Undergraduate programmes summary of actions taken to address matters raised at SSLC meetings

Term	Matter raised	Action
Winter Term 2025-26	Students raised that third-year students are only able to take a dissertation in IH department and not the IR department, whereas the History and Politics students can do a dissertation in either IH or Govt department.	This issue has been raised with the IR department and there is an ongoing conversation to make a change.
Winter Term 2025-26	Library/Core readings: Students expressed concern that there are not enough copies of the core recommended readings in the library and they would like to see more copies made available. Students have reported issues with accessing e-books on Moodle on and off campus.	Students are encouraged to contact the TRC to request if further copies can be obtained by the library. E-books are sometimes not available or placed under copyright restrictions. Having checked with the Library Liaison, limiting the loan period is not possible. Sometimes problems arise due to browser issues. Students could also try to obtain copies from Senate House or Kings College.
Autumn Term 2025-26	Students want clearer guidance on when NSS opens and reassurance about support for completing it.	Confirmed NSS opens in February and runs until May, with reminders from both the School and the Department. Max and the Student Experience team will support completion with guidance and scheduled opportunities.
Autumn Term 2025-26	Students appreciated the limited-notes HY113 exam format and want to know if similar formats could be used across other courses.	Passed feedback to the HY113 conveners; the issue will be discussed at the next departmental staff meeting as part of broader exam format guidance.
Autumn Term 2025-26	There is information overload in Year 1; students would appreciate refresher sessions in Year 2 on dissertations, course choices, careers, and volunteering.	Department will explore offering short briefings in Week 0 or Week 1 of Year 2 to revisit key information.
Autumn Term 2025-26	Moodle reading lists can be confusing and intimidating, especially where whole books are listed without context.	Staff will be asked to review Moodle pages to clarify expectations, especially for first year

		courses (e.g. specifying chapters rather than whole books).
Autumn Term 2025-26	Mentor engagement varies widely, and some first-years did not receive an initial contact email.	Department will send a start of the year reminder to all mentors emphasising the need for proactive outreach, especially to new students.
Autumn Term 2025-26	The difference between long form formative essays and exam style writing created confusion or HY116 students.	Feedback will be passed to the convenor and teachers of HY16 to help improve alignment between formative and summative tasks.
Autumn Term 2025-26	Submitting the dissertation proposal in March of Year 2 is difficult when students then spend a year abroad.	The Department will table this for discussion as the next Teaching Committee to consider what flexibility may be possible within School regulations.
Autumn Term 2025-26	Students would welcome more History-specific academic writing support and consistency across seminar leaders.	Department is preparing a workshop on academic presentations for next term. Students were reminded of multiple support routes (Eden Centre, office hours, handbook guidance). Further departmental options will continue to be explored.
Autumn Term 2025-26	Students want more presentation practice especially in first-year courses like HY120.	Feedback noted; conveners encouraged to consider incorporating presentations where appropriate.
Autumn Term 2025-26	There is strong interest in a dedicated course on gender history.	Enthusiasm will be fed into the Department's curriculum discussions at the annual Away Day.
Autumn Term 2025-26	Incoming students often do not realize the full range of outside options available.	Mentors and conveners will be asked to emphasize outside option opportunities more clearly.
Autumn Term 2025-26	The current common rooms are underused, poorly lit, and not inviting; students strongly prefer a more social, flexible space.	Estates are scoping refurbishment options. Department will request removing the dividing wall to create an open-plan social space.

		Furniture will be redesigned as smaller seating clusters suitable for both informal study and socializing. Students invited to contribute ideas for the refurbishment bid.
Autumn Term 2025-26	Some students cannot access certain floors or doors in Sardinia House.	Estates will be asked to run a full access review for all student IDs to ensure consistent permissions.
Autumn Term 2025-26	Not all teachers use the full formative marking table, which makes feedback harder to interpret.	Department will send a reminder to all staff to use the complete formative marking rubric.
Autumn Term 2025-26	Some students could not find the Undergraduate Handbook on Moodle	Department will check visibility on all course pages and send a reminder about where to access it.
Autumn Term 2025-26	Students would welcome more departmental social events to build community within the programme.	Department will explore opportunities, especially in conjunction with the refurbished common room.
2024-25	Students would like more departmental social events at the start of the year	This year, the Department organised a table quiz for UG students in Week 1. New UG students have two museum visits in Week 3.
2024-25	New students would like more guidance about the Department's grading system during Induction	New students face a lot of information about their new degrees in Induction already. Relevant information can be highlighted I the UG Student Handbook. Students can also discuss grading with both class teachers and Academic Mentors.
2024-25	Students requested more information about course selection before Welcome Week.	The Department is exploring how to provide more pre-arrival guidance on e.g. course selection.
2024-25	Students would like to be informed when Academic Mentors are planning to go on leave the following year.	Academic Mentors have been asked to notify their Mentees in advance of leave.
2024-25	Students highlighted communications issues around HY300	The Department will coordinate dissertation

	dissertation workshops.	comms especially for students on joint degree programmes.
2024-25	Students would like more careers events and advice.	Introductory session for incoming students in Welcome Week. Job Search Strategy session for current UG students in Week 7.
2024-25	Accessibility issues with both CKK and Sardinia House for e.g. wheelchair users	The Department has been in ongoing discussions with Estates about accessibility. Push-button access was installed for easier access to CKK.1.03. The School is planning a feasibility study for potential refit to address Sardinia House issues.
2024-25	Student concerns about conditions in the Student Common Room, particularly damp issues and related repairs.	Estates have been notified; the Department is following up currently on progress.
Winter term 23-24	Students would like to see more departmental social events to improve the community environment.	The Student Experience Co-ordinator set up a Whatsapp group for 2024-25, monthly newsletter and regular emails to inform students of events. The department would welcome ideas for social events from students. Students were encouraged to engage with History Society who run events.
Winter term 23-24	Students reported concerns regarding the community environment.	The Head of Department has implemented workshops for staff to revisit all first year classes to improve the environment. A departmental Senior Student Advisor has been appointed, a shared resource with the International Relations department, working with Dept.Tutors, Academic Mentors and PSS, to discuss issues that arise.

Winter term 23-24	Students reported that in two courses assessed essay feedback had been slow to be returned.	The Head of Department reminded staff to ensure they returned feedback in a timely fashion.
Michaelmas term 2022-23	Students asked for more social events in the department to foster a sense of community.	The Department has arranged several events.
Michaelmas term 2022-23	Students would like a regular newsletter to communicate what is happening in the department.	The Department launched a monthly newsletter sent to all staff and students in the department.
Summer term 2021-22	Students have expressed further concern regarding in person exams.	The Deputy Head of Department confirmed that all HY courses with exams would offer a mock exam.
Summer term 2021-22	Students have requested timely information on which courses would run for course selection.	The Head of Department offered a zoom meeting or email confirming, where possible, the courses that would run.
Michaelmas term 2021-22	Students have expressed concern over in person exams this academic year. Students feel under-prepared due to the pandemic.	The Deputy Head of Department offered to set up a working group with 2nd and 3rd year students to discuss and manage expectations on this subject. The department to look at offering extra support. The School are also offering mock exam practice.
Michaelmas term 2021-22	Students have raised concern at the lack of choice on Paper 5 (early modern courses) in second year.	The Deputy Head of Department to discuss the issue of available courses at the departmental awayday.
Michaelmas term 2021-22	Students would like to see more communications on events and the possibility of a newsletter each week on events as produced in the IR department 'The Wire'.	The Deputy Head of Department to communicate where to find information about events on the department's social media accounts. A weekly newsletter was considered but deemed not necessary when events are posted regularly on socials and emailed to the students.
Michaelmas term 2021-22	Students unclear about the spaces available on campus to study since students haven't been on campus due to the	The Deputy Head of Department to liaise with third year representatives to collate

