

You will choose your first-year papers – two Options papers and one Sources paper – in September.

There is no requirement to read any books in advance, but if you want to, then we list here some of the texts recommended for each of the Outline papers. Many of these will be available to you electronically through the University Library ([iDiscover.cam.ac.uk](http://iDiscover.cam.ac.uk)) as soon as you are assigned a ‘crs id’, or university email address in September.

If you want to buy any of them, by far the best place to buy second-hand books online is [bookfinder.com](http://bookfinder.com), which aggregates *all* of the online dealers, sorts them from lowest to highest price, and links to the dealer for purchase.

**Outline 1: Ancient and Medieval Societies and States over the First Millennium**

Peter Sarris, *Empires of Faith. The Fall of Rome to the Rise of Islam* (2011)

**Outline 2: The British Isles in the Middle Ages, c. 800 to c. 1500**

Ann Williams, *Kingship and Government in Pre-Conquest England, c. 500–1066* (1999)

Christopher Dyer, *Making a Living in the Middle Ages: the people of Britain, 850-1520* (2002)

**Outline 3: Medieval Europe c. 1100-1450**

Chris Wickham, *Medieval Europe* (2016)

J. H. Arnold, *What is Medieval History?* (2nd edn 2021)

**Outline 4: Early Modern Britain**

Keith Wrightson, ed., *A Social History of England 1500-1750* (2017)

**Outline 5: Europe in the World, ca 1450-1780**

Merry Wiesner-Hanks, *Early Modern Europe, 1450-1789* (2nd edn 2013).

**Outline 6: The Global Eighteenth Century**

Pamela Crossley, *What is Global History?* (2008)

Linda Colley, *The Ordeal of Elizabeth Marsh* (1st edn is 2007 but any edn is fine)

Outline 7: Modern Britain and Ireland, 1750 to the present

James Vernon, *Modern Britain: 1750 to the present* (2017).

Outline 8: Modern Europe, 1789-1914

Sebastian Conrad, *What Is Global History?* (2017)

Outline 9: North America, Central America, and the Caribbean, 1775 to the present

John Charles Chasteen, *Born in Blood and Fire: A Concise History of Latin America* (2016)  
[Free Online Version](#)

Eric Foner, *Give Me Liberty: An American History* (any recent edition) [Free Online Version](#)

Outline 10: The Global South from 1750 to the present

*The Oxford History of the British Empire*, volume 3 (Andrew Porter, ed.) and volume 4 (Judith Brown, ed.)

Adom Getachew, *Worldmaking after Empire: The Rise and Fall of Self-Determination* (2019)

Outline 11: The Twentieth Century

Emily Rosenberg, ed., *A World Connecting, 1870–1945* (2012)

Lorenz Lüthi, *Cold Wars: Asia, the Middle East, Europe* (2020)

Historical Thinking

Each term we will hold two seminars in college to discuss books chosen by college fellows and the historiographical and methodological issues they raise. These readings are complementary to the books we plan to discuss.

Amy Stanley, *Stranger in the Shogun's City: A Japanese Woman and Her World* (2020)

Natalie Zemon Davis, *The Return of Martin Guerre* (1983)

Sarah Stein, *Plumes: Ostrich Feathers, Jews, and a Lost World of Global Commerce* (2010)

Gungwu Wang, *Home is Not Here* (2018)

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