BA in Ancient History and Sociology   UCAS code: VL13
For students entering Part 1 in 2005

Awarding Institution: The University of Reading
Teaching Institution: The University of Reading
Relevant QAA subject benchmarking group(s):   Classics & Ancient History, and
Sociology
Faculty of Arts and Humanities   Programme length: 3 years
Date of specification: October 2005
Programme Director: Dr Tim Duff
Programme Adviser: Dr Amy Smith
Board of Studies: Classics and Sociology
Accreditation: Not appropriate

Summary of programme aims
The programme aims to provide a thorough degree level education in Ancient History and Sociology. In Classics it aims to produce graduates who have experience of chronological, thematic and genre-based approaches to the cultures of antiquity. The programme will provide a basis for interpreting primary and secondary sources of evidence, understanding methods of analysis, and appreciating the changing nature of each discipline's priorities and approaches. The Sociology element covers the fundamental concepts, methods, and theories involved in sociological research, as well as more in-depth study to introduce students to empirical data of sociological phenomena as well as different 'middle-range' theories of more specific sociological topics. All this will be achieved through structured progression from Parts 1 to 3.

Transferable skills
The University's Strategy for Teaching and Learning has identified a number of generic transferable skills which all students are expected to have developed by the end of their degree programme. In following this programme, students will have had the opportunity to develop their skills relating to career management, communication (both written and oral), information handling, numeracy, problem-solving, team working and use of information technology.

Ancient History and Sociology are disciplines which lend themselves to critical judgement and problem-solving, both through personal engagement with issues and through dialogue and group discussion. Also integral is the collection, collation and analysis of substantial quantities of material and its communication and presentation. Both fields of study also prompt an awareness of numeracy through chronology, periodisation, and basic quantification through to advanced skills in statistics in conjunction with the use of IT: spreadsheets, database and statistical software. In addition, the development of powerful tools of research, analysis and presentation associated with information technology is reflected in several ways, such as in the location and retrieval of bibliographic and source material, the production and presentation of student work, and, where appropriate, the use of more sophisticated databases and exploitation of the internet. Teamwork, project management, and career planning are also included within this programme.

Programme content
Each Part comprises 120 credits. Students must normally take a minimum of 40 credits in each of the Classics and Sociology units in Part One. In Part 1 the remaining credits can be made up from any optional modules and/or from modules elsewhere in the University. In Part 2 students must normally take a minimum of 60 credits in each subject. In Part 3, 40 credits are taken in each subject, plus the dissertation of 40 credits in one subject or jointly held between the two.

Part 1 introduces students to the disciplines; Part 2 develops skills through the study of broad, contrasting genres and periods, and Part 3 contains a more detailed focus and specific research work.

Not all optional modules will necessarily be available in any year. Admission to optional modules will be at the discretion of the Programme Director.

Part 1 (three terms)   *Credits   Level*

In Classics:

Compulsory modules (40 credits)

		Credits	Level
CL1CA	Greek and Roman Civilisations A: Fifth-Century Athens	20	C
CL1CB	Greek and Roman Civilisations B: Rome in the Augustan Age	20	C

Optional Module

		Credits	Level
CL1GM	Greek Myths	20	C

In the Department of Sociology

Part 1 (two terms)		*Credits*	*Level*
Compulsory modules			
SO1INT	Introduction to Sociology (Autumn)	20	C
SO1BRI	British Society (Spring)	20	C

Optional module:

SO1CSI	Contemporary Social Issues	20	C

Part 2 (three terms)	*Credits*	*Level*

In the Department of Classics [60 credits]

At least 40 credits must be taken from the core modules, with no more than 20 credits from the optional modules:

Core modules in the Classics Department

Mod Code	*Module Title*		
CL2GH	Greek History	20	I
CL2RR	Roman Republic	20	I
CL2RE	Roman Empire	20	I

