

CERTIFICATE IN RAILWAY STUDIES BY DISTANCE LEARNING – 2 YEARS PART-TIME

Year One

The first year of the Certificate in Railway Studies is made up of two compulsory and one optional modules that are studied, one at a time, through the three terms of the first year. The modules are:

Compulsory modules:

Module 1 – British Railway History to *circa* 1900

- the role of transport in industrialization
- how the railway became dominant
- engineering the railway
- developing a new type of labour force
- the role and effect of capital investment in railways
- the growth of canals alongside railways
- railway companies, investors and the State

Module 2 – Railway history – the twentieth century which takes the story up to the era of privatization.

- company competition at the turn of the century
- the railway and the first world war
- the inter-war years and the Big Four
- effects of the second world war
- the birth and creation of a nationalized railway
- the years of 'modernization'
- the 'rationalization' of the railway and the Beeching years
- finance, managerialism and the advent of privatization

Both modules emphasize the social, political and economic background to the emergence and development of the railway, its business and the communities it serves.

Optional modules:

The History of Urban Transport

- railways in the Victorian city
- the development of the omnibus and the taxicab
- the growth and challenge of trams
- railways go underground
- the rise and dominance of motor transport
- the development of transport policy

Putting Transport on Display - transport in museums and as heritage

- the relationship between history and heritage
- the role and dilemmas of transport museums

- the role of preserved railways
- the working railway and heritage issues

Year Two

The second year of the course consists of an independent research project leading to a Long Essay of between 7,500 and 8,000 words. The subject of the research is entirely up to you – subject to approval by your tutor. Students often choose local railway issues to research:

- the history of a defunct railway line
- how railways changed the development of a town
- a local protest movement over closure of a railway
- railways and the emergence of a particular industry

Or they may look at more national issues:

- the role of a particular engineer, contractor or promoter in the development of the railways
- social problems caused by the opening / closing of railways
- how people reacted to railways in art / novels
- technological developments compared in different parts of the UK or different countries

This list gives a few examples and is very far from exhaustive! Tutorial support is available throughout the year.

For more information on assessment in your first and second years, please see the **Assessment & progression** section.

Teaching materials

Teaching books and other course materials are provided for all modules. Students are expected, during the course of their studies, to consult other books and journals so it may be worth locating a good local library that will offer Inter-Library Loan facilities. Through membership of the University of York library you may be able to have access to a local University library. In addition, many railway history books can be found in second-hand bookshops or with on-line book sellers.

Teaching support

Tutors are available during the academic terms throughout the two years of the course to offer advice and assistance on any part of the programme. They will guide and assess students' work and provide feedback on progress. All students receive full details of how to keep in contact with tutors.

SELECTED READING LIST

R. W. Ambler, ed., *The History and Practice of Britain's Railways: A New Research Agenda* (Aldershot, 1999)

Derek Aldcroft & Michael Freeman, *Transport in the Industrial Revolution* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 1983)

Philip Bagwell, *The Transport Revolution from 1770* (London: Batsford, 1974)

Philip Bagwell and Peter Lyth, *Transport in Britain 1750-2000: From Canal Lock to Gridlock* (London, 2002) [**this book is supplied with the course documents**]

Colin Divall, 'Transport 1900-1939', in Chris Wrigley, ed., *A Companion to Early Twentieth-Century Britain* (Oxford, 2003), pp.286-301.

Di Drummond, *Crewe : railway town, company and people, 1840-1914* (Aldershot, 1995)

H.J. Dyos & D.H. Aldcroft, *British Transport: An Economic Survey from the Seventeenth Century to the Twentieth* (Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1974)

A.K.B. Evans and J.V. Gough, eds, *The Impact of the Railway on Society in Britain: Essays in Honour of Jack Simmons* (Aldershot, 2003)

Michael Freeman & Derek H. Aldcroft, eds, *Transport in Victorian Britain* (Manchester, 1988)

Michael Freeman, *Railways and the Victorian Imagination* (London: Yale University press, 1999)

Terry R. Gourvish, *Railways and the British Economy 1830-1914* (Basingstoke, 1980)

Steven King, *Making Sense of the Industrial Revolution* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2001)

Charles Loft, *Government, the railways, and the modernization of Britain: Beeching's last trains* (London, 2006)

Harold Perkin, *The Age of the Railway* (London, 1970)

Harold Pollins, *Britain's Railways: An Industrial History* (Newton Abbot, 1971)

Jeffrey Richards & John MacKenzie, *The railway station : a social history* (Oxford, 1985)

Michael Robbins, *The Railway Age* (Manchester, 3rd edn, 1998)

Wolfgang Schivelbusch, *The Railway Journey: the Industrialization of Time and Space in the 19th Century* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2nd ed., 1986, and other editions)

Jack Simmons, *The Railway in England and Wales, 1830-1914* (Leicester, 1975)

Jack Simmons, *The Railway in the Town and Country 1830-1914* (Newton Abbot, 1986)

Jack Simmons, *The Victorian Railway* (London, 2nd edn, 1995)

David Turnock, *An Historical Geography of Railways in Great Britain and Ireland* (Aldershot, 1998)