

DR. ALEX MAYHEW

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Nationality: Irish / British
DOB: 19 May 1991

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2023-** Assistant Professor in Modern European History, Department of International History, London School of Economics and Political Science
- 2022-23** Assistant Professor in the Social and Cultural History of the First World War, Department of History, University of Birmingham
- 2021-22** Learning Developer, [LSE LIFE](#), London School of Economics and Political Science
- 2018-21** LSE Fellow, [LSE100: The LSE Course](#), London School of Economics and Political Science

OTHER POSITIONS

- 2025-** Managing Editor, Britain, Ireland, and British India, [1914-1918 Online: International Encyclopaedia of the First World War](#)
- 2020-** Curriculum / Education Consultant. *Clients include Reach University (US), Centre for Tutorial Teaching (UK), Centre for Tutorial Education (UK / China), Production Attic (UK), Perlego (UK), and BBC Bitesize*

EDUCATION

- 2014-18** PhD, International History, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)
 - Thesis: [‘Making Sense of the Western Front: English Infantrymen’s Morale and Perception of Crisis, 1914-1918.’](#)
 - Supervisors: Professor Heather Jones and Professor David Stevenson.
 - Funding: LSE PhD Scholarship (2014-18) awarded based on undergraduate performance.
- 2019-20** Post Graduate Certificate in Higher Education, Full Level, LSE
 - Course design.
- 2015-16** Post Graduate Certificate in Higher Education, Associate Level, LSE
 - Learning theory; small group teaching; assessment and feedback; Higher Education policy.
- 2010-13** BA(Hons), 1st Class in History, King’s College London

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Books

[‘Making Sense of the Great War: Crisis, Englishness, and Morale on the Western Front, 1914-1918’](#) (Cambridge University Press, hardback ed. 2024, paperback ed. 2025). *Showcased in LSE’s [Research for the World](#) (19 March 2024). Recipient of ‘Honourable Mention’ award in the WW1 Historical Association’s 2024 Norman B. Tomlinson Jnr. Prize.*

Journal Articles

[‘English Patriotism and the Implicit Nation: Homelands and Soldiers’ National Identity during the Great War’](#), *The English Historical Review*, Vol. 138, Issue 594-595 (Oct./Dec. 2023), pp. 1277-1306.

[‘British Expeditionary Force Vegetable Shows, Allotment Culture, and Life Behind the Lines during the Great War’](#), *Historical Journal*, Vol. 64, Issue 5 (Dec. 2021), pp. 1355-1378. *This article was showcased in [The Times](#) (3 February 2021), on Times Radio (same date), and in LSE’s [Research for the World](#) (4 May 2021).*

[‘A War Imagined: Postcards and the Maintenance of Long-Distance Relationships during the Great War’](#), *War in History*, Vol. 28, Issue 2 (April 2021), pp. 301-332.

Book and Encyclopaedia Chapters

‘Morale and the Experience of the Trenches’, in N. Lloyd (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to the Western Front* (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming, 2026).

[‘Historiography 1918 – Today \(Great Britain\)’](#), *1914-1918 Online: International Encyclopaedia of the First World War*, 23 February 2021.

‘Hoping for Victorious Peace: Morale and Perceptions of the Future on the Western Front’, in A. Luptak, H. Smyth and L. Halewood (eds.), *War Time: First World War Perspectives on Temporality* (Abingdon, 2018). Included as one of five ‘key chapters’ from across Routledge’s publications in [‘The First World War: A Routledge Freebook’](#).

Other Publications

‘The First World War and the Experience of Crisis’, *First World War Studies*. Forthcoming: 2025/2026.

‘Mud, Blood, and Not so Much Poppycock: Myth Formation in the British Army during the First World War’, *Bulletin of the Auckland Museum*, Vol. 21, [Special Issue: The Enduring Impact of the First World War](#) (2020)

[‘Fields of Battle, Lands of Peace, 1914-1918: An Interview with Michael St Maur Sheil’](#), *The RUSI Journal*, Vol. 161, Issue 4 (2016)

Reviews and short essays have also appeared in RUSI Analysis, RUSI Commentary, the LSE Review of Books, Twentieth Century British History (as was), War in History, Journal of British Studies, Journal of Military History, and the English Historical Review (forthcoming).