Optional Modules

Mod Code	*Module Title*		
CL2XA	Greece and Egypt	20	I
CL2AM	Greek and Roman Medicine	20	I
CL2AS	Greek and Roman Sculpture	20	I
CL2RL	Greek and Roman Religions	20	I
CL2CM	Classical Mythology	20	I
CL2GD	Greek Drama	20	I
CL2AE1	Ancient Epic I	20	I
CL2GL	Greek Lyric Poetry	20	I
CL2LP	Roman Love Poetry	20	I
CL2LC	Roman Life Cycle	20	I
CL2PS	Plato	20	I
CL2EP	Early Greek Philosophy	20	I
CL2BG	Ancient Greek for Class Stud and Anc Hist	20	I
CL2FG	Further Ancient Greek II	20	I
CL2AG	Advanced Ancient Greek II	20	I
CL2BL	Latin for Class Stud and Anc Hist	20	I
CL2FL	Further Latin II	20	I
CL2AL	Advanced Latin II	20	I
CL2ML	Introduction to Modern Greek Literature	20	I
CL2AP	Greek and Roman Painting	20	I

Students may take IWLP Modern Greek in place of one H module

In the Department of Sociology

Part 2 (three terms)	*Credits*	*Level*

Compulsory modules

| SO2THE | Theory 1: The Classical Tradition | 20 | I |
| SO2STS | Study of Sociology | 10 | I |

And three of the following four modules:

SO2CUL	Sociology of Culture	10	I
SO2POL	Political Sociology	10	I
SO2ECO	Economic Sociology	10	I
SO2STR	Social Stratification	10	I

Of the 120 credits in Part 2, 5 are taken up by Career Management Skills.

Part 3 (three terms)   *Credits*   *Level*

Compulsory Module: may be taken in <u>either</u> Ancient History <u>or</u> Sociology or bridging

| CL3DS or | *Dissertation* | 40 | H |
| SO3DIS | | | |

In Classics:

Students take 40 credits from the following Optional modules:

Optional modules:

Mod Code	*Module Title*		
CL3AB	Ancient Biography	20	H
CL3GG	Ancient Greek Gods	20	H
CL3AR	Aristotle	20	H
CL3CN	Conversion of the Roman Empire	20	H
CL3GD	Gender in Classical Antiquity	20	H
CL3RL	Roman Religions	20	H
CL3AD	Greek Art and Drama	20	H
CL3HL	Hellenistic Philosophy	20	H
CL3LL	Litigation and Life in the Graeco-Roman World	20	H
CL3NC	New Comedy	20	H
CL3HO	Odes of Horace	20	H
CL3OA	Oedipus and Antigone in the 20th Century	20	H
CL3PW	Peloponnesian War	20	H
CL3PP	Pornography and Power in the Graeco-Roman World	20	H
CL3RM	Renaissance Medicine	20	H
CL3XC	Rome On Film	20	H
CL3ST	Special Topics in Greek Drama	20	H
CL3TC	Tourism, Classics and National Identity	20	H
CL3UA	Uses and Abuses of Antiquity	20	H
CL3BG	Ancient Greek for Class Stud and Anc Hist	20	H
CL3FG	Further Ancient Greek III	20	H
CL3AG	Advanced Ancient Greek III	20	H
CL3BL	Latin for Class Stud and Anc Hist	20	H
CL3FL	Further Latin III	20	H
CL3AL	Advanced Latin III	20	H
CL3LA	Later Latin Authors	20	H
CL3XB	Introduction to Greek Political Thought	20	H

Students may take IWLP Modern Greek in place of one H module

In the Department of Sociology
Modules summing to a total of 40 credits must be taken. Two of these modules will consist of regular 10-credit options from a list to be provided by the department; the third will be a 20-credit advanced seminar. The topic of the advanced seminar will be selected from the list as well; taught as a seminar, it will be worth 20 credits instead of 10.

Progression requirements
(a) To proceed from Part 1 to Part 2 students should achieve an overall average of 40% in 120 credits taken in the examination, and at least 40% average over both Classical Studies modules and 40% in each compulsory Sociology module.
(b) To proceed from Part 2 to Part 3 students should achieve an overall average of 40% in 120 credits taken in the examination.
(c) In both cases they should achieve not less than 30% in any module except that marks of less than 30% in a total of 20 credits may be condoned, provided that the candidate has pursued the course for the module(s) with reasonable diligence and has not been absent from the examination without reasonable cause.

Summary of teaching and assessment
Teaching is through seminars, lectures and essay tutorials. Over the programme as a whole, assessment will be conducted through a mixture of assessed coursework and formal examination. The Dissertation module is supported by workshops and individual supervision. The Dissertation is assessed both as coursework and through oral presentation.

The conventions for classification are included in the Programme Handbook but you should note that weighting between Part 2 and Part 3 for classification purposes is 33% and 67%.

Admission requirements
No previous experience of Ancient History or Sociology is required for admission. Entrants should have achieved:
UCAS Tariff : 280 points from 3 A2 and 1 A/S; or 260 points from 3 A2 levels.
GNVQ (Adv): B in A level plus distinction in GNVQ (Adv) – 12 modules of GNVQ (Adv) + pass 4 additional modules
International Baccalaureate: 30 points
Irish Leaving Certificate: BBBBC

All applicants are considered on their individual merits and the Department may vary these requirements if it sees fit.

Mature applicants. Applications from mature candidates are welcomed. A mature applicant is more likely to receive an offer of a place if he or she has undertaken recent study, for example two or more A levels or an Access course, but each case is assessed on its individual merits. We recommend that you contact an admissions tutor as soon as possible to discuss your individual circumstances.

International applicants. Applications from international candidates are welcomed. If you are not offering A levels we advise you to contact either the EU or the international admissions tutor before applying in order to discuss the acceptability of your qualifications. IELTS Band 7 (or equivalent) will be required for those whose education has not been undertaken in English.

Applicants wishing to make any inquiries should contact the Admissions Secretary or the Admissions Tutor. The current Admissions Secretary is Rhianedd Smith who can be contacted by:
Telephone – 0118 931 6990
Email – admissions-classics@rdg.ac.uk
Fax – 0118 931 6661
As well as by post.

Support for students and their learning
University support for students and their learning falls into two categories. Learning support includes IT Services, which has several hundred computers and the University Library, which across its three sites holds over a million volumes, subscribes to around 4,000 current periodicals, has a range of electronic sources of information and houses the Learning Resource Centre with some 200 workstations. There are language laboratory facilities both for those students studying on a modern-language degree and for those taking modules offered by the Institution-wide Language Programme. Student guidance and welfare support is provided by the Careers Advisory Service, the University's Special Needs Advisor, Study Advisors, Hall Wardens and the Students' Union. Support for students in their studies is provided through

the University's Personal Academic Record (PAR) Scheme, in which students meet their personal tutors regularly to review progress.

Departmental Handbooks are provided to students in the first year. They are also available on the Internet. The Departmental Libraries contain a range of reference works which can be used by students and offer congenial study spaces. There is also full written feedback on essay work. Each module teacher gives personal guidance and feedback and sends termly reports on progress to Personal Tutors for discussion with students. The Department of Classics is the curator of the Ure Museum of Greek Archaeology. Advice on statistical computing is available from computing staff of the School of Applied Statistics, and copies of software manuals are held in the computing library

Career prospects
In recent years students who have gained degrees in Ancient History and Sociology have gone into a wide variety of jobs, including teaching, publishing, journalism, the media, management, administration, and public relations. A number of graduates each year go on to further academic study and research.

Opportunities for study abroad
The Departments of Classics and Sociology have various links under the Socrates programme and with the University of Calgary through which students can spend a period of study abroad (normally during Part 2).