	lockdown.	information on study spaces on campus and email this to the students.
Lent term 2020-21	Students asked clearer information on events.	To improve communications, future events will be circulated from the ih.events@lse.ac.uk inbox. This leaves programme related information to be circulated from ih.ug.admin@lse.ac.uk. Social media handles were recirculated to students.
Lent term 2019-20	Students asked for more courses on African History.	The department recruited an additional specialist on Africa who will join the team later this year.
Lent term 2018-19	Students were unhappy with the student study space in the basement.	A new space will be available on the ground floor in 2019-20 for students.
Lent term 2018-19	Joint degree students requested greater communication with the IR department	The IR department invite joint degree students to IR events. The IR representative attends IH student induction and is included in SSLC meetings when available.
Lent term 2018-19	Students requested more departmental events to meet other students and staff.	The department has increased the number of events and employed a student experience officer.
Michaelmas term 2017-18	Students had requested a breakdown of marks by component in courses with multiple elements of assessment.	A breakdown of component marks for all relevant IH courses was prepared and offered to students by academic advisors alongside exam feedback at the start of the Michaelmas Term 2017/18. This will be carried forward as practice in future years.
Lent term 2016-17	Students asked for a fridge in the study space in the basement of Sardinia House.	Ms Minter checked with the Department Manager and it is not permitted to provide a fridge in the study space in the basement.
Lent term 2016-17	HY300 students felt unprepared for completing their dissertation.	Mr Motadel is running a Dissertation Café with grant funding received from TDLF to

		organise a special workshop for third year students at the writing up stage of their dissertation.
Michaelmas term 2016-17	HY300 students felt that the third-year Michaelmas Term workshop did not add much to what they had covered in the second-year workshops.	An additional HY300 session for third-year students with Professor Casey was arranged in the same term.
Michaelmas term 2016-17	Exam feedback was too generic and students would have benefitted from more detailed feedback; it was requested that examiners be more detailed in their comments.	Examination mark/feedback form re-designed to include a 'suggestions for improvement' section, to address the desire for more detailed and targeted feedback.
Michaelmas term 2016-17	Last year's first-year students had asked for clearer signalling and better promotion of induction events.	This year's first-year cohort reported that Registration was straight forward and induction events well organised.
Lent term 2015-16	India course not available.	Professor Stevenson arranged for interested IH students to take an outside Britain and India course with SOAS.
Lent term 2015-16	Department undergraduate facilities in Sardinia House not available at weekends.	Ms Minter checked with Security and it is not possible to keep the basement open for students in Sardinia House due to health and safety. There are study spaces in NAB, 32 Lif, Saw Swee Hock building, the Old Building and Library.
Michaelmas term 2015-16	Students would like more detail in their exam feedback, including marks for each question and sight of their scripts.	Marks for individual questions are now disclosed. The Exam Board Chair asked that examiners' comments be as full and specific as possible.
Michaelmas term 2015-16	Scheduling of teaching on Wednesday afternoons	Staff reminded that Wednesday afternoons are protected for 2016/17 timetabling cycle.
Michaelmas term 2015-16	Timing and content of the Department's pre-orientation communications to students to be reviewed	Mr Betts looked into bringing this forward and signposting induction more clearly.
Michaelmas term 2015-16	Query over quota of books in the Library per student/course	Mr Horsler advised: Where ebook is available, 3 print copies per

		15 students. Where no ebook is available, 10 print copies per 15 students. This is in line with other universities.
Michaelmas term 2015-16	Investigate 20% unemployment rate of BA History students graduating in 2013/14 identified in National Student Survey results	Mr Betts discussed with LSE Careers who plan to undertake follow-up work to identify any common reasons for this.
Summer term 2014-15	HY200 (Dr Hochstrasser's new course) to be changed to follow the new academic year structure and to clarify how class participation is graded.	Dr Hochstrasser has amended the teaching structure and advised that he will discuss class participation with students in class.
Summer term 2014-15	Library queries (Paul Horsler did not attend):	Followed up with Paul Horsler: - More student study space will be made available on 4th floor - Is it not possible to take out the books from the Women's Collection on the 4th floor
Summer term 2014-15	Dr Best to discuss student feedback related to tailored reading lists, with class teachers	HY113 readings have now been amended so that class reading lists (essential readings) and further reading lists have been separated.
Summer term 2014 - 15	HY113 lecture recording: Dr Antony Best to discuss with HY113 teachers	It has been agreed with all teachers involved that lecture capture or notes from each HY113 session will be provided, where possible.
Lent term 2014-15	Will deadline dates fall before, within or after reading weeks in the next academic year	This will be different for each course but teachers responsible are planning with the new term dates and practicalities in mind.
Lent term 2014-15	Check if online links are working	HY206 and IR200 links are working. Can't change HY241 link due to multiple chapters from same book not allowed: copyright law
Lent term 2014-15	Professor Zubok to discuss teaching matters with teachers responsible for HY113 and HY116	Discussed and HY113 teacher responsible in attendance in Summer term SSLC
Michaelmas term	Send USSC and ASC committee signup information to reps	Information sent via email to reps.

2014-15		
Michaelmas term 2014-15	Investigate why LSE marks on individual results rather than marking on a curve	Reply from Dr Ludlow (UG Exam Chair): system not used in UK. Only highest universities would achieve highest marks.
Michaelmas term 2014-15	Check with IMT why Moodle wasn't working over weekends in week 3 and 4. Is this likely to happen reoccur? Can students be notified?	Reply from Chris (LTI Dept.) unplanned outages, they have taken steps to mitigate issues. Plan to give a week's notice of planned outages to Moodle (on top of page).
Michaelmas term 2014-15	Check if HY221 reading list links are working	Links have been updated and are now working.
Michaelmas term 2014-15	Feedback to department on preferred changes for the Academic Adviser role	Presented at staff meeting.
Michaelmas term 2014-15	Feedback to mentoring team of students' preferences; all first years to be allocated a mentor	Contacted Mentoring team and expressed SSLC view on campus wide scheme.
Michaelmas term 2014-15	Liaison with ISIS and/or Admissions to see what the possibilities are for communicating visa information sooner	Discussed with UG Admissions and Student Recruitment – visa confirmation/ CAS can only be provided once applicant has an unconditional offer.
Michaelmas term 2014-15	Can students have an allocated department spend for printing if they decide not to take a language course	No. IH makes a conscious decision to provide this support so students can improve their skills and study texts and research in other languages.
Michaelmas term 2014-15	Discuss potential inconsistences in marking styles at Teaching and Exams meeting	Presented at staff meeting.
Michaelmas term 2014-15	Feedback to department the interest for Africa courses	Presented at staff meeting. Dr Padraic Scanlan appointed commencing 2015/16.
Michaelmas term 2014-15	Can IR200 lectures be recorded	IR Dept. confirmed IR200 lectures are recorded but not always 202 and 203 (due to professional and pedagogic reasons).
Michaelmas term 2014-15	Discuss lecture and class teaching on HY113 and HY116 both with Deputy Head and teachers responsible for the courses	TRCs have: - Discussed with class teachers - Provided lecture slides on Moodle