FUTURE RESEARCH

Perceptions of History and the Past during the Great War. *For my next publications, there will be a specific focus on the British / British Empire campaign in Mesopotamia. I am preparing a research grant application related to this project.*

Planned Articles

‘Colonial Violence and Britain’s Campaign in Mesopotamia during the Great War.’ Intended Destination: *Past and Present*.

‘Death Ray Guns, Frozen Clouds, and the Forgotten ‘Inventions’ of the Great War.’ Intended Destination: *Historical Journal*.

‘The Siege of Kut: A Microhistory of the Global Great War.’ Intended Destination: *Journal of Military History*.

AWARDS

2025	<i>Nominated.</i> LSE Student Led Teaching Awards: Affirming Academic Mentor.
2025	Honourable Mention, 2024 Norman B. Tomlinson Jnr. Book Prize for Best Work of History in English on World War 1, WW1 Historical Association (US).
2024	LSE Excellence in Education Award.
2024	<i>Nominated.</i> LSE Student Led Teaching Awards: Excellent Feedback and Communication.
2022	Dennis Showalter Lecture for an Emerging Scholar, International Society for First World War Studies
2021	<i>Highly Commended.</i> LSE Excellence in Education Award, Department of International History.

2021	<i>Shortlisted.</i> LSE Student Led Teaching Awards: Inspirational Teaching & Exceptional Teaching in an Unprecedented Year
2020	<i>Shortlisted.</i> LSE Student Led Teaching Awards: Sharing Subject Knowledge & Mentoring and Personal Development
2017	LSE Class Teacher Award
2014-18	LSE PhD Scholarship
2013	Brewer Prize for Modern History, King's College London. <i>Awarded for top first in Modern History.</i>

UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION

2024-	Impact and Innovation Panel, LSE
2024-	Undergraduate Admissions Tutor, LSE
2023-	Departmental AI Leads Forum and Oral Assessment Forum, LSE
2023-	Departmental AI Lead, Department of International History & LSE
2023-24	Teacher Responsible for Course, HY120: Historical Approaches to the Modern World, LSE
2022-23	Programme Convenor, MA in First World War Studies, University of Birmingham
2021-22	Co-convenor, LSE GROUPS
2021-22	LSE LIFE Liaison for Ethics and LSE100.
2021-22	LSE LIFE Departmental Liaison for Gender Studies; Philosophy; Social Policy; Sociology; Statistics.
2018-21	LSE100 Management Committee
2018-21	LSE100 Professional Development Fellow
2018-21	Teaching Mentor, LSE
2016-18	Research Student Representative, Academic and Student Affairs Committee, LSE
2016-18	History Department Representative, Research Students Consultative Forum, LSE

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2024-	HY4C1: Fighting and Experiencing the Greater War c. 1912-23, LSE. Optional module for MA/MSc students.
2023-	HY120: Historical Approaches to the Modern World, LSE. Compulsory first year module for UGs.
2023-	HY226: The Greater War, c.1912-1923, LSE. A redeveloped optional module for second and third year UGs.
2023-	HY116: International Politics since 1914: Peace and War, LSE. Compulsory first year module for UGs.
2023	Home Fires Burning: Life on the Home Fronts during the First World War, University of Birmingham. Compulsory MA module.
2023	Group Research: War and Society in the Twentieth Century World, University of Birmingham. Compulsory module for second year UGs.

