BA in Archaeology and Italian UCAS code: VR63
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):	Archaeology; Languages and Related Studies
Faculty of Science	Programme length: 4 years

Date of specification: April 2007
Programme Director: Dr Mary Lewis
Programme Adviser: Dr Shirley Vinall
Board of Studies: Archaeology and Italian
Accreditation: Not appropriate

Summary of programme aims
The programme aims to provide a complementary balance of degree-level education in Archaeology and Italian. The Archaeology element combines practical experience (on the Silchester Field School and in the laboratory) with academic study of the archaeology of the pre- and proto-historic or historic periods of Europe and the Mediterranean region. The Italian element aims to equip students with the ability to communicate competently in spoken and written Italian, and to give them a sound knowledge of a range of aspects of Italian culture, history and society, selected in accordance with individual academic interests. Students will expand the range, depth and sophistication of their knowledge through the structured progression of the programme through Parts 1, 2 and 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 enhance their skills relating to career management, communication (both written and oral), