



In 1783, the influential Berlin magazine, the *Berlinische Monatsschrift*, asked its readers the question: 'What is Enlightenment?' Two and a half centuries later, the debate that question prompted continues.

If historians generally agree that far-reaching intellectual and cultural changes took place across much of eighteenth-century Europe, they rarely agree about the nature of that change or how to interpret it. This module introduces students to some of the major interpretations of, debates about, and approaches to the history of the Enlightenment in eighteenth-century Britain, France, Germany and Italy. It asks students to engage with original sources (in English), alongside the historiography of the Enlightenment, and to come up with their own responses to that still troubling question.