2023	History in Theory and Practice, University of Birmingham. Compulsory module for second year UGs.
2023	Practicing History B: Perceptions of the Past in the Past, University of Birmingham. Compulsory module for first year UGs focussed on historical approaches and methods.
2022	Pandora's Box: Europe and the First World War c. 1914-1930, University of Birmingham. Optional module for second year UGs.
2022	Research Skills: Methodology and Sources in First World War Studies, University of Birmingham. Compulsory MA module.
2022-23	Practicing History A: Endurance during the Great War, University of Birmingham. Compulsory module for first year UGs focussed on core academic skills in reading, writing, and argumentation.
2022	LSE Groups, LSE. Optional research project for LSE UGs.
2021-22	Academic Skills Workshops, LSE LIFE. <i>I designed and ran workshops and one-to-ones for departments and students from across the LSE. These focus on core academic skills, from essay writing, through group work, to master's dissertations.</i>
2020-21	HY120: Historical Approaches to the Modern World, LSE. Compulsory first year module for UGs.
2016-20	LSE100: The LSE Course, LSE. Compulsory interdisciplinary course taken by all LSE UGs in their first and second years. <i>Modules including Artificial Intelligence; Crime and Punishment; Democracy; Food Security; International Security; Markets; Poverty and Inequality.</i>
2015-16	HY226: The Great War, 1914-1918, LSE. Optional module for second and third year UGs.

I consistently receive very high scores on student feedback and surveys, both formal and informal, which are available upon request.

DISSERTATION SUPERVISION

2022-2025	MA Dissertations. <i>Topics including: Naval Strategy (Jeune École) in the Austro-Hungarian Empire before the First World War; Alcohol and British Temperance in the Era of the First World War; Sex Work and the Military in British India; Hopes for the Future in Britain during the Second World War; The Chinese Labour Corps during the First World War; Memories of the Pacific War in Video Games; Gendered Violence during the Irish War of Independence; Perceptions of the Congress of Vienna at the Paris Peace Conference; US Funding and Development of AI, c. 1970s-80s; Identity and Experiences of British and American Nurses during the First World War; Depictions of Chinese Women in British Propaganda during the Second World War.</i>
2022-2025	UG Dissertations. <i>Topics including: Drug Use in Bomber Command during the Second World War; The British Communist Party and the Communist International in the 1920s; British Perceptions of the German Revolution; Command and Leadership during the Battle for France; Disability and the World Wars; Gendered Experiences of the Holocaust; Anti-German Propaganda during the First World War; The Boy Scouts during the First World War; The Failure of the Sunningdale Agreement and Power Sharing in Northern Ireland, 1973-74; British Grand Strategy, Sea Power, and Airpower in Interwar Britain; Morale Collapse in the Portuguese Expeditionary Force during the First World War; Trieste and the Rise of Fascism after the Great War; Changing Land Use and Local Identities in Rural Sussex c. 1914-45.</i>

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

2024	Critical Thinking in Theory and Practice. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workshops for professionals in HE.
2024	HY4C1: Fighting and Enduring the Great War, LSE. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Optional module for MA students.
2024	HY120: Historical Approaches to the Modern World. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Redevelopment of an UG module.

- 2023** HY226: The Greater War c. 1912-1923, LSE.
 ▪ Redevelopment of an UG module in line with changes in historiographical consensus.
- 2023** Microhistories of the Global First World War, University of Birmingham
 ▪ Third year advanced option for UGs / MA students.
- 2023** Home Fires Burning: Life on the Home Fronts during the First World War
 ▪ Compulsory MA Module on MA First World War Studies
- 2022** Research Skills: Methods and Sources in First World War Studies
 ▪ Compulsory MA Module on MA First World War Studies
- 2021-22** Global Tutorial Programme, Centre for Tutorial Teaching
 ▪ Pre-university distance learning programme built around the theme of sustainability.
 ▪ Designed skills workshops, empirical classes, and week-long residential programme.
- 2021-22** Training Workshops, Centre for Tutorial Teaching
 ▪ Online career development workshops for research masters' students, doctoral candidates, and researchers at The American Slovenian Education Foundation (ASEF).
 ▪ Online curriculum design workshops focussed on the pedagogy, practice, and implementation of tutorials for Blue Ridge Community College, Dallas Community College, and Reach University.
- 2020-21** LSE100: The LSE Course, LSE
 ▪ LSE100's Redevelopment.
 ▪ Blended Learning Module: 'Can we design a fair society?'
- 2019-20** Consultant Academic Developer, Reach University (US)
 ▪ Distance Learning Module: 'History in Practice' for first year US UGs.
 ▪ Helping to map and design a social science pathway for UGs.
- 2019** Academic Consultant, Historical Association TFP: Conflict, Art and Remembrance
 ▪ 'Un-entrenched: How to Improve the Teaching of Trenches in 20 easy steps.'
- 2018-20** LSE100: The LSE Course, LSE
 ▪ Blended Learning Module: 'Can we control AI? A Case Study of Systems Thinking.'

