC3***-coded version of any module whose CAC2***-coded version they took at Stage 2.

Teaching and assessment

Teaching methods

You'll be taught through a dynamic range of methods and activities, including:

- lectures
- seminars
- tutorials
- workshops

- practical activities
- site visits and fieldwork training
- independent study

Assessment methods

You'll be assessed through a combination of:

- Assessments
- Assignments – written or fieldwork
- Coursework
- Dissertation or research project
- Essays
- Examinations – practical or online
- Portfolio submission
- Practical sessions
- Reports
- Seminar tasks/exercises

Skills and experience

Practical skills

Practical experience forms a key part of this interdisciplinary degree. You'll gain hands-on experience handling artefacts from our on-campus Great North Museum.

Research skills

In your final year, you'll write a dissertation on a topic of your choosing, using skills you have developed during your degree. You'll hone your investigative skills, undertaking independent research, with access to extensive resources, archives and special collections.

Opportunities

Study abroad

Experience life in another country by choosing to study abroad as part of your degree. You'll be encouraged to embrace fun and challenging experiences, make connections with new communities and graduate as a globally aware professional, ready for your future.

You'll have the opportunity to study abroad for a full year either after Stage One or after Stage Two. You can study in an EU country as part of a study abroad exchange or further afield. You'll then return to Newcastle to complete your degree.

In Europe we currently have links with:

- Cité Internationale Universitaire de Paris, France
- Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain
- Leiden University, Netherlands
- Charles University Prague, Czech Republic
- University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
- Södertörn University, Sweden
- University of Turku, Finland

If you choose to study abroad, it will extend your degree by a year.

[Find out more about study abroad](#)

Work placement

Get career ready with a work placement and leave as a confident professional in your field. You can apply to spend 9 to 12 months working in any organisation in the world, and receive University support from our dedicated team to secure your dream placement. Work placements take place between stages 2 and 3.

You'll gain first-hand experience of working in the sector, putting your learning into practice and developing your professional expertise.

If you choose to take a work placement, it will extend your degree by a year, and your degree title will show you have achieved the placement year. A work placement is not available if you're spending a year studying abroad. Placements are subject to availability.

Facilities and environment

Facilities

You'll be based in the School of History, Classics and Archaeology, located at the heart of campus in the historic Armstrong Building. You'll have access to excellent study resources including:

- the Philip Robinson University Library, which houses over 800,000 books and provides access to ca. 1.8m e-books
- Special Collections & Archives – a rich collection of archival material, historical medical texts and rare books
- The Great North Museum: Hancock, our on-campus museum which holds an extensive collection of Greek, Roman, and Etruscan artefacts, as well as the Library of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle.

[Find out more about the School of History, Classics and Archaeology](#)

Support

You'll be welcomed into a vibrant and supportive community. We will ensure you are well placed to achieve your highest potential and are equipped for career success.

You'll have the support of an academic member of staff as an academic adviser throughout your degree to help with academic and personal issues.

Peer mentors will help you in your first year. They are fellow students who can help you settle in and answer any questions you have when starting university.

Your future

Join a network of successful graduates

A degree in Ancient History and History will give you a wide range of knowledge and skills. Once you graduate you'll have the skills to research complex topics independently and think critically about information from different sources.

You'll have highly developed communication and organisational skills. In addition, studying for a joint honours degree allows you to become intellectually versatile as you switch between different disciplines.

Our graduates have gone on to work in a diverse range of sectors including finance, public policy and government, civil service, education, marketing, business, law and museum and heritage.

[Read more about the careers our graduates have gone in to](#)

Make a difference

Careers support

Our Careers Service is one of the largest and best in the country, and we have strong links with employers. We provide an extensive range of opportunities to all students through our ncl+ initiative.

[Visit our Careers Service website](#)

Recognition of professional qualifications outside of the UK

If you're studying an **accredited degree** and thinking about working in Europe after you graduate, the best place to find current information is the [UK Government's guidance on recognition of UK professional qualifications in EU member states](#). This official resource explains whether your profession is regulated in another country, what steps you need to take, and which

organisation you should contact.

Find out more...

- Go online for information about our full range of degrees:
www.ncl.ac.uk/undergraduate
- Watch videos about student life in Newcastle by visiting our YouTube channel at **www.youtube.com/@newcastleuni**
- Watch a virtual tour of our campus at
<https://youtu.be/vJUfHcqB7l8?si=8lUrf7kTxXbgdfr1>
- Book for an Open Day to come and see us in person
www.ncl.ac.uk/openday
- Contact us online at **www.ncl.ac.uk/enquiries** or phone +44 (0)191 208 3333

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<https://www.ncl.ac.uk/student-welcome/student-contract/>

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