



UNIVERSITY OF
LIVERPOOL

MA

Medieval History

Study mode

Full-time

Part-time

Duration

12 months

24 months

Apply by: **28 August 2026**

Starts on: **21 September 2026**

About this course

The Medieval History pathway draws on our considerable medieval expertise across history, literature, and languages. Using a multidisciplinary approach, we delve into the literature, art, philosophy, religion, politics, and society of this period, analysing its evolution and influence on modern society.

Introduction

Throughout the duration of this course, you'll have the opportunity to explore a range of fascinating and relevant issues related to the medieval and early modern periods. In particular, you'll study the notions and exercise of secular and spiritual authority, exploring the ways in which power operated within these societies.

Students will also develop advanced research skills, read and interpret original sources, and receive training in Latin and palaeography. Through primary source analysis, students gain a deep understanding of the cultural landscapes of these periods and how they shape our contemporary world.

You'll also have the opportunity to participate fully in the activities of Liverpool's [Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies](#).

Please note: when applying for this course, please choose 'MA History' on the online application form. You should also specify that you wish to pursue the Medieval History pathway.

Who is this course for?

This programme will appeal to a wide range of students, including those who've recently graduated in History or a related discipline or have decided to return to university later in life. The structure of the course provides a good grounding for those intending to proceed to doctoral research.

It will appeal particularly to those with a keen interest in medieval history, texts, and culture.

What you'll learn

During the programme you'll examine issues such as:

- The notions and exercise of secular and spiritual authority
- The operation of power in medieval societies
- The construction of identities.

In addition, taking the Medieval History MA will:

- Involve you with an active research network via the [Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies](#).
- Give you the chance to work closely with a dynamic group of scholars who have considerable medieval and early modern expertise across history, literature and languages.

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Course content

Discover what you'll learn, what you'll study, and how you'll be taught and assessed.

Semester one

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>HOW WE STUDY THE PAST (HIST507)</u>	30
<u>MAKING AUTHORITY IN LATE ANTIQUITY AND THE EARLY MIDDLE AGES (HIST532)</u>	15
<u>LATIN IA (CLAH641)</u>	15

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Semester two

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>DIRECTED READING (HIST539)</u>	30
<u>MEDIEVAL PALAEOGRAPHY (GENERAL) (HIST560)</u>	15
<u>LATIN IB (CLAH642)</u>	15

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Final project

HIST550, Dissertation, is undertaken and completed during the summer term.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>DISSERTATION (HIST550)</u>	60

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Teaching and assessment

How you'll learn

Most modules take the form of small seminar groups, supplemented by independent study. Most seminars are weekly two-hour sessions. Students lead discussions in class and receive guidance on further reading from the module tutor. We consider small group teaching essential to the learning and teaching experience at postgraduate level.

The Directed Reading (HIST539) and Dissertation (HIST550) demand a higher degree of independence, with guidance and advice from a dedicated supervisor through individual tutorials.

How you're assessed

Ongoing assessment is linked to work done primarily in seminars and through individual tutorials and supervisions.

Written assessments will vary according to the nature of the modules, research project and the needs of the student, but may include source analyses, written reports, critical reviews, feasibility studies, annotated bibliographies, historiographical review essays and formal research proposals.

Liverpool Hallmarks

We have a distinctive approach to education, the Liverpool Curriculum Framework, which focuses on research-connected teaching, active learning, and authentic assessment to ensure our students graduate as digitally fluent and confident global citizens.

The Liverpool Curriculum framework sets out our distinctive approach to education. Our teaching staff support our students to develop academic knowledge, skills, and understanding alongside our **graduate attributes**:

- Digital fluency
- Confidence
- Global citizenship

Our curriculum is characterised by the three **Liverpool Hallmarks**:

- Research-connected teaching
- Active learning
- Authentic assessment

All this is underpinned by our core value of **inclusivity** and commitment to providing a curriculum that is accessible to all students.

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Careers and employability

Our History taught programmes are designed to meet the training requirements of the AHRC and the ESRC to equip you for further study towards an MPhil/PhD.

However, our MA students go into a wide range of professions, including media, public sector management, business consultancy, the civil service, NGO and development work, as well as academia.

Possible career prospects

- Academic researcher or school teacher
- Broadcast/Media journalist
- Public sector management
- Civil service and NGOs.

Career support from day one to graduation and beyond

Career planning

From education to employment

Networking events

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Fees and funding

Your tuition fees, funding your studies, and other costs to consider.

