



BISHOP  
GROSSETESTE  
UNIVERSITY

# Military History

BA (Hons)



# Why study Military History at BGU?

Alongside studying the history of warfare, you'll also investigate and examine the many social and cultural impacts of conflict.

---

You will be inspired by research active lecturers within the classroom and beyond by learning about military history on location at a range of historic military sites from battlefields to secret Cold War bunkers.

---

Lincolnshire is known as 'Bomber County' for its RAF heritage and role during the Second World War, making it a perfect and unique place to study military history.

---

Important employability skills feature throughout the course with a strong focus on developing independent research skills and the ability to construct and defend thought provoking arguments.



# Hello

## CONTENTS

<b>MILITARY HISTORY AT BGU</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>MODULES</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>WHAT WE OFFER</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>YOUR FUTURE</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>WHY BGU?</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>WHERE ARE WE?</b>	<b>19</b>

# Military History at BGU

This exciting course reviews the evidence for conflict from the medieval period through to the present day across a breadth of geographical situations. Armed conflict has shaped states, societies and economies from ancient times through to the present day.

The study of military history is a fascinating topic and includes much more than learning just about weapons and battles. Taking this course will help you to develop an understanding of the broader social, ethical and political contexts of warfare as well as the culture and practice of war throughout history.

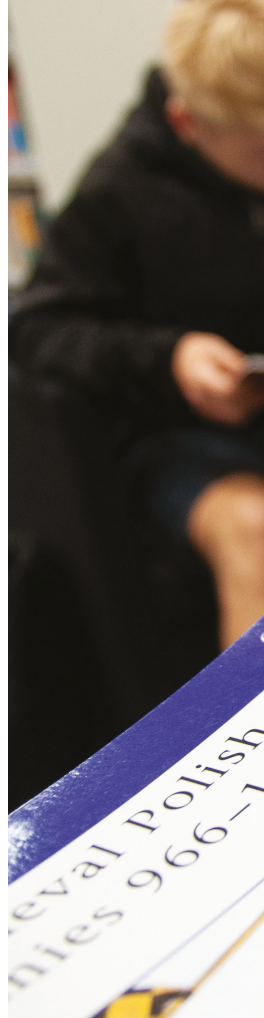
You will engage in real historical research, working side-by-side with research-active members of academic staff and during your final year, you will work on your research-based dissertation. You will gain skills that will help you to research and analyse sources and data, and to construct and defend thought-provoking arguments.

You will encounter a wider variety of historical study as you participate in modules, and learning activities shared by students following other history-based pathways. During the final year of study, your knowledge and understanding of military history will be enhanced through a Special Subject module such as covert warfare during the Second World War.

During the course, you will study modules which are designed to engage you in a broad survey of the academic character and identity of military history. You will consider key ideas about the nature and conduct of war, alongside various factors that shaped military experience.

You will also use a variety of case-studies to introduce yourself to the practice of military history from the medieval to modern periods, with modules designed to deepen your understanding of specific approaches to historical study and widen your historical knowledge of war beyond Britain.

For full details of all of our courses, including combinations, module details, entry requirements and much more, visit [bishopg.ac.uk/courses](http://bishopg.ac.uk/courses)







Military History is not just about battles and tanks – what’s great about the course is that we cover everything from the histories of the armed forces, different forms of warfare and the conduct of war, alongside military affairs and the impact of war on society.”

**Jordan**  
Military History

## KEY FACTS

**AWARD:** BA (Hons)  
Single Honours

**DURATION:** 3 years full-time

**START DATE:** September

**TYPICAL OFFER:**  
96 – 112 UCAS tariff points

**INSTITUTION CODE:** B38



Teaching is delivered by supportive lecturers who are all passionate about their particular areas of expertise.

I felt inspired and constantly wanted to learn more about areas I had never covered before such as airpower, secret warfare and covert operations, and the debates around the ethics of war.”

**Callum**  
Military History



# Military History modules

At BGU you can study Military History as a **single** honours degree, giving you an in-depth knowledge of the subject. Depending on your year of entry, options and any potential course combinations, you may study some or all of the following modules in Military History at BGU.

For full details of all of our courses, including combinations, module details, entry requirements and much more, visit [bishopg.ac.uk/courses](http://bishopg.ac.uk/courses)

# Year 1

## **War and Society: An Introduction to Military History**

This module explores the specific definitions of military history and considers the various approaches historians have taken to this field of study. There will be a focus on the relationship between theory and practice in the context of studying military operations, with reference to historical case studies exploring organisational and operational excellence, and reform in a variety of situations including military and conflict situations at sea, on land, and in the air.

## **Bows, Bayonets & Bullets: The Changing Face of Battle**

Throughout history, land battles have won wars, redrawn geographical borders, removed royal monarchs and political leaders, and influenced the spread of culture. A range of case studies from the Battle of Hastings, the Battle of Lincoln, Agincourt, to Waterloo and the Somme, will explore the changing face of battle for those who fought and their interaction with civilians, alongside developments in tactics and weaponry, recruitment, organisation, discipline, logistics and morale.

## **Introduction to History: Ideas, Issues and Approaches**

This module serves as an introduction to the subject of history, offering a snapshot of some of the themes covered in subsequent modules. You will consider key areas of theory and practice in history, such as the significance of schools of historical thought, key source types and popular interpretative approaches.

## **The Long Weekend: Britain in the Interwar Years**

As part of this module, you will survey the history of interwar Britain. The module will consider various political, social, cultural and economic perspectives, as well as different interpretations in the historical literature. A particular focus will be the experience of everyday life contrasting unemployment, poverty and depression with higher living standards and the growth of leisure activities from cinema to professional football.

## **Life and Death in Late Medieval England**

The module will consider various political, social, cultural and economic perspectives of a transitional and turbulent period of English history. You will consider important social structures and lifecycles, the nature of kingship, the role of the church, challenges to and the decline of feudalism, medieval warfare, and the development of towns as centres of learning and trade.

## **Early Modern Britain: from Reformation to Revolution**

You will study the chronological development of early modern Britain from Henry VIII to the English Civil Wars. The module will explicitly examine reformation and religious change, the rise of parliament and the state, radical politics and revolutionary change, the impact of print culture, the English Civil War, and the role played by towns, and especially London, as drivers of economic, social and cultural change.

## **At War with Itself: The United States from Civil Rights to Vietnam**

This module will introduce the key events, themes and characters of the US Civil Rights Movement and Vietnam War. You will explore different elements of the Civil Rights Movement, including the black, women and gay rights movements, how these overlapped with the workers' rights struggle and ultimately affected the national political landscape. This module will also enable you to appreciate the impact the war in Vietnam had on American society, culture and politics.

## Year 2

### **'War! What is it Good For?': The Ethics of Conflict - Historical Perspectives**

This module will investigate the evolution of the concept of just war and just war theory through the practical application of the ethics of war to a broad range of historical case studies drawn from the medieval to the modern world. Consideration will be given to the social, cultural and political dimensions of ethical decision-making in relation to war and combat at a national, institutional and personal level.

### **Soldiers, Sailors and Ships: Warfare in the Long 19th Century**

This module will explore the changing character and function of European armies and navies during the period 1750 to 1914. The module will consider the development of regimental and naval organisational structures, issues of command and communications, battle strategies and technological developments. The varying approaches taken by governments to the administration of armed forces during periods of war and peace will also be critically reviewed.

### **The Civilian in War: The British Home Front During the Second World War**

Through a wide-ranging social historical approach, this module will advance your knowledge and understanding of the history of the civilian wartime experience in Britain during the Second World War. You will consider the administrative and bureaucratic structures put in place to manage wartime life and the social response to this. Everyday concerns will be reviewed, such as news and censorship, home defence, food supply, housing, education and coping with death.

### **The Secret State: The History of Modern Espionage**

The module will explore the historical evolution of modern British espionage throughout the twentieth century. It will include a critical discussion of the historiographical issues related to the study of intelligence history, focusing on a number of case studies drawn from: Britain's culture of secrecy, the 1911 Official Secrets Act, the growth of MI5 and MI6, the Abdication Crisis of 1936, Ultra, the Cambridge Five, The Profumo Affair, the role of women, international relations, and the popular culture of espionage.

### **Creative Destruction: The Atlantic World in the 17th and 18th Centuries**

You will embark on a voyage of discovery into the Atlantic World of the 17th and 18th centuries. Through a critical review of cutting edge historiographical debates and a variety of primary source material you will analyse the history of the Atlantic World, with a particular focus on the English-speaking colonies of the Caribbean and North America. This module will provide an opportunity to examine a range of key themes from the trans-Atlantic slave trade, pirates in the Caribbean and European state rivalry, to the revolutionary change in social, cultural and religious identities as a result of the Atlantic experience.

### **Placement – Professional Contexts and Public History**

This module provides you with an experience of the world of work in the form of a placement, work experience or a project with employer involvement. It enables you to apply knowledge and skills in a real-life context offering you a valuable experience to draw on when you present yourself to employers or selectors upon graduation. The module also reviews the nature of public history and in particular the relationship between heritage practitioners and popular history.

## Year 3

### **The Sun Never Set and the Blood Never Dried: The British Empire in the Long 19th Century**

The focus of this module is the global and expansionist nature of British Empire between the American Revolution and the First World War. Students will examine the impact of British power, money and culture on indigenous peoples and societies with whom they came into contact and who responded with a mixture of adaptation, co-operation and resistance. In turn, students will examine the ways in which British society and culture were transformed by the imperial experience. You will be expected to engage in historiographical debates about the nature of the British Empire, its origins, purpose, meaning and legacies.

### **Into the Blue: War in the Air**

This module examines the historical development of air warfare from the use of motorised flight during the First World War through to the contemporary use of drones. The module considers the impact that an 'aerial view' had on battle field management from the mid-19th century onwards, first with balloons and later the vital role played by aerial photography during the Second World War. The use of aircraft as weapons, either through the concept of 'air-power' or to take war to civilian populations will also be reviewed. The organisational challenges of developing a novel fighting force in a new theatre of combat will also be explored.

### **The Cold War and the Space Age**

During this module, you will undertake a wide-ranging critical study of the political, social and cultural chronology of the Cold War from a number of differing geo-political perspectives including that of Great Britain and other European nations as well as the USA and USSR. The module will give significant focus to the conquest of space as a specific element of both Cold War politics and later 20th century social, technological and cultural change.

### **Special Subject**

During this module you will have the opportunity to draw upon staff research specialisms to take an in-depth, critical and complex approach to a theme or topic. By way of example such Special Subjects might include: 'The French Revolution: Liberty, terror, warfare and the origins of modernity' or 'The Secret War: Intelligence during the Second World War'.

### **Dissertation**

In this module, you are required to undertake a research-based project, drawing on academic advice as well as their own interests and intellectual skills, to produce a substantial written dissertation. Students conduct their research by addressing self-formulated questions, supported by the critical selection, evaluation and analysis of primary and secondary source material. By these means they devise and sustain a core argument, and/or solve relevant historical problems, to support the premise of their research question. The guiding role of the supervisor means that students will be empowered to develop their intellectual and transferable skills of initiative and responsibility.



# What we offer

## Delivery

There is no one-size-fits-all method of teaching at BGU – we shape our methods to suit each subject and each group, combining the best aspects of traditional university teaching with innovative techniques to promote student participation and interactivity.

You will be taught in a variety of ways, including face-to-face lectures and tutorials, along with the dynamic use of the university's VLE. Small group seminars and workshops will provide you with an opportunity to review issues raised in lectures, and you will be expected to carry out independent study.

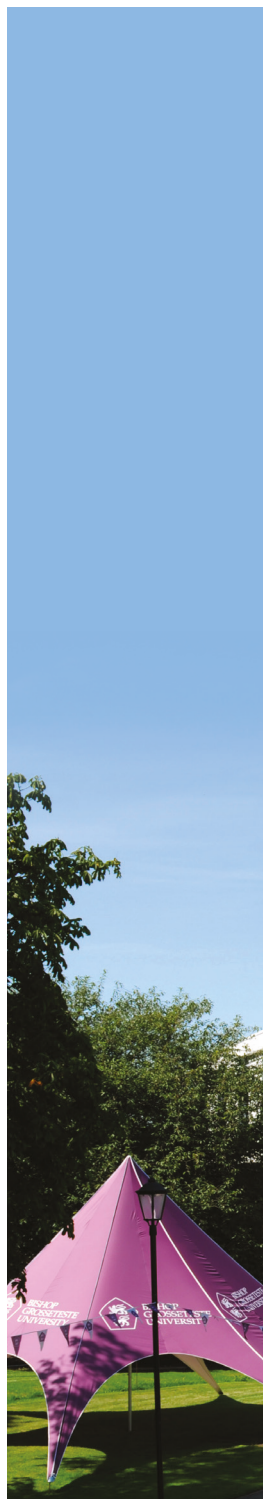
Placements are a key part of degree study at BGU. They provide an enriching learning experience for you to apply the skills and knowledge you will gain from your course and, in doing so, give valuable real-world experience to boost your career.

## Assessment

We recognise that individuals come from a wide range of backgrounds and experiences, so we use a variety of assessment strategies on our courses.

In Military History, a variety of assessment methods are used, which include essays, reports, presentations and written tests. We support you in this work through a mix of lectures, seminars, tutorials, practical workshops and a wide range of field visits.

History is primarily a written subject and consequently much of the assessment of the course is based on essays and reports. There are a few exams, which often include analysis of provided source material, either text or images. There are also a smaller number of oral presentations and the production of portfolios of research material.





### Support

Studying at BGU is a student-centred experience. Staff and students work together in a friendly and supportive atmosphere as part of an intimate campus community. You will know every member of staff personally and feel confident approaching them for help and advice, and staff members will recognise you, not just by sight, but as an individual with unique talents and interests. We will be there to support you, personally and academically, from induction to graduation.

“

The lecturers and staff at BGU treat each student, each lecture and each encounter as unique and worth their full effort. Every lecture was engaging, and every lecturer friendly and welcoming.”

**Jonah**  
History





# Your future

Our students have excellent rates of employability when they graduate from BGU, which is great news for you as it means that you can study for a degree knowing that your future is in safe hands. Our employability rates are extremely important to us here at BGU, which is why we offer placement opportunities as an integral part of our courses.

The study of Military History teaches you how to assemble and assess evidence from a wide range of sources – archival and digital, textual and visual. It teaches transferable skills in the analysis of data and the robust construction of arguments using critical reasoning supported by evidence.

This course will equip you with a wide range of critical and analytical skills through the in-depth study of the incidence, formation and operation of military institutions and organizational structures in naval, landbased, airborne and civilian contexts.

Possible future careers for Military History graduates may include serving as an Armed Forces Officer, Intelligence Officer, within the civil service or security and policing, law and public policy, information research and management, journalism and publishing, or education.



Take a look at what qualities and skills you'll develop as a BGU student  
[bishopg.ac.uk/graduate-attributes](https://bishopg.ac.uk/graduate-attributes)

“

I know that when the time draws nearer, BGU has a tremendous array of people I can talk to about my future who will have great advice and help me to come to the right decision. Since BGU has such a high employment rate for graduates, I know that whatever I choose to do BGU will help and support me in getting that role.”

**Rebecca**

History



# Why BGU?

Here at BGU we've been providing first-class education to students for over 150 years. We're based in the heart of historic Lincoln, a beautiful and extremely student-friendly city.

Navigating around Lincoln on foot is simple, from the cobbled streets uphill to the modern city centre and waterfront downhill.

We're located uphill on an attractive, leafy campus just a few minutes' walk from Lincoln's medieval Cathedral, Castle and Bailgate area.

With plenty of live entertainment, cultural attractions and nightlife hotspots, there's plenty to keep you entertained, uphill and downhill.

Visit **bishopg.ac.uk/lincoln** to find out what's on offer in Lincoln.





“

I like the fact that the lectures and seminars are varied, as are the assessments. Course content is easy to access and most importantly teaching staff take the time to get to know you personally.”

**Tenille**  
History

As a single-site campus, just about everything you need is close by, whether it be your tutors, your friends, your lectures or the places in which you like to relax.

Our students are some of the happiest in the UK, which is incredibly important to us. We really care about our students and aim to support them all of the way through their studies, from application to graduation.

People often say that there's something special about BGU, that the people really care. There's a warm and friendly feel to life here, and we do everything possible to look after our students however we can.

Studying as part of a close-knit community, you'll get to know staff personally and feel confident in being able to approach them for help and

Explore what we have to offer on our campus at [bishopg.ac.uk/campus](https://bishopg.ac.uk/campus)

“

I initially held a different university as my firm and unconditional offer, but the atmosphere about BGU on an open-day drew me in, and the academics kept me.”

**Jonah**  
History



advice. Staff will recognise you - not just by sight but as an individual with unique talents, interests and needs. We'll be there to support you, academically and personally, from the day you start until long after you leave.

Life after BGU is extremely important and we offer many different methods

of support for your future career. This, alongside our talented graduates, is one of the reasons that we consistently achieve impressive employability figures.

This is great news for you as you'll be able to study at BGU knowing that your education is in safe hands!

There's no better way to really get a feel for what BGU has to offer than by coming to visit us. To book your place now visit **[bishoprossett.ac.uk/opensdays](https://www.bishoprossett.ac.uk/opensdays)**.





I knew from the moment I attended an Open Day that BGU was the university for me. The knowledge and passion that the lecturers have is something that inspired me to continue and do an MA. The lecturers encouraged my interest in the history of twentieth century warfare, equipping me with the necessary skills of analysis and information management needed for a future career in the armed forces or intelligence services.”

**Sam**

History and MA in Social & Cultural History

# What happens next?

## Open Days

So you've found a course you're interested in - what next? We feel very strongly that coming along to visit us on an Open Day is the very best way to find out everything about BGU.

A BGU Open Day is designed with you in mind, to give you a taste of what it's like to live, study and work here. We try to make everything as easy as possible for you, so you can relax and enjoy the day. You'll have the chance to explore the campus and surrounding area,

speaking to members of academic staff about the courses you're interested in, looking around our accommodation, and getting any questions you may have answered.

Book your place on our next Open Day now - visit **www.bishopg.ac.uk/opendays**

If you think you'd like to apply, need more information or just want to speak to somebody about your options, contact our Enquiries team by calling **01522 583658** or emailing **enquiries@bishopg.ac.uk**




**Ready to apply?** Brilliant. We can't wait to receive your application! For the majority of our courses you will apply through UCAS – visit **www.bishopg.ac.uk** for all the information you will need. And don't worry – if you need help with anything, from UCAS scores to personal statements, we're here to help. Our dedicated team are ready to answer your queries and questions.

The contents of this booklet are correct at the time of going to print (January 2020). For full and up-to-date information on all of our courses, visit **bishopg.ac.uk**

# Where are we?



## Airports close to BGU

-  Humberside
-  Doncaster
-  Nottingham East Midlands

Where	Road	Rail
Sheffield	55 miles	1hr 20m
Nottingham	39 miles	55m
Leeds	77 miles	2hrs
York	69 miles	1hr 45m
London	144 miles	2hrs

BISHOP GROSSETESTE UNIVERSITY  
LONGDALES ROAD  
LINCOLN  
UNITED KINGDOM  
LN1 3DY

[www.bishopg.ac.uk](http://www.bishopg.ac.uk)  
Telephone (01522) 583658  
[enquiries@bishopg.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@bishopg.ac.uk)



You really feel part of a community at BGU. My lecturers made me feel really welcome and supported during my first year of study. As a Military History student, I really enjoyed the Matriculation ceremony at Lincoln Cathedral. Being welcomed formally into the university in a building that held such importance for Bomber Command crews during the Second World War was a perfect way to start my degree."

**Will**

Military History

@BGULincoln