Educational aims of the programme
This is a multi-disciplinary programme which aims to provide students with subject-specific knowledge and more general skills, including knowledge of a variety of Classical history, art, literature and their reception in modern culture. In Sociology, the aims are educational and practical. Intellectually, members of staff aim to widen students' capacities for critical thinking, analysis and problem solving, asking questions and deconstructing the arguments of others. Students also learn a variety of explanatory schemata and their application in understanding them in social life. Practically, the programme imparts technical skills: statistical methods and computer-related analytical skills, use of IT, enhanced writing capacity through continuous assessment. The course, as a whole, aims to foster an independent approach to formulating problems and arguments, using the close reading and analytical skills that are fundamental to both disciplines. The programme also provides for the development of the specific interests of students through independent study for the dissertation, in which a topic is approached from the perspectives of both disciplines.

Programme Outcomes

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, skills, qualities and other attributes in the following areas:

Knowledge and Understanding

A. Knowledge and understanding of:	**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**
➢ the history of antiquity ➢ a diverse range of primary materials ➢ a range of problems of interpretation and evaluation of primary materials ➢ a range of techniques and methodologies ➢ the reception of Graeco-Roman culture in the West ➢ facts about the nature of social life and their application and understanding of particular forms of social life ➢ facts about a variety of human societies, past and present, European and non-European ➢ core aspects of modern societies ➢ the use of historical and comparative methods in understanding human societies ➢ the use of statistical methods in the study of patterns of human behaviour.	Knowledge and understanding are gained through formal teaching (lectures, seminars, and individual essay feedback), recommended reading, and the writing of essays and a dissertation. *Assessment* Most knowledge is tested through a combination of coursework and formal examination. The Dissertation and an oral presentation also contribute.

Skills and other attributes

B. Intellectual skills – able to:	**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**
➢ engage in analytical and evaluative thinking about texts, sources, arguments and interpretations, independently estimating their relevance to the issue in question, discriminating between opposing theories, and forming judgements on the basis of evidence and argument ➢ negotiate both primary and secondary sources in classical and medieval studies, and demonstrate how they inter-relate ➢ develop creative intelligence in independent research and interpretation. ➢ Use evidence-based reasoning to argue or evaluate a claim ➢ Apply multiple perspectives and levels of explanation to understand behaviour	Skills will be introduced in lectures, developed through reading, writing of essays, dissertation and examination. Through specific focus on topics, issues and texts in seminars, workshops and personal study, students are enabled to develop critical modes of enquiry about the selection and treatment of material. Through essay and dissertation preparation, the research and analytical skills are reinforced which are necessary to form and to validate arguments and judgements. The Dissertation requires students to engage creatively and critically with primary sources and/or historical interpretative works. *Assessment* These skills are assessed in all Parts of the programme by a combination of coursework, essays, oral presentations, dissertation and unseen examinations.

C. Practical skills – able to:
- gather, organise and deploy evidence and information, including visual sources and to show awareness of the consequences of the unavailability of evidence
- develop the capacity for critical judgement in the light of evidence and argument
- select and apply appropriate methodologies in assessing the meaning and significance of evidence or data
- have effective bibliographical and library research skills
- use of IT and a familiarity with statistical methods of enquiry

Teaching/learning methods and strategies
These are developed through the deployment of seminar classes and essay assignments.

Assessment
Coursework and examinations, as well as in the dissertation.
Oral presentation also constitutes a percentage of the assessment of the dissertation if in Ancient History.

D. Transferable skills – able to:
- deploy a range of IT resources effectively
- present material orally in a clear and effective manner
- present material in a written form, with discrimination and lucidity in the use of language, professional referencing, and clear layout
- work creatively, flexibly and adaptably with others
- write and think under pressure and to meet deadlines
- deal effectively with a variety of visual material and numerical data;
- evaluate evidence and use reasoned arguments
- identify and devise strategies for solving problems;
- work effectively in a team;
- locate information and use a range of information technology effectively;
- make informed career plans.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies
In lectures and seminars and applied in self-study and writing of assignments. The use of IT is embedded throughout the programme, as well as being included in specific units in Sociology. Time management is essential for the effective completion of the programme. Careers management is taught in Part 2.

Assessment
Coursework and examinations, as well as in the dissertation.

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably expect to achieve and demonstrate, if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in module and programme handbooks.