

Institution: Goldsmiths, University of London
Unit of Assessment: 28, History
1. Unit context and structure, research and impact strategy

1.1 Unit Context and structure

As a **small** (17 staff members on Research and Teaching contracts, 15.5 FTE), **diverse** and **relatively new** (2004) department, we have carved out a distinctive place in the academic study of history, undertaking research that is innovative, critical, global and relevant. We generate world-leading and impactful research, extend critical enquiry into new domains of history. We do this by challenging intellectual orthodoxies and through our introduction of pioneering programmes, such as the **UK's first MAs in Queer History** and in **Black British History**. We pursue an idea of history and an ethos of enquiry that is attentive to diverse cultural conditions and experiences, knowledge of which can expand the public understanding of history. A commitment to equality and diversity in staffing is an integral component of our approach. We bring this idea and ethos to our collaborations both within and outside the discipline of history, in the UK and around the globe.

In terms of subject content, our research is grouped around four research 'clusters', although most of our staff's research cuts across those:

History of sexuality, emotions and medicine

Taking a decolonised, inclusive approach, this cluster includes: Bengry, on the **relationship between homosexuality and capitalism** in modern Britain, showing how sexual subcultures fashioned public and private identities using diverse goods and services; Gammerl's **social history of homosexuality** in Germany examining the interplay between migratory and sexual politics, and his work on **emotions**; Plamper's **contribution to the 'emotional turn' in his *History of Emotions***, and his *Das neue Wir* which shows that in Germany, outmigration and immigration have always existed and that ethnobiological notions of German homogeneity are a phantasma.

Our global approach here features De Nicola's ***Women in Mongol Iran***, which argues that the status of Mongol women was transformed by a complex process of transculturation; Yoeli-Tlalim's research on **Tibetan and Hebrew medical history**, putting forward new understandings on exchanges of knowledge along the Silk Roads. Wald's work on **imperial, military and medical history in India** throws new light on the emergence of social and imperial mindsets, fuelled by fear of the lower orders, sexual deviation, disease and mutiny; and Lee's work on **death and funeral industries in South Africa**, examining how migration, globalisation and profound political transformation have altered the everyday lives and embodied experiences of urban South Africans. Fryar's research on **medical crises in post-emancipation Jamaica**, mentioned in more detail below, is also part of this cluster.

Military history, with a focus on social and cultural approaches; in particular history of the First World War

Our non-traditional military history research includes: Watson's **award-winning (including the Wolfson Prize) book, *Ring of Steel*** which impacted how scholars and public understand WWI in Europe, offering new insights into vast popular mobilisations, the radicalisation of violence, and

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the cataclysmic collapse of Central Europe's societies and states; Grayson's research on **Ireland's First World War**, developed through a 'military history from the street' approach that shows that military service was not remotely so sectarian as believed in popular narratives and raises questions about how accurately the war is 'remembered'; Plamper's work on **the Russian revolution as a sensory experience** shows how sensory experience and memory are deeply intertwined, restoring a key dimension in the lived experience of historical actors; Djokić's current British Academy and Leverhulme funded projects tracing **Yugoslavia's break-up** through the experiences of the last Yugoslav army conscripts is working towards a stage play; and Wald's analysis of **the military-fiscal state in British India** and the 'thin white line' of colonial rule, suggests how military anxieties and fears profoundly shaped colonial rule with a lasting impact on Indian society.

Black British history and British/UK social and cultural history

This cluster, much of which places UK history in a global context, includes: Fryar, whose work on **Black British history** embeds modern British history within the fields of comparative slavery as well as emancipation studies and disaster studies, using crisis micro-histories to reframe narratives of imperial liberalism in the British Empire in light of the sustained neglect of Black British subjects in the Caribbean; Elias interrogates **religion's place in race equality campaigns, anti-racism activism**, and **Black liberation movements** in 1960s Britain, situating these networks in transnational perspective, by exploring their relationship with the American civil rights movement and South African anti-apartheid movement; Hessayon writes on a wide range of early modern topics to challenge existing interpretations and pioneer new areas of study – mainly at the intersection of intellectual, religious, political and social history; Price on **Victorian England and the local cultural and social history of South-East London** focuses on civilian heroism, challenging and revising understandings of modern constructions of heroism that privileged imperial and military examples and structures; and Richmond's study of **poverty, dress and identity in nineteenth-century England**, revealing the economic, emotional and perceived regulatory value of clothing. Wald on the **social history of alcohol**, Bengry on **queer Britain**, and Grayson on **Northern Ireland**, all mentioned above, are also part of this cluster.

History of the Balkans, East-Central Europe and Russia

This cluster comprises: Djokić, whose methodologically innovative work combines auto-ethnography, collective biography, cultural and international history to **reposition Yugoslavia's place in broader European and global history**; Stouraiti on **Venice and the Ottoman Empire**, rethinking the history of early modern Venice from an imperial perspective, shedding light on the impact of empire on Venetian metropolitan culture to question traditional perceptions of Venice as the most peaceful republic of merchants. Gammerl on **understanding citizenship in Habsburg Bosnia** in comparative, trans-imperial contexts; Plamper on the Russian Revolution and Watson on Austro-Hungarian and Polish history, mentioned above, are also part of this cluster.

We collaborate with several other departments, principally through Goldsmiths' **interdisciplinary research centres**, three of which the Department currently hosts and leads: the **Centre for Queer History**, the **Centre for the Study of the Balkans**, and the **Centre of the Body** (see section 4).