		- Planned class observations
Michaelmas term 2014-15	Communicate feedback to organisers of the 'Essay writing seminar' that more staff were needed	Contacted Teaching and Learning team and expressed SSLC views.
Summer 2013-14	HY114 number of copies of books	Discussions will take place in the Library about the subject-specific necessity for books in History, as opposed to reliance on journals.
Lent 2013-14	HY226 number of copies of books	Reported to Library. Some additional copies and E-books were ordered for some titles where available.
Michaelmas 2013-14	General Course induction clashing with departmental induction	Provisional bookings for 2014-15 induction do not clash.
Michaelmas 2013-14	Difficulties with new online reading lists system	Reported to the Library who liaised with students about specific issues over the course of the academic year.
Michaelmas 2013-14	Third years would like more guidelines on write-up and structure of the dissertation	Document posted on Moodle.
Michaelmas 2013-14	Class sizes exceeding fifteen in first year courses	Temporary anomaly at the start of the year due to over-recruitment. Quickly resolved by creating additional class groups.
Michaelmas 2013-14	Essay writing skills for first years	Teaching and Learning Centre workshop programme highlighted to students.
Michaelmas 2013-14	HY113 more copies of *A. Best, J. Hanhimaki et al.* are needed	Raised with the Library. Maximum 20 copies quota has been reached, but flagged that quotas will need to be revisited in light of planned student expansion.
Lent 2012-13	Difficulties booking presentation ceremony tickets.	Ceremonies office advised that there was a temporary glitch and offered advice for students about booking tickets.
Lent 2012-13	Confusion over HY226 and HY208 Moodle sites.	Moodle postings were correct. TRCs clarified course formats and syllabi to students via e mail.
Lent 2012-13	Students would like a kettle in E509.	Kettle to be ordered. Students to provide

		beverages and be responsible for unplugging the kettle at night and cleaning mugs. To be reviewed in due course.
Lent 2012-13	Insufficient copies of certain titles from the HY113 reading list in the Library. The number of students taking HY113 has risen significantly since HY117 was withdrawn and re-presented as a second year course.	SSLC rep provided list of titles - relayed to LSE Library, more copies of these titles were ordered.
Michaelmas 2012-13	First year students would like informal advice from other students about course choices.	List of student mentors in the IH dept. published on the Moodle noticeboard.
Michaelmas 2012-13	Confusion over the course structure as outlined on Moodle.	See above.
Michaelmas 2012-13	HY113 lecture room is not large enough to accommodate all the students on the course.	The lectures were moved to a larger room after consultation with Timetables.
Session 2011-12	Issues raised by students over the first year curriculum: reading lists, capacity to cover the breadth and depth of the syllabus in class, class discussion/teaching methods, structure of the courses.	Meeting of first year course TRCs to review the curriculum.
Session 2010-11	More History socials and events outside of classes/lectures	Two roundtable discussions held, quiz, History Society socials
Lent term 2010-11	Joint honours students' dissatisfaction with IR elements of their degree	Paper outlining concerns requested from reps by Dr Rubiés. Paper produced and passed to IR. IR staff attended MT SSLC in 2011-12 to discuss issues.
Michaelmas 2010-11	HY300 workshops: content, repetition, no coverage of Endnote	Feedback provided to the Library speakers, additional workshops put on including on Endnote.
Michaelmas 2010-11	Structure of HY116	Structure is under review, aim to introduce revised version in 2012-13
Michaelmas 2010-11	Feedback on previous year's exams to be made available in the run up to the exam period, as well as at the start of the year	This was implemented in summer term 2011
Session 2009-10	Review of amount of formative coursework essays	Most courses' workload reduced by one essay in 2010-11 (substituted with

		presentations etc.)
Session 2009-10 (SSLC collated feedback)	Advice to be given on exam technique	At their initial meeting academic advisors will provide 2nd and 3rd year students with markers' feedback on the previous year's exams.
Session 2009-10 (departmental student surveys)	Students would like more continuous assessment	Changes to assessment in HY114, HY221, HY233 and HY304 to include assessed presentations and essays over the course of the year.
Summer 2009-10	Limited third year choices	HY304 reinstated to broaden the choice
Lent 2008-9	Students would like to meet with teachers in person to discuss the first essay submitted for a course	This practice has now been adopted department wide
Lent 2008-9	Lack of coverage of Latin American history in the department's programme of courses	Dr Tanya Harmer appointed: permanent lecturer in Latin American history who offers an undergraduate course in this area (HY239).
Lent 2008-9	Student dissatisfaction over historiography provision	Provision revised and as of 2012/13: Historiography course made optional and situated earlier in the degree; first year courses to include coverage of historiographical debates.