



OLLSCOIL NA GAILLIMHÉ
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY

MA IN HISTORY, 2026-27

CORE MODULES

Note: Full-time students take both core modules in Semester 1. Part-time students take HI6104 in Semester 1 of Year One and HI503 in Semester 1 of Year Two.

HI6104 MAKING HISTORY: EVIDENCE AND INTERPRETATION – 15 ECTS

This module is designed to develop the student as a historian. Students will explore how the discipline of history has evolved from a traditional emphasis on politics and war to include new fields of enquiry such as the history of everyday life, gender and sexuality, and the environment. They will study the challenges of particular kinds of sources like letters and diaries, oral interviews, and digital resources. In addition to honing their skills in textual analysis, they will consider new approaches such as network analysis and AI. Students will observe historians in action at the regular research seminar. With their thesis ultimately in mind, students will identify a field of particular interest, a research question within it, and a methodology to answer it. Assessment includes regular participation in class discussion, oral presentations and a thesis proposal.

HI503: HISTORICAL DEBATES & CONTROVERSIES – 15 ECTS

This module approaches the interpretation of historical sources through the examination of four specific topics that have caused controversy among historians. By exploring different interpretations of topics such as the impact of the Industrial Revolution on real wages, the causes of World War One, or the value of Global History, students learn about the relationship between ideology and the framing of historical questions as well as quantitative and qualitative methodologies.