During this cycle we launched two innovative MAs: the **UK's first MA in Queer History** (in 2017) and the Department's **first MA in Black British History** (in 2020). The new programmes and related appointments aimed to build and expand novel angles of research to strengthen our sustainability and vitality. The new programmes intensify our research collaboration with other

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Goldsmiths' departments, such as Sociology and Media, Communications and Cultural Studies; attract high calibre international graduate and post-graduate students; and strengthen our research profile in the areas of equality and diversity.

1.2 Research and Impact strategy

Our research strategy and planning are led by the Research and Postgraduate Committee, revisited on a bi-annual basis and supported by the College Research Office. Our Head of Department (HoD) ensures individual staff goals are agreed and met through regular reviews, paying particular attention to the development of early career staff. Our Research Strategy aims principally to ensure that all staff on research and teaching contracts are active in research at international level in terms of REF criteria for excellence.

The Department has fulfilled its strategic aims outlined in its REF2014 submission, devised to put in place mechanisms for sustainability. These strategic aims included: **working on an interdisciplinary basis**; **maximising research time** available to staff through offering one-term teaching modules (freeing up other terms for research), **reducing the administrative load** and offering **generous research leave**; providing **financial support** for research expenses and conference attendance (at least £1,000 per member of staff per year, including for members of staff on teaching-only contracts); **playing an active part in the CHASE consortium** to develop our PGR community; and continuing to hold central roles in discipline development through journal editorships and seminar convening. We have been **emphasizing research-led teaching**, through the development of new undergraduate and postgraduate modules based on recent and/or current research. We also encourage **teaching-led research**, where our teaching may contribute to an ongoing project, particularly in either early or in writing-up stages.

The Department's Research Committee has representatives from across academic ranks and is gender-balanced. Our research strategy currently revolves around the following key values:

Creating change, locally and globally

We are socially aware and engaged with communities, carrying out public engagement work around the world to ensure that our research has a positive impact and helps to change lives. Fryar was **one of ten UK-based early career researchers named a BBC Radio 3 / AHRC New Generation Thinker for 2020**, where she has written a short radio piece about cholera in the Caribbean and its connections to the Black Lives Matters movement and COVID-19. Both Fryar and Elias are actively involved in initiatives that are working to incorporate Black British history **into the national curriculum at primary and secondary level**, while also challenging the curriculum's many exclusions. Elias has **co-led the national #TeachRaceMigrationEmpire campaign** to change the history curriculum in partnership with the Runnymede Trust and the Institute of Historical Research. Fryar has worked with **BBC Bitesize to review their KS3/GCSE online learning resources** about the British Empire and transatlantic slavery and recorded a short interview for BBC News/BBC Young Reporter about structural racism. We have worked closely with our **local community on historical subjects** such as the *1977 Battle of Lewisham* and beyond through, for example, the *Windrush: Arrival 1948* project (Price). We have also been actively involved in work **with schools** in other ways, for example through *Hemel at War* (since 2008) and *Streatham at War* (since 2015), and a project on *Francophones in London* during the First World War (Grayson). We have developed **sustained relationships with NGOs, faith-based organisations and other members of civil society** involved in the management of death

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in South Africa. Our work has aided in the professional development of African staff, and shaped training and facilitation on responses to death, grief and loss (Lee). In **Northern Ireland**, our work on 'Military History from the Street' has challenged received popular and sectarian narratives of the First World War as demonstrated in Grayson's Impact Case Study. Our work has also exerted significant impact on **popular understandings of the First World War**, both in the UK and internationally, as exemplified in Watson's Impact Case Study.

We participate in **mentoring junior scholars internationally**, such as Lee (via a British Academy award 'Promoting Zambian and Southern African Research Output: Publishing, Mentoring and Grant Writing Workshop', co-Applicant with Matthew Graham, Dundee, £19,800).

Radical and innovative thinking, promoting access and diversity

We cultivate a unique and creative approach, challenging norms and embracing new ideas with energy and reflection by **establishing research-led MAs in previously marginalised areas of History through our Centre for Queer History** (Bengry and Gammerl) and our **MA in Black British History** (Fryar and Elias). These have led to recruitment of MA students from groups with protected characteristics, and is leading to **career development of PhD supervisors from under-represented groups**.

We recruit research students from a very diverse range of backgrounds, and the diversity of our staff has increased significantly. Grayson and Wald, as editors of the *British Journal for Military History*, have led the journal to have a **majority of women in its Editorial Advisory Board members**, which is uncommon in this field.

Respecting the individual

We encourage individuality and nurture talent through **generous research leave known as 'Dedicated Research Time' (DRT)** and financial support for research expenses for all staff on Teaching and Research contracts. We are working to increase our external research funding and time is provided for grant applications through allowances which can be made in our workload allocations and through DRT. The seminars we convene, both at Goldsmiths and beyond, encourage freedom of thought and expression in an environment of openness and tolerance.

Promoting interdisciplinarity

In line with Goldsmiths' reputation for cross-disciplinarity, the Department's research strategy has been to engage with other disciplines. Unusually among UK History departments of comparable size, we host and lead three interdisciplinary research centres (see section 4).

Impact strategies and activities

Our research on the past informs meaningful engagement with the present, both in the UK and internationally. Our work engages with the world in multiple ways: numerous media appearances; public events we have organised and participated in; engaging with schools and museums locally and globally; blogging and podcasting; and the **high-profile social media presence** of some of our staff members (especially Bengry with 10,500 Twitter followers). A strategic, proactive, approach to impact and public engagement is embedded in our research culture. Since 2015 the Department has had a dedicated **Public Engagement Officer** (Price, then Plamper). The significance of impact and PE is discussed regularly, at Departmental meetings and staff appraisals (Periodic Development Reviews). Evidence of and potential for producing research with impact and public engagement has been an important criterion when making faculty appointments.