At LSE LIFE I designed workshops on a range of topics including reflective writing, critical thinking, essay writing, source analysis, dissertations (proposals; time management; literature reviews; analysis and structure) and presentations.

EXTERNAL EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2025** External Examiner, PhD VIVA, Birkbeck, University of London
- 2025** External Examiner, MPhil VIVA, University of Leeds
- 2024** External Examiner, DPhil VIVA, University of Oxford
- 2023-26** External Examiner, MA War Studies Distance Learning, King's College London

PUBLIC OUTREACH

Invited Speaker, 'Making Sense of the Great War: Crisis, Englishness, and Morale on the Western Front', National Army Museum Public Lecture Series, 7 February 2025

Invited Speaker, 'Making Sense of the Great War: Crisis, Englishness, and Morale on the Western Front', Western Front Association Webinar Series, 13 January 2025

Invited Contributor, Hope, Remembrance, and the First World War, LSE Social Media (X / LinkedIn / Instagram / Facebook), 10,000 + views across all channels, 10 November 2024.

Historical Consultant, [BBC Bitesize KS2 Game – History Explorer: Secrets Through Time](#), 2023-24

Invited Speaker, 'WW1 and WW2 through a different lens', CPD Subject Day, The PTI, 2023

Invited Expert, *Who Do You Think You Are*, BBC Television, 20 July 2023

Interviewee, Morale in the BEF on the Western Front, 1917-1918, Combat Morale Podcast, Season 2 Ep. 3, 29 June 2023

Interviewee, The State of Great War Scholarship, Mentioned in Dispatches Podcast, Ep. 300, 15 May 2023 with Prof. John Bourne and Prof. Jonathan Boff

Invited Speaker, 'Love and War', In Conversation with JC Niala, PoliNations Festival, Birmingham, 4 September 2022

Morale in the British Army during 1917 and 1918, Mentioned in Dispatches Podcast, ep. 267, 8 August 2022

Invited Speaker, Fig.studio presents - JC Niala: 1918 Allotment, TORCH Oxford and Art Council England, Oxford, 19 March 2022

Contributor, 'A Noisy Noise Annoys and Oyster', Podcast from the Past, Season 4 ep. 22, 26 January 2022

Interviewee, 'Alex Mayhew on British WW1 Wartime Myths', Real Time History Podcast, Episode 4, 15 July 2021

Interviewee, 'British Army Allotments during the First World War', Times Radio, 3 February 2021

Interviewee, 'Making Sense of the Western Front: English Infantrymen's Morale and Perception of Crisis during the First World War', Mentioned in Dispatches Podcast, ep. 115, 27 May 2018. Subsequently downloaded nearly 4600 times.

Invited Speaker, 'Forgetting and Misremembering: Empire, Language, and Cultural Perspectives on the Past', 'Infinite Salon 4: The Eternal Return – Is History on Repeat?' Public Lecture Series, London, February 2019

SELECTED CONFERENCE PAPERS

Invited Keynote Speaker, 'British National Identity and the Sea during the First World War', 'Britain, Conflict, and the Sea', National Maritime Museum, September 2024

Invited Speaker - 'English Infantrymen's Attachment to Space and Place during the First World War', University of Liverpool, Department of History Speaker Series, March 2023 – Cancelled due to UCU strikes.

