PROGRAMME APPROVAL/REVIEW/MODIFICATION REPORT

PART A: SUMMARY REPORT   **CONFIRMED**

A1	**Programme Specification Title(s)**	
BA (Hons) History		

A2	**Home Department/School**	Department of History and Economic History
A3	**Home Faculty**	Humanities, Law and Social Science
A4	**Type of Event**	Review
A5	**Date of Event**	14 May 2009

A6	**Objectives of Event**

To ensure that the design, academic standards and quality of learning opportunities of the existing programme, together with the proposed developments, as approved in principle on 12 March 2009 (PAF ref PARM/09/058) and as outlined in 7 below, remain appropriate to the award to which the programme leads and are informed by reference to institutional regulations and policies, national benchmarks and relevant professional and employment demands.

A7	**Outline of Proposal/Development(s)**

The BA (Hons) History programme was first approved in 1979 and has since undergone 5 successful quinquennial reviews. Since the last review (in July 2004) the Faculty's BA in Humanities and Social Sciences has been subsumed under the University's Combined Honours Undergraduate Programme. History has continued to participate in the merged programme..

There have been no major or ADC modifications to the programme since the last review.

The following four changes are proposed for consideration in this Review:
1. Discontinuation of the Combined Honours route in International History, and Modern History.
2. Introduction of twenty-five new units.
3. Renaming of two existing units.
4. Significant amendments to one existing unit.

A8	**Conduct of the Event and Panel Membership**

The event, comprising private panel meetings and meetings of the panel with members of the programme team and representatives of current/former students, was held on the All Saints South Campus.

The panel included the following internal members:

- Prof. Phil Wheater (Chair)
- Mr. David Shirley (Shadow Chair)
- Dott. Nicoletta Di Ciolla (FADC member)
- Ms. Nicola Clarke (CASQE officer)
- Prof. John Vint (Dean of Faculty Representative)
- Ms. Pauline Ford (Head of Faculty and Campus SAS)
- Miss Sarah Ives (Panel Secretary)

The panel included the following external members appointed by the Head of Academic Standards & Quality Enhancement after nomination by the Faculty:

- Dr Gervase Rosser (Oxford University)
- Dr Tony Taylor (Sheffield Hallam University)

A9	**Documentary Evidence Base**

- Draft definitive document (including updated programme specification)
- Self evaluation document incorporating the following appendices:
  - Report of programme last review event [2004] and account of action taken in response
  - Report of most recent QAA engagement
  - Most recent annual Quality Action Plans, monitoring statistics and external examiners reports
  - Analysis of student feedback questionnaires
  - Summary CVs of teaching staff
- Programme Approval Form approved in principle

A10	**Conclusions on Innovation and Good Practice**

The Panel identified the following aspects of good practice:
- The range of units providing a balance between themes and periods, comparative contexts, gender and links to Benchmark Statements.
- The range of Assessment Strategies.
- The Placement Project opportunity.
- Union Learn.
- The link between staff research and teaching.

A11	**Conclusions on Quality and Standards**

The Panel concluded that the intended learning outcomes of the programmes were being achieved by students, that the standards of the University's awards were being maintained and that the programme as modified remains current and valid in the light of developing knowledge in the discipline, practice in its operation and developments in teaching and learning.

A12	**Summary of Outcome**

The Panel recommended:

Continued approval with effect from September 2009 subject to fulfilment of the condition in Section A13 below.

A full list of the award titles approved may be found in boxes 3 and 4 of the updated programme specification.

A full list of changes made as part of this Review event may be found in Appendix 1 of this report.

A13	**Condition(s) of Approval**

The following condition of approval must be fulfilled before the programme/modified programme may commence:
1. Articulate, within the definitive document, that the programme engages with the Institutional Code of Practice on Placement Learning, with specific reference to the Placement Project.

A14	**Deadline(s) for Fulfilment of Condition(s)**

29 May 2009

A15	**Recommendations**

The Programme Team must consider and address explicitly the following recommendations in the course of its annual monitoring processes:
1. Review the communication routes with the student body including full use of student representatives, and possible use of student-staff liaison committees and student portals/hubs on WebCT.
2. Consider producing an assessment grid for use in the definitive document and the student handbooks.
3. Consider the Learning Outcomes in the 40 credit project units to emphasise their extra depth in comparison with the 20 credit versions.

The panel recommends that the University should:
1. Be aware of the concern expressed by students at all levels (especially levels 5 and 6 and in comparison with their experience of other HEIs) that the replacement of the Departmental Offices with other structures (including the SIPs) is detrimental to the student experience. The students emphasize that this is not a reflection on the personalities or professionalism of the staff involved. The aspects that students particularly miss are:
   - A familiar and friendly face

- local knowledge
- a feeling of common identity
- lack of queues

2. Be aware that the students have expressed concern about the availability of hard copy materials in the library, despite the best efforts of the programme staff. External Assessors confirm that this discipline requires monographs in hard copy in addition to other digitalised resources.

A16	**Date of next scheduled review**

The next scheduled periodic review of the programme will be held during the 2013/2014 academic session.

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A17	**Date Report considered by Head of ASQE**	11 September 2009
A18	**Date of CASQE Recommendation to AQSSc**	16 September 2009

End of PARMRPT(A)

PART C: RESPONSE TO CONDITIONS: STATUS REPORT

Programme Title	BA (Hons) History
Type of Event	Periodic Review
Date of Event	14 May 2009
Deadline for fulfilment of Conditions	29 May 2009
Panel Chair	Prof Phil Wheater

Response to be approved by *(indicate as appropriate)*	
Panel Chair on behalf of Panel	Yes
All/designated Panel Member *(please specify)*	

1	Action Taken in Response to Condition(s)

The following changes have been made:
- Programme Specification Section 28: Placement Learning (p. 22 of Definitive Document). The following statement has been added. *'Where such placements are negotiated, arrangements are put in place to ensure compliance with the current Institutional Code of Practice for Placement Learning.'*

- Definitive Document 2.5: Arrangements for the quality management of placement learning (pp. 37-8 of Definitive Document). The following sentence has been added. *'In such cases the placements comply with the current Institutional Code of Practice for Placement Learning.'*

- Unit Specifications for Major Project in History, Project in History, Major Project in Global Studies, Project in Global Studies, Section 14: Curriculum Outline (pp. 145, 149, 153, 157 of Definitive Document) The Curriculum Outlines now contain the additional sentence: *'In such cases the placements comply with the current Institutional Code of Practice for Placement Learning.'*

2	Documentation submitted to for approval

1. Revised Definitive Document
2. Programme Team's response to conditions set by the Panel

3	Panel Chair/Panel Member Comments

Secretary's Note: Due to incompatibilities in the new student record system, it was necessary to make a post-review amendment to the weighting of the elements of assessment for the unit entitled 'The American Revolution 1763-1776'. The Group Presentation element was increased by 1% to 34%. This amendment was approved by the Panel Chair on 16 September 2009

4	**Confirmation of approval**
I confirm that I am satisfied that the conditions of approval have been fulfilled.	
Signed: Phil Wheater (Signed copy held in CASQE files)	
Date: 24 August 2009	

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C3	**Date(s) Response to Conditions considered by Head of ASQE**	11 September 2009
C4	**Date(s) CASQE Recommendation(s) on conditions submitted to AQSSc**	16 September 2009
C5	**Date of final AQSSc approval**	16 September 2009

End of PARMRPT(C)