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Impact and PE activities are included in Goldsmiths' promotions criteria. The Directors of Research and Departmental Impact Lead gather data on impact generated by our staff and identify potential future impact, to ensure that resources are allocated to develop it effectively.

Open Access

We take a broad, innovative and creative approach to open access, beyond formal requirements from REF and funding bodies. Bengry and Gammerl founded an oral history archive, the **Archive for Queer Life Stories**, in collaboration with the Bishopsgate Institute to preserve deposits from diverse queer community members, along with materials created through our own research projects, as well as interviews conducted by our Queer History MA students. **NOTCHES, the leading history of sexuality blog** founded and co-edited by Bengry, has published more than 400 original blogs from a global range of scholars and activists, and attracted more than 1.3 million viewers across 150+ countries. De Nicola assumed most of the responsibility in the **creation and development of a free public online database** of Arabic, Persian and Turkish manuscripts (based in St Andrews), then applied his experience to his current Austrian START Prize project (based at the University of Vienna). Grayson and Wald **co-edit the *British Journal for Military History***, a pioneering Open Access, peer-reviewed journal that brings high quality scholarship in military history to an audience within and beyond academia. The journal is hosted by the Goldsmiths' Library's online journal platform.

1.3 Future Aims and Goals

The History Department began a process of renewal of its research strategy in January 2020. We held an away-day to discuss the Department's future direction and then devised a renewed research strategy, focusing on our long-term vitality and sustainability. New measures we put in place include developing our departmental research seminars; enhancing our PhD students' experience through **a new teaching pathway** and student-led seminars; and a **research mentoring** system for all members of staff. We began implementing these during the pandemic months: we conducted departmental research seminars which included discussions of work in progress and practical advice on book publishing options; inaugurated the student-led postgraduate seminar; and held a festive research seminar at the end of term for all staff and students. The Research Committee is also devising mechanisms to further enable and assist staff members in their grant-writing efforts. Building on our **unique expertise in global histories of medicine** (Lee, Wald and Yoeli-Tlalim) together with history of emotions (Plamper) we are planning a **new MA in the Global History of Medicine**. We are also planning to harness our **Digital Humanities expertise** (primarily De Nicola and his work on digital tools for manuscript research and Price and his app development experience), to develop an **MA in Digital Humanities** together with Goldsmiths Computing Department. The Centre for the Study of the Balkans is developing digital tools through a **CHASE Cohort Development Fund** awarded for a project entitled 'Searching digital: Methods, tools and standards of research in digital humanities'.

2. People

2.1 Staffing strategy and staff development

During this REF period, our strategy focussed on **sustaining and developing** our research strengths and **building on the commitment to equality and diversity** that underpins the vitality

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of our research culture. Since REF2014 History's staff profile has changed considerably and intentionally. At present, the Department employs 17 (15.5 FTE) permanent academic staff on Teaching and Research contracts: four professors, two readers, five senior lecturers and six lecturers (including a DAAD Lektor). Of the 17 researchers submitted to REF 2021 (one at 0.8 FTE, one at 0.4 FTE and one at 0.3FTE), six are new members of staff and one colleague who was on a fractional, teaching and scholarship post in the Department was appointed to a teaching and research senior lecturer post.

Vacancies arising from retirement or departure have allowed us to broaden and strengthen our research profile. We made appointments in the areas of **history of the Middle-East** (De Nicola), **Queer History** (Bengry and Gammerl), **Black British History** (Fryar and Elias) and **History and Journalism** (Walsh). Recent appointments have also been made to **maximise impact opportunities**, with knowledge exchange and impact activities constituting important criteria in recruitment. We are careful to ensure that the workload involved in teaching new modules does not affect the time new staff have for research and impact, by counting preparation time in workloads.

There is also a **strong support for internal promotion of staff**, with two promotions to chairs during the current cycle (Djokić and Watson), two promotions to reader (Hessayon and Yoeli-Tlalim), and one to senior lecturer (Wald). These promotions demonstrate our commitment to supporting early and mid-career staff and our long-term, strategic planning where staff retention is important. We are committed to the *Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers*. The Department has internal systems supporting the development of early career staff which complement College-wide probation and appraisal procedures, monitoring workloads to ensure they have time for research. Each new member of staff is assigned a more senior mentor to advise on research and publication plans, potential funding applications and departmental/institutional research support; and to offer constructive feedback on research-led teaching, ensuring a high-quality student experience.

The Head of Department ensures that specific staff research needs, including ECRs, as well as associate lecturers on teaching and scholarship contracts, are addressed. All research-active staff, regardless of contract type, are eligible for annual support from the Department's budget (raised during the current cycle to £1,000 each per year), to enable staff to present at international conferences, and to conduct research activities. Our research leave rota sees **Teaching and Research staff eligible for a term's paid leave after every six terms subject to identification of clear research objectives**. Staff are encouraged and supported to seek external funding, and this does not impact on the internal rota (that is, they are still eligible for internally-funded leave). Consequently, we have held prestigious UK and international research fellowships (see below).

2.2 Research Students

The Department has a small but vibrant and growing community of postgraduate research students (PGRs). We provide financial support to enable excellent students to take up places: Goldsmiths is part of the AHRC Consortium for Humanities and the Arts South-East England (CHASE), with the Universities of Sussex (lead), East Anglia, Essex, Kent, The Open University and The Courtauld. During this REF cycle our department secured five CHASE studentships.

We have a great diversity of thesis subject areas – one on **queer history**, one on **Black British history**, one on **African history**, and one on the **history of deportation in the UK** which focuses

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on decolonisation with case studies involving Asian and African groups. This diversity has also enabled the **inclusion of more PhD supervisors from under-represented groups**. We believe that the introduction of new MAs in Black British History and Queer History will result in more **PGR students from groups with protected characteristics** and are seeing initial signs of this.

In the last few years, we have introduced new features to enhance the **career development** of our PhD students, most notably the teaching pathway and the student-led seminar series. Since January 2014, 15 PGRs have successfully completed PhD theses. We currently have seven PGRs, supervised by six members of staff. Three out of the seven PGRs are from **groups with protected characteristics (BME or LGBTQ+)**. Among the supervising staff, three have **protected characteristics (BME or LGBTQ+)** and are of **junior career stage**.

History PGRs are members of the College Graduate School, which fosters integration into the research culture at Goldsmiths. In addition to department inductions, the Graduate School organises a week-long induction programme for all new PGRs at the College. The Graduate School offers students a wide range of research training courses and organises an annual Postgraduate Symposium which brings together PGRs from across the college and beyond in a series of seminars, workshops, exhibitions and screenings. A Virtual Graduate School makes resources and information available to students with limited physical access to the college. Departmental financial support encourages PGR students' participation in external conferences and **helps with the cost of language tuition** or other research-related training (for example, palaeography), as well as funding trips to archives. All PG students are eligible for free membership of the Institute of Historical Research (IHR) and many attend its relevant seminar series.

Applications from prospective PGRs are assessed by the departmental Research and Postgraduate Committee, to ensure applicant suitability for doctoral research and student/supervisor compatibility; all eligible applicants are interviewed. All PGRs have a primary and support supervisor, with performance monitored through Annual Progress Reports, completed by students and supervisors and scrutinised by the RPGC and the Graduate School. Since 2008 the Department has employed a part-time PG administrator, while a senior academic (Plamper, Wald and Lee during the current cycle) is the PG convener, specifically charged with the task of enhancing the student experience and offering pastoral support. Staff new to PGR supervision are mentored by experienced colleagues, while the Graduate School offers training and support for all supervisory staff.

A **departmental Research Ethics approval process** assesses research projects involving human participants. Students are supported through this process by their supervisors as well as a dedicated Research Ethics virtual learning environment containing guidance on, for example, oral history research. The Research Ethics Committee scrutinises all applications and makes recommendations based on the applicant's assessment and mitigation of risks involved in human research.

With oral history becoming a significant component of our MA work, we have put in place **specialised training in this method**, with some leading figures in the field. In 2017-18 Bengry hosted a **masterclass with EMMY-recipient Molly Merryman** from Kent State (Ohio, US), providing attention to video interviews and working with marginalised communities. In 2018-19 the

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Department secured funding for our MA students to participate in a day-long workshop on queer oral history at the London Metropolitan Archives.

A new teaching pathway for PGR students was introduced in 2019/20 to enhance career development opportunities for our PGR students. All PGR students who are interested in gaining teaching experience take a 30-credit module offered by the Graduate School with the Teaching and Learning Innovation Centre, which covers pedagogy and professional development. Students who have taken this module are then invited to apply for paid seminar teaching in the spring for the following academic year, though placements are contingent on available departmental funding.

2.3 Equality and Diversity

We are a **multi-racial, multi-lingual and multi-cultural** department with a diverse gender and sexual representation. Of the 17 research-active members of staff, seven have protected characteristics. We work in 21 foreign languages (Arabic, Persian, Urdu, German, French, Turkish, Latin, Greek, Tibetan, Spanish, Catalan, Hebrew, Italian, Russian, Polish, Serbo-Croat, Slovene, Macedonian, Bulgarian, Czech and Slovak).

Our staff have been deeply involved in **national fora working towards equality and diversity**. Examples include: Chairing the IHR Equality Working Group, committee member of Historical Association Diversity Steering Group, member of Runnymede Trust Education Working Group, Head of 'Inclusive Histories' initiatives at the Institute of Historical Research, Co-Chair of Royal Historical Society Workshop on the impacts of Covid-19 on university admissions for BME students in History and co-lead of #TeachRaceMigrationEmpire campaign at the Runnymede Trust (all Elias); Fryar has been Lead Convenor of the IHR Black British History Seminar since its launch in January 2020 and also participated in a series of talks and panels, including to the National Youth Orchestra, in June and July 2020 after the global resurgence of the Black Lives Matter movement; talks, keynotes and workshops on migration and racism around Plamper's book *Das neue Wir* in refugee centres, museums, schools, theatres, NGOs and academic institutions in Germany (31 events in 2019-20).

Promoting access and diversity, and supporting our students and staff

We have enabled a wide range of people to benefit from our learning opportunities by opening up previously marginalised areas of History. We have secured fee waivers and bursaries for our Black British History MA programme, including a part-time fee-waiver for school teachers. We are, however, not complacent and recognise there is room for improvement. To that end, the Department recently introduced new **race, ethnicity and equality measures** and further enhanced our commitment to anti-racist education. We appointed a senior member of staff (Plamper) to serve as the Department's **Equality and Diversity Officer** (with significant allocated time in their workload) to monitor, support and advise on how we have, and can improve upon, our commitments. We now have both **Postgraduate and Undergraduate BME Student Representative** positions, with an **attached bursary**; a departmental **race and decolonisation reading group**; and **mandatory anti-microaggression training session** for all staff. We also have a member of staff (Lee) who was co-chair of the staff network representing all BME academic and professional staff. A recent measure we have put in place aimed at improving a gender seniority imbalance, is to give specific dedicated research time for non-professorial staff following parental leave, whilst taking into consideration special conditions which LGBT+ parents might require.

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When selecting REF outputs, our primary consideration was to select outputs based on our assessment of research quality, informed by external reviews, in compliance with Goldsmiths' Code of Practice. We are aware, however, that in so doing, senior, white male colleagues are disproportionately represented in our current submission. We gave careful consideration to risks of bias in the selection process, and made adjustments for that. This outcome reflects the historical orientation of the Department and the recency of our investments in diversifying our staff cohort. We expect to see a more inclusive publication profile over the next REF cycle.

3. Income, infrastructure and facilities

The Department's research culture is supported by multi-strand, competitive funding from research councils, foundations and charitable trusts. Externally funded grants are an important part of our research income, and despite our small size, we have a good record of external research income, totalling £475,557 (including grants not reported in HESA, as well as grants not spent in this period due to the impact of COVID-19) brought in through national and international grants and research fellowships between 2013/2014 and 2020.

A number of **prestigious international grants and fellowships were awarded** to our staff members to go to:

- **Harvard**, (Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University, Exploratory Seminars Funding, 2019-20, received but unable to hold due to COVID) £13,756 and **Swedish Collegium for Advanced Studies** (Jan-June 2016) £16,203 (Lee);
- **Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin** (Senior Fellowship, 2014/15) £34,149; **Imre Kertész Kolleg, Jena** (Senior Fellowship, April-Sep. 2016) €28,200, and, **Alfried Krupp Wissenschaftskolleg Greifswald** (Senior Fellowship, 2018/19) €48,000 (all Plamper);
- **Humboldt University of Berlin** (via Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellowship for experienced researchers (2015/16) €66,560 (Djokić);
- **University of Texas at Austin** (Harry Ransom Research Fellowship, 2017/18) US\$6,000 (Walsh).

In 2020 Hessayon received the **Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa do estado de São Paulo** (FAPESP) £6,500 to join the São Paulo Academic Network at Escola de Filosofia, Letras e Ciências Humanas, Guarulhos but was unable to travel due to COVID-19. Stouraiti received the **Gerda Henkel Research Fellowship** (2016) €8,700.

Our **national grants and fellowships include:**

- **British Academy Mid-Career Fellowship** (2019/20), £112,600 (Djokić);
- **Leverhulme Research Fellowship**, (2020-22), £54,555, and (2014) £18,763 (Djokić and Stouraiti respectively);
- **Panacea Charitable Trust** (2013), £225,000 (Hessayon);
- **AHRC** (2014-16), £29,835 (Grayson);
- **Wellcome Trust** funding (2016-17), £42,304 (Lee) and (2015-2020), £28,440 (Yoeli-Tlalim).

In 2019 De Nicola was awarded €1,077,000 from the **prestigious START Prize fellowship of the Austrian Research Fund (2020-2025)** for the project *Nomads' Manuscripts Landscape: investigating literary evidence for transculturation in Medieval Iran and Central Asia 13th – 15th century*. This funds a ground-breaking analysis of a vast amount of unexplored Islamic

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Manuscripts of medieval Iran and Central Asia. The project will create an **Open Access database** of these codices that will be crucial for understanding key processes of nomadic-sedentary cultural interactions which are a key "missing link" of global history.

We have also been awarded **small research and conference grants**, including from **Past & Present** (Djokić), **Fritz Thyssen foundation** (De Nicola and Stouraiti), the **Royal Historical Society** and the **Society for the Social History of Medicine** (Wald) and the **British Institute of Persian Studies** (De Nicola), as well as from internal funding available from Goldsmiths (Lee, Price). Another indicator of the high esteem in which our scholarship is held is a number of non-stipendiary, visiting research posts, including at **Queen's University Belfast** (Grayson, 2014/15), **University of Edinburgh** (Lee, 2015, 2016/17, 2019/20).

Grant success has been achieved through vigorous and committed pursuit of funding for individual and collaborative research projects, with sustained support from Goldsmith's Research and Enterprise Office. Staff can apply for College funds for research development, public engagement, impact, and the Global Challenges research fund. Members of staff also receive an individually tailored weekly College newsletter with funding and fellowship opportunities, helping to identify possible grants and fellowships.

Academic and research staff are housed alongside PGRs along a single corridor, in the main university building located in the centre of the campus. In 2019 the Centre for Queer History moved to a building of their own, thus providing space for staff members and PGRs to teach, study and interact. These two designated History spaces contribute to a sense of community and group dynamic. All staff on research and teaching contracts have their own offices, while associate lecturers and PGRs have shared office space. Academic staff and postgraduate research students benefit not only from Goldsmiths' facilities, but also the unparalleled learning resources of the University of London as well as other London libraries, archives, and museums, such as the Black Cultural Archives, George Padmore Institute, Institute of Race Relations, National Archives, the British Library and Museum, the Wellcome Library and the Imperial War Museum.

4. Collaboration and contribution to the research base, economy and society

4.1 Collaborations and impact

During the current REF cycle, we have made substantial contributions to the discipline, through our three research Centres, and via our collaborations with other academic departments, and institutions, both nationally and internationally.

Founded in 2009 by Djokić, the **Centre for the Study of the Balkans** (CSB) enables collaboration between Goldsmiths' regional specialists from the disciplines of **History, Politics, Anthropology, Sociology, Theatre and Performance, Media and Communications, and Cultural and Creative Entrepreneurship**. It facilitates dialogue with their counterparts based elsewhere in the UK and abroad, as well as with non-academic stakeholders, such as **diplomats, journalists and museums**. The Centre's external advisory board includes such scholars as Mark Mazower (**Columbia**), Katherine Fleming (**NYU**), Hannes Grandits (**Humboldt University of Berlin**), and Vesna Goldsworthy (**Exeter/UEA**), who significantly raise the international profile of the Department and Goldsmiths in the field of S-E European area studies and more broadly in Humanities and Social Sciences. Other History

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staff whose research is relevant to the work of the Centre include Gammerl, Plamper, Stouraiti and Watson.

The Centre's main activity is a series of events which consistently attract large audiences of academics, diplomats, journalists and members of public. During the current cycle, the CSB has approached **the study of the Balkans from global, transnational and comparative perspectives**: highlights include a week of film screenings and talks with globally-renowned, award-winning (e.g. Berlinale, 1969 and 1995) Serbian director, dissident and social activist Željimir Žilnik, co-organized with Birkbeck, Lux and Close-Up cinemas, and funded by CHASE (Nov 2019); a one-day conference '**Global Yugoslavia**' (Nov 2018; funded by *Past & Present* and IHR and featuring ECRs and well-established international experts in the region); a round table discussion on **Irish-Balkan cultural connections**, featuring Roy Foster (Oxford/Queen Mary UoL), Goldsworthy and Djokić; and a presentation on new multimedia (documentary, novels and historical scholarship) works on **Balkan Jewish history** (both events held in 2017). Zoom online events started in 2020, reaching a global interdisciplinary audience, a mix of senior and junior scholars, and non-academics, including writers, film directors and interested amateurs.

The **Centre of the Body** (CoB) was established in 2012 and is co-directed by Yoeli-Tlalim (History) and Anna Furse (Theatre and Performance), with an advisory board from Media and Communications (Lisa Blackman, editor of *Body and Society*), Anthropology (Sophie Day) and Sociology (Monica Greco). The Centre has received financial support from the Wellcome Trust, Goldsmiths' Research & Enterprise Committee and its two lead departments. Bengry, Fryar, Gammerl, Lee, Plamper, Richmond, Wald carry out research relevant to the Centre.

The CoB was established to provide an **inter-disciplinary Centre with a focus on the Body, incorporating scholars and practitioners from the humanities, social sciences and the arts**. Building on the breadth and wealth of research and artistic activity at Goldsmiths around aspects of the body, the Centre has nurtured synergies between colleagues working in different disciplines and engaged with non-academic stakeholders to generate impact and public engagement. These include scholars, artists and members of the health profession community, both within the college and beyond. Following a highly successful inaugural series of events (with **Nobel Laureate Sir Tim Hunt** among the speakers), synergies and collaborations between the College and London Museums have been created as a result of the Centre's activities. For example, in 2017 the Centre ran a series of inter-disciplinary events in **collaboration with the Freud Museum and the Old Operating Theatre Museum**. The directors of the Centre are currently preparing grant applications to fund the next round of activities of the Centre. The Centre of the Body and Yoeli-Tlalim's work have led to a collaboration with the University of Bristol and Durham University's "Life of Breath" project (with Jane Macnaughton and Havi Carel as PIs, Wellcome Trust funded, 2015-20).

The **Centre for Queer History**, hosted by the Department, was inaugurated in autumn 2019, directed by Bengry. Gammerl is also on the advisory board. Other members of the Centre include Goldsmiths' staff from several departments, as well as leading academics from universities across the UK (Matt Cook; Jeffrey Weeks; Alison Oram), public historians, heritage professionals and postgraduate students. Financial support is provided by the Department. The Centre is already a global hub for queer history research bringing together a multi-disciplinary range of international high-calibre students, scholars, activists and community members. It convenes an **international speaker series**, facilitates **collaboration between academic and community partners**, and is a

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hub for queer public history, engaging with a wider public of community members, activists and heritage professionals who are engaged with questions of the queer past and who promote the value of sexual and gender diversity today. The Centre's work includes public history events, workshops, and the creation of the Goldsmiths' Archive of Queer Life Histories.

The Centre for Queer History and Bengry's work has led to **LGBTQ consultancies with The National Gallery, BBC1**, and an ongoing **initiative with the Queer Britain museum, Levi's and the Post Office** to write letters to Queer Britain about experiences during COVID-19. The project went out to over 11,000 Post Office branches and is ongoing. Bengry has launched an **international partnership with Queer Britain and Kent State University (Ohio, US)** for a video history project called 'Queer Pandemic: Resilience in Times of Crisis' recording LGBTQ people's experience of the COVID pandemic with an eye both to preserving these histories for the future and making policy recommendations in the present. It is also a teaching project, incorporating students into international research in the US and UK.

The Centre hosts and co-hosts regular talks and co-convenes the IHR History of Sexuality Seminar. Speakers have included Glyn Davis (Film, Edinburgh College of Art), Geoff Hardy (Activist and Educator), Rosie Sherrington (Historic England), Jens Rydstroem (Gender Studies, Lund University, Sweden) and Rainer Herr (The Charité, Berlin). The Centre offers **master-classes** and **careers events** and holds an **annual international New Research Workshop**. Most recently the Centre worked with Daisy Asquith (Media and Communications) to **co-convene the Queerama Storytelling Workshop**, bringing together filmmakers and academics. The **annual Goldsmiths' Queer History Fair** is the largest of its kind in the UK and likely Europe and was covered in *Time Out* and *The Evening Standard*. Even though the Centre for Queer History was inaugurated only in 2019, it has proven to be a significant manifestation of our research strategy element of creating change, locally and globally.

Our three research centres have allowed us to attract **visiting fellows** with relevant research expertise. During the current cycle, our visiting fellows have included **Margarette Lincoln** (2015-17; her monograph, written during the fellowship in the Department was shortlisted for the 2019 Wolfson History Prize), **Rebecca Steinfeld** (civil partnership activist, Centre of the Body Visiting Research Fellow, 2015-18) and **Dejan Jović** (University of Zagreb), a leading expert on late- and post-socialist Eastern Europe and a former advisor to foreign ministers and a president of Croatia, who was a Balkans Centre Visiting Research Fellow in 2017/18. **Molly Merryman** (2018-2020) of Kent State University, USA and **Sébastien Tremblay** (2019) from the Freie Universität, Berlin have brought international perspectives and research expertise to the Centre for Queer History during their tenures as research fellows. Merryman is also Research Director of the Queer Britain museum, while Tremblay's innovative work on the history and memory of the Pink Triangle brought field leading research and innovative perspectives to PGR seminars at Goldsmiths.

International and National collaborations

International: Plamper has been Associate Researcher at Centre for the History of Emotions at **Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin** (2012-2020); member research group "Hate Pictures" - Use of Images and Aversive Emotions in the Visual Culture of the Political', **Centre for the Study of Antisemitism, Technical University, Berlin** (2014-present); member of the Scientific Advisory Board Academy of **Finland Centre of Excellence** (2018-25) History of

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Experiences, **University of Tampere** (2018-present); member research project 'Protest. Images. Emotion', **University of Siegen** (2019-present).

Yoeli-Tlalim has been a member of four international work groups at the **Max Planck Institute for the History of Science (Berlin)**: "Itineraries of Materials, Recipes, Techniques, and Knowledge Across Eurasia, 750-1800" (2014-2019); "*Translating Medicine in the Premodern World*" (2016-2019); "Visualizations of the Heavens and their Material Cultures in Eurasia and North Africa (4,000BCE-1700CE)" (2017-ongoing) and "Premodern Experience of the Natural World in Translation" (2019-2020). She was also a visiting scholar in the "Episteme in Bewegung" Excellence cluster at the **Freie Universität, Berlin** in 2016. During the pandemic she has been co-convening international seminars of the **International Association for the Study of Asian Medicine** (via Zoom).

Gammerl was Associate Researcher at Centre for the History of Emotions at **Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin** (since 2017). Fryar has organised an international workshop ('Slavery, Race, and Gradual Freedom in the Long Nineteenth Century') with a colleague at the University of Georgia since 2019, supported by funds from the University of Georgia. Originally set for Athens, Georgia in April 2020, the event will now take place on Zoom in March and April 2021. She is also a founding member of the Historical Approaches and COVID-19 Working Group of the **National Science Foundation-funded Social Science Extreme Events Research (SSEER) Network** and the **CONVERGE facility at the Natural Hazards Center at the University of Colorado, Boulder**.

National: Our national collaborations involve sustained activities which have taken place over many years including: Bengry, Djokić, Elias, Fryar, Grayson, Hessayon and Wald, convene or co-convene six seminar series at the **Institute of Historical Research**; Richmond sitting on the **IHR Advisory Council** (2013-2019); Lee is a founding co-convenor of a University of London seminar, '**Southern Africa: History, Culture and Society**'; Yoeli-Tlalim was a member of the **Wellcome Collection's History of Pre-Modern Medicine Seminars** Organising Committee (2012-2018).

4.2 Wider influence

Journal and publishing editorships

Since February 2019 the Department has hosted the **British Journal of Military History**, an online open access academic journal making academic research accessible to all. BJMH is co-edited by Grayson and Wald; Watson chairs the Editorial Advisory Board. Plamper is sole editor of Cambridge University Press Elements **Histories of Emotions and the Senses** (2018-present) book series and co-editor of **Forschungen zur Osteuropäischen Geschichte** (2012-present); Lee is co-editor of **Journal of Southern African Studies** (2020-present), and Djokić is a joint editor of **Slavonic & East European Review** (since 2011), while Yoeli-Tlalim (2017- present) is Associate Editor of **Asian Medicine: Journal of the International Association for the Study of Traditional Asian Medicine** (Brill). Richmond has co-edited **Textile History** (Pasold Research Fund) since 2016. We sit on editorial boards including **American Historical Review** (Plamper, 2013-2016); **European History Quarterly** (Djokić, 2003-); **Jahrbuch Sexualitäten** (Gammerl, 2016-); **Emotions and Society** (Gammerl, 2019-); **Journal for the Study of Radicalism** (Hessayon, 2007-); **Journal of Southern African Studies** (Lee, 2012-); **Twentieth-Century British History** (Fryar, 2020-); **History Workshop Online** (Bengry and Elias, co-editors, then

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advisory board, 2015-). Wald is a member of the editorial board of *Journal of Military History*, *The Historian* (Pakistan) (both 2020-).

Prizes

We have published award-winning research. Most notably, Watson's book *Ring of Steel* (2014) won the **2014 Wolfson History Prize** (£25,000), the **2014 Guggenheim-Lehrman Prize** in Military History (\$50,000), the **Society for Military History's 2015 Distinguished Book Award** winner, the **2015 British Army Military Book of the Year** Competition and ***The Sunday Times* 'History Book of the Year' for 2014**. The book was nominated for the Waclaw Felczak and Henryk Wereszycki Prize, awarded by the Jagiellonian University in Cracow, Poland. Watson's *The Fortress: The Great Siege of Przemysl* (2019) was a **BBC History Magazine 'Book of the Year'**, a ***Financial Times* 'Book of the Year'** and was **shortlisted for the U.S. Gilder Lehrman Prize** (formerly the Guggenheim-Lehrman Prize) and the **British Army Military Book of the Year award**. These two books have made a significant impact beyond academia, as detailed in Watson's Impact Case Study. De Nicola's *Women in Mongol Iran* was awarded '**Book of Excellence for the Year 2017 on the subject Iranian Culture and Civilization**' by the Embassy of Islamic Republic of Iran in the UK. Plamper won the **British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies Women's Forum Prize for best book chapter, 2014**. Wald's *Vice in the Barracks* was **shortlisted for the Royal Historical Society's Gladstone Prize (2014)** and the **Society for Army Historical Research Templar Award for Best First Book (2014)**. Walsh's *Bitter Freedom: Ireland in a Revolutionary World 1918-1923* (2015) was chosen as '**Book of the Year**' by the *Irish Times* (2015). Yoeli-Tlalim's 2010 article "Tibetan 'wind' and 'wind' illnesses: towards a multicultural approach to health and illness" was chosen in 2018 by the History of Science Society and the Philosophy of Science Association as **one of 20 most important articles to have been published in the last 20 years in the journal *Studies in History and Philosophy of Biological and Biomedical Sciences***. Bengry was finalist (Pride of Place) for the **English Heritage 'Angel Award' for Best Research Project**.

Participation in grant committees, Research Councils and national or international committees

Our staff members participate in national and international grant committees and research councils. Since many of us have unique expertise, both **senior and junior colleagues take part in these engagements**. Examples include Elias (**early career**) is Chair of the **IHR Equality Working Group**, committee member of **Historical Association Diversity Steering Group and Higher Education Committee**, member of **Runnymede Trust Education Working Group**, **Head of 'Inclusive Histories' initiatives** at the Institute of Historical Research and in June 2020 was Co-Chair of Royal Historical Society Workshop on the **impacts of Covid-19 on university admissions for BME students** in History. Lee is Vice-Chair of evaluators for a funding call under **Horizon 2020**. Djokić was a member of the **International Advisory Council of the Scientific Research Centre, Slovenian Academy**, as the only historian in a group of six senior international academics (2011-16). Gammerl serves as adviser of the research project **Homosexual Movement and the Law in Germany, 1949-2002**, Freie Universität Berlin (since 2018). Grayson was **Chair of Academic Advisory Group for Imperial War Museums' First World War Centenary Digital Projects (2012-18)** including 'Lives of the First World War' and 'Operation War Diary' (used as a Case Study by the National Archives and Universities UK in their 'A Guide to Collaboration for Archives and Higher Education'); **Associate Member of First World War Centenary Committee in Northern Ireland (2014-18)**; member of Institute of Education's advisory group for the Department for Education's school battlefield visits (2013-18). Hessayon is an advisor to the trustees and member of the education sub-committee of the **Panacea Charitable Trust** (since

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2016); a member of the **History UK steering committee** (2014-19); a member of the **Institute of Historical Research Fellowship committee** (2015-18). Plamper is a member of the **scientific advisory board DFG project ‘Osteuropa-Dokumente Online’** (OstDok), Bayerische Staatsbibliothek Munich, Collegium Carolinum Munich, Herder-Institut Marburg, Osteuropainstitut Regensburg (2011-16); a member of the **Scientific Advisory Board HEX Centre of Excellence in the History of Experiences, University of Tampere** (2018-2025). Lee and Grayson won competitive elections in 2020 to serve as **members of the councils** of, respectively, the **Royal Historical Society** and the **British Association for Irish Studies**.

External examinations of PhDs

During the current REF cycle, we served as external examiners of doctorates extensively in the UK and internationally at: **EUI Florence** (Djokić, 2015); **University of Hong-Kong** (Yoeli-Tlalim, 2015) and **University of Tübingen** (Plamper, 2018).

Invited keynotes

Goldsmiths’ historians frequently give keynote addresses and present papers at major international events. International examples of keynotes include, but are not limited to: ‘The history and future of “experience” in historiography’ at: **‘History of Experience: Theories, Methodologies, and Concepts’, Academy of Finland Centre of Excellence in the History of Experiences, Tampere University, Finland** (2019), as well as keynotes in **University of Helsinki**, 2014; **University of Southern Denmark, Odense**, 2015; **Tübingen**, 2017; **Cologne**, 2018 and **Greifswald**, 2019 (Plamper); ‘Not Guilty: Disregards and Statutory Pardons for Homosexual Offences in the UK’, 2nd **Haifa Queer History Festival, Beit Ha’Gefen, Haifa, Israel**, 2019 (Bengry); “This three-named people of ours, one and united”: Revisiting the Yugoslav kingdom 100 years later’, at **‘Constructing a real image of the period 1918-19: Continuity and Changes’, Kobe & Tokyo** (2019) (Djokić); ‘The Silk-Roads as a model for exploring Eurasian transmissions of medical knowledge’, ‘Episteme in Bewegung’ **TOPOI Excellence Cluster, Freie Universität Berlin** (2016) (Yoeli-Tlalim); ‘Ring aus Stahl: Die Mittelmächte im Ersten Weltkrieg’ at the **Zentrum für Militärgeschichte und Sozialwissenschaften der Bundeswehr, Potsdam, Germany** (2019) (Watson); ‘Emotions and Sexualities’, **1st International Conference on Contemporary and Historical Approaches to Emotions, University of Wollongong, Sydney** (2016) (Gammerl); ‘Irish Identities in the British Army in the First World War’ at **‘Manpower and the Armies of the British Empire in the Two World Wars’, Royal Military College of Canada** (2018) (Grayson); ‘Social networks and the publication of continental European writings during the English Revolution, 1641-1660’, **University of Alberta**, (2019) (Hessayon); “Treading the Righteous Path of History’: Journalists in Revolutions” at **Annual Conference of Newspaper and Periodical History Forum of Ireland, Dublin, University College Dublin**, (2015) (Walsh).

We have grown to become a dynamic, distinctive, diverse and engaged department, creating history that matters and inspires people and scholars, both nationally and beyond.