'The First World War and the Anatomy of Crisis', 2022 Denis Showalter Memorial Lecture, International Society for First World War Studies, February 2023

'English National Identity and the *Patrie*: Soldiers' Visions of England during the First World War', 'War Experience and National Identity during the First World War' Workshop, University College London, April 2020 (Postponed)

'Making Sense of the Western Front: Attachment to Space and Place during the First World War', 'First World War: Past, Present and Future' Conference, First World War Network, Edinburgh Napier University, June 2019

'Imagining the Nation: English Infantrymen's Visions of Communities and Landscapes during the First World War', Social History Society Annual Conference 2019, University of Lincoln, June 2019

'The 1918 Vegetable Show at the BEF's Le Havre Base Depot: A New Window onto the Great War', '1918-2018: The End of the Great War & the Reshaping of a Century' Conference, University of Wolverhampton, September 2018

'Making Sense of the Western Front: Identity, Morale and English Infantrymen, 1914-1918', Historial de la Grande Guerre, France, November 2017

‘A Home Imagined: Morale, Memories and Dreams of England on the Western Front’, In the Heart of the Great War Conference, Belgium, October 2017

‘Mud, Blood and Not So Much Poppcock: “Myth” Formation and the British Army in Late 1917’, The Myriad Faces of War: 1917 and its Legacy Conference, New Zealand, April 2017

‘“I Faced the Depths of Misery”: Winter and Morale on the Western Front,’ Institute of Historical Research, ‘War, Society, and Culture’ Seminar, London, March 2017

‘Hopes of Peace: Morale and the Future on the Western Front, 1914-1918’, ‘War Time’ 9th Conference of the International Society for First World War Studies, Oxford, November 2016

‘“Long Distance Relationships”: Postcards to and from the Western Front during the First World War’, LSE HY509 International History Research Seminar, London, September 2016

‘The Face of First World War Battlefields and Battles’, Graduate Summer School, Historial de la Grande Guerre, Péronne and Verdun, France, June/July 2016

‘From Bilaiki to Blighty: Tracing British Imperial and Military History through Language’, LSE/Columbia Research Seminar, London, May 2016

‘Training and Morale: The Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry, British Commission for Military History, ‘New Research in Military History Conference’, London, October 2015

FUNDING

2025	EDEN Centre Student Research Assistant Fund, Public History Project, LSE
2024	EDEN Centre Education Catalyst Fund, LSE
2017	Bourse Gerda Henkel du Centre International de Recherche de l’Historial de la Grande Guerre, France.
2014-18	LSE PhD Scholarship
2017	LSE Postgraduate Travel Grant.
2016	LSE Department of International History Travel Grant.
2016	LSE Postgraduate Travel Grant.
2016	LSE Department of International History Travel Grant.

CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR ORGANISATION

2023	LSE International History, Cumberland Lodge Weekend, Turning Points in History
2018-20	LSE100 Work in Progress Seminars
2018-20	LSE100 Career Development Programme
2017-18	LSE International History Seminar for Doctoral Students and ECRs

EXTERNAL LECTURES

2020	‘Is Hunger a Weapon of War?’ LSE Summer School
2020	‘Who is Vulnerable to Automation?’ LSE Summer School
2020	‘Should Criminal Justice be Automated?’ LSE Summer School

2019 ‘The History of the City of London’ LSE Summer School

2019 ‘Identity, Localism, and Brexit’ LSE Summer School

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2023 Historical Consultant, BBC Bitesize

2023 Secondary Teacher Workshop Organiser, PTI Education

2019 School Workshop Coordinator, InTo University

2018-20 Academic Mentor, LSE Widening Participation

2016-20 Freelance Proof-reader (Politics, Economics and History)

2014 Editorial Assistant, [RUSI Journal](#) and [RUSI Newsbrief](#), Royal United Services Institute

2013-14 Sales and Management Graduate Scheme, Flight Centre UK

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Fellow of the Higher Education Academy

Member of the International Society for First World War Studies

Member of the Royal Historical Society

Member of the UK Research and Innovation Early Career Forum

SKILLS

NVIVO	Public Speaking
Persuasive Communication	Systems Thinking & Systems Change
Principled Negotiation	Tableau & Data Visualisation
Curriculum Design	Experiential Learning
Tutorial Practice	Learning Design
AI in Education	Critical Thinking Skills

REFERENCES

Available upon request.