

E. P. Thompson and N. Z. Davis

HIU22010 Writing History
Co-ordinator Graeme Murdock

Credits 5 ECTS

Semester Michaelmas Term

Assessment A 1,000-word book review (40%), and an end-of-term in person exam (60%). Module Description: This module encourages Senior Fresh students to reflect critically on the history of history-writing, on the role of different ideologies in history-writing, on major historiographical traditions, and on a variety of approaches to writing history. The material covered introduces a range of ideas and authors in order to stimulate thought about the business of writing history. The course is deliberately structured chronologically- to cover the influence on history-writing in the Western tradition of Christianity, positivism, Marxism, historicism, liberalism, nationalism, revisionism, feminism, and post-modernism. The course considers the development of history-writing primarily in Western context, but also reflects throughout on both the ideological impact of this context and on other perspectives. Through teaching and assessment methods, the course encourages students to read key literature and actively to reflect in a comparative way on their understanding of issues raised by the module.