Tuition fees

UK fees (applies to Channel Islands, Isle of Man and Republic of Ireland)

Full-time place, per year – £11,700

Part-time place, per year – £5,850

International fees

Full-time place, per year – £24,100

Part-time place, per year – £12,050

Fees stated are for the 2025/26 academic year. Tuition fees for the academic year 2026/27 will be announced soon.

Tuition fees cover the cost of your teaching and assessment, operating facilities such as libraries, IT equipment, and access to academic and personal support.

- You can [pay your tuition fees in instalments](#).
- All or part of your tuition fees can be [funded by external sponsorship](#).
- International applicants who accept an offer of a place will need to [pay a tuition fee deposit](#).

If you're a UK national, or have settled status in the UK, you may be eligible to apply for a Postgraduate Loan worth up to £12,167 to help with course fees and living costs. [Learn more about paying for your studies](#).

Additional costs

We understand that budgeting for your time at university is important, and we want to make sure you understand any course-related costs that are not covered by your tuition fee. This could include buying a laptop, books, or stationery.

Find out more about the [additional study costs](#) that may apply to this course.

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Entry requirements

The qualifications and exam results you'll need to apply for this course.

Postgraduate entry requirements

We accept a 2:2 honours degree from a UK university, or an equivalent academic qualification from a similar non-UK institution. This degree should be in History (or a closely related subject e.g. Ancient History, English Literature, Modern Languages, Art History, Classics).

A Personal Statement which clearly demonstrates an interest in the programme and an understanding of the context of the programme is also required.

Applicants may be called to interview and, if so, will be asked to submit a sample of their historical analysis (between 1500 and 2500 words) written in English for discussion during the interview. Please note that being asked to interview is no guarantee of an offer of a place.

International qualifications

[Select your country or region to view specific entry requirements.](#)

If you hold a bachelor's degree or equivalent, but don't meet our entry requirements, a Pre-Master's can help you gain a place. This specialist preparation course for postgraduate study is offered on campus at the **[University of Liverpool International College](#)**, in partnership with Kaplan International Pathways. Although there's no direct Pre-Master's route to this MA, completing a Pre-Master's pathway can guarantee you a place on many other postgraduate courses at The University of Liverpool.

English language requirements

You'll need to demonstrate competence in the use of English language, unless you're from a [majority English speaking country](#).

We accept a variety of [international language tests](#) and [country-specific qualifications](#).

International applicants who do not meet the minimum required standard of English language can complete one of our [Pre-Sessional English courses](#) to achieve the required level.

IELTS

6.5 overall, with no component below 6.0

TOEFL iBT

88 overall, with minimum scores of listening 19, writing 19, reading 19 and speaking 20. TOEFL Home Edition not accepted.

Duolingo English Test

125 overall, with writing not less than 125, speaking and reading not less than 115, and listening not below 110. For academic year 2025/26 only, we will also accept the production, literacy, comprehension and conversation score set: 120 overall, with no component below 105.

Pearson PTE Academic

61 overall, with no component below 59

LanguageCert Academic

70 overall, with no skill below 65

PSI Skills for English

B2 Pass with Merit in all bands

INDIA Standard XII

National Curriculum (CBSE/ISC) – 75% and above in English. Accepted State Boards – 80% and above in English.

WAEC

C6 or above

Pre-sessional English

Do you need to complete a Pre-sessional English course to meet the English language requirements for this course?

The length of Pre-sessional English course you'll need to take depends on your current level of English language ability.

Pre-sessional English in detail

If you don't meet our English language requirements, we can use your most recent IELTS score, or [the equivalent score in selected other English language tests](#), to determine the length of Pre-sessional English course you require.

Use the table below to check the course length you're likely to require for your current English language ability and see whether the course is available on campus or online.

Your most recent IELTS score	Pre-sessional English course length	On campus or online
6.0 overall, with no component below 6.0	6 weeks	On campus
6.0 overall, with no component below 5.5	10 weeks	On campus and online options available
6.0 overall, with no more than one component below 5.5, and no component below 5.0	12 weeks	On campus and online options available
5.5 overall, with no more than one component below 5.5, and no component below 5.0	20 weeks	On campus
5.0 overall, with no more than one component below 5.0, and no	30 weeks	On campus

Your most recent IELTS score	Pre-sessional English course length	On campus or online
component below 4.5		
4.5 overall, with no more than one component below 4.5, and no component below 4.0	40 weeks	On campus

If you've completed an alternative English language test to IELTS, we may be able to use this to assess your English language ability and determine the Pre-sessional English course length you require.

Please see our guide to [Pre-sessional English entry requirements](#) for IELTS 6.5 overall, with no component below 6.0, for further details.

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