



OLLSCOIL NA GAILLIMHE
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY

BA History Pathways

Second Year Pathway Guidance 2026/27

information available as of August 18th 2026

While every effort has been made to ensure that the contents are accurate, it is issued for the guidance of students only. Course content and options in subjects other than History should be checked, if required, with the relevant department or Year Head in those subjects.

Planning Your Pathway

As you know, the BA History programme is split from first year into three named degree pathways. History is the core subject in each pathway, and you took it with two other subjects in First Year.

In Second Year, History remains your Major (30ECTS). You study History with EITHER two other subjects as Minors (15ECTS x2) OR one other subject as a second Major (30ECTS). Remember: Your subject choices in first year determine what pathway you can follow in second, third and final year.

- Journalism and Global Media, Sociological and Political Studies, Economics, Philosophy, French and Italian can be studied as minors with History (on Pathway 1 or one as a major with History (on Pathway 3)
- Other subjects can be taken as Majors with History (on Pathway 3)

Choosing Your History Modules

- All students take 30ECTS of History modules in second year.
- You should consult the general Second Year page for module descriptions: [BA \(Joint-Hons\) and other Denominated Programmes - University of Galway](#)
- Please bear in mind that you in BA History have an *additional option* in Semester 2 outlined below. [See BA History Year 2 timetables](#).

NB Special Optional 5ECTS Module in Semester 2: LIB2102 'History and the Archive: Understanding Research, Preservation and Management in Archives and Special Collections'

This module is *only* available to BA History Pathways students and is delivered in collaboration with the staff of the University Archives and Special Collections.

It is taught in a mix of lecture and 'hands-on' seminar style so it will offer you lots of opportunities to handle historical documents, develop independent research skills and learn new techniques and practices (including digital) for handling, organising, assessing and preserving historical sources such as manuscripts, maps, rare prints and more.

Although the module should be of interest and value to any student of History, it will be especially relevant if you intend to complete the Research Project module in third year or if you are considering a career in research, library and/or archival management, museums, heritage and so on. Numbers are capped, so you should register for the module early if you would like to take it.

Assessment: This module is assessed by coursework only, so attendance is essential, and students who miss a lot of classes will find it difficult to understand the requirements of the assessments.

Modules to take if taking Pathway One or Two (does not apply to those on Pathway 3 – BA History with one other subject)

- It is important to take care when choosing your modules for History and your other subject(s), so that you can create a workable timetable. Make sure to choose modules whose lectures and/or tutorials do not clash with other modules that you are taking.

BA Pathway 1 Historical Studies Second Year

History (Major: 30ECTS)) + two other subjects (Minors: 15ECTS x2)

Minors:

1. Journalism (Minor title: Journalism and Global Media)

You must take: AJ2102 Power without Responsibility (Semester 1) 5ECTS
AJ2127 Digital Society and Platform Studies (Semester 2) 5ECTS

Choose one option: AJ2109 Understanding Media Audience

(Semester 1) 5ECTS

AJ2126 Storytelling with Numbers and Data (Semester 1) 5 ECTS

AJ2135 Screen of Influence (Semester 2) 5ECTS

AJ2123 The Media and Global Migration (Semester 2) 5ECTS

2. Economics (Minor title: Economics and Public Policy)

You must take: EC269 Intermediate Microeconomics (Semester 1) 5ECTS

EC268 Intermediate Macroeconomics (Semester 2) 5ECTS

Choose one option: EC207 Irish Economic History (Semester 1) 5ECTS

EC247 Introduction to Financial Economics (Semester 2) 5ECTS

EC259 Economics of Public Policy (Semester 2) 5ECTS

3. Sociological and Political Studies (Minor title: Political Science, Sociology and Policy)

There are two available routes for this subject.

Route 1

Semester 1 SPSK3101 Politics and Society 5ECTS **(you must take this module)**

AND EITHER

SP2122 European Politics 5ECTS

OR

SP235 Social Issues and Policy Response 5ECTS

Semester 2 SP220 Methods for Social and Political Science 5ECTS

OR

SP2123 Modern Political Thought 5ECTS

OR

SP212 Classical Social Thought 5ECTS

OR

Route 2

Semester 1 SP2117 International and Global Politics 5ECTS

OR

SP2116 Sociology of Health 5ECTS

Semester 2 SPSK3102 Society and Politics 5ECTS **(you must take this module)**

AND EITHER

SP215.11 Modern Political Thought 5ECTS

OR

SP212 Classical Social Thought 5ECTS

4. Philosophy

You must take: PI2111 These in the History of History of Modern Philosophy 5ECTS (Semester 1) 5ECTS

P12112 Themes in the History of Modern Philosophy: Empiricism and Beyond (Semester 2) 5 ECTS

Choose options: PI247 Nietzsche & Philosophy (Semester 1) 5ECTS

PI113 Topics in Ancient Philosophy (Semester 1) 5ECTS

PI240 Bioethics (Semester 1) 5ECTS

PI248 Phenomenology (Semester 1) 5ECTS

PI2114 Themes in American Philosophical

Thought (Semester 1) 5 ECTS
 PI207 Philosophy of Art (Semester 2) 5ECTS
 PI2102 Formal Logic (Semester 2) 5ECTS
 PI2105 Philosophical Inquiry Through P4C
 (Semester 2) 5 ECTS
 P1210 Information Ethics (Semester 2) 5 ECTS
 P1210 Moral and Political Philosophy
 (Semester 2) 5 ECTS
 PI233 Topics in Continental Philosophy
 (Semester 2) 5 ECTS
 PI2141 History of Irish Thought (Semester 2) 5
 ECTS
 PI3105 Philosophy of Nature (Semester 2)
 5ECTS

5. German Language Studies

You must take: GR236 German Language I (Semester 1) 5ECTS
 GR237 German Language II (Semester 2) 5ECTS
 Choose one option: GR238 German Studies I (Semester 1) 5ECTS
 GR239 History of German Literature and Culture I (Semester 1)
 5ECTS
 GR240 History of German Studies II (Semester 2) 5ECTS
 GR235 History of German Literature and Culture II (Semester 1)
 5 ECTS

6. French Language Studies

You must take: FR266 French Language 5ECTS (Semester 1 and 2)
 Choose one option: FR269 Lecture du français: Textes, Contextes, Idées (Semester
 1) 5ECTS
 FR267 La France Mise en Scène (Semester 2) 5ECTS

7. Italian Language Studies

You must take: IT2101 Oral (Communication and Presentation Skills) 5ECTS
 (Semester 1 and 2)
 IT235 Intermediate Language I (Semester 1) 5ECTS
 IT236 Intermediate Language II (Semester 2) 5ECTS

BA Pathway 2 History, Politics and Philosophy Second Year

*History (Major 30ECTS) + Political Science, Sociology and Policy (Minor 15ECTS) +
 Philosophy (Minor 15ECTS)*

Minors:

**1. Political and Sociological Studies (Minor title: Political Science, Sociology and
 Policy)**

There are two available routes for this subject.

Route 1

Semester 1 SPSK3101 Politics and Society 5ECTS **(you must take this module)**
AND EITHER
SP2122 European Politics 5ECTS
OR
SP235 Social Issues and Policy Response 5ECTS

Semester 2 SP220 Methods for Social and Political Science 5ECTS
OR
SP2123 Modern Political Thought 5ECTS
OR
SP212 Classical Social Thought 5ECTS

OR

Route 2

Semester 1 SP2117 International and Global Politics 5ECTS
OR
SP2116 Sociology of Health 5ECTS

Semester 2 SPSK3102 Society and Politics 5ECTS **(you must take this module)**
AND EITHER
SP2123 Modern Political Thought 5ECTS
OR
SP212 Classical Social Thought 5ECTS

2. Philosophy

You must take:

PI2111 These in the History of History of Modern
Philosophy 5ECTS (Semester 1) 5ECTS
PI2112 Themes in the History of Modern Philosophy:
Empiricism and Beyond (Semester 2) 5 ECTS

Choose options:

PI247 Nietzsche & Philosophy (Semester 1) 5ECTS
PI113 Topics in Ancient Philosophy (Semester 1) 5ECTS
PI240 Bioethics (Semester 1) 5ECTS
PI248 Phenomenology (Semester 1) 5ECTS
PI2114 Themes in American Philosophical
Thought (Semester 1) 5 ECTS
PI207 Philosophy of Art (Semester 2) 5ECTS
PI2102 Formal Logic (Semester 2) 5ECTS
PI2105 Philosophical Inquiry Through P4C
(Semester 2) 5 ECTS
PI210 Information Ethics (Semester 2) 5 ECTS
PI210 Moral and Political Philosophy
(Semester 2) 5 ECTS
PI233 Topics in Continental Philosophy
(Semester 2) 5 ECTS
PI2141 History of Irish Thought (Semester 2) 5
ECTS
PI3105 Philosophy of Nature (Sem 2) 5ECTS

**BA Pathway 3
History (Joint Honours)
Second Year**

Students on Pathway 3 continue with History (30ECTS) and one of the other subjects that they took in first year (also 30ECTS).

For information on specific subjects and modules (such as the timetable, module descriptions and the subject handbook), you should see the Second-Year webpages for the relevant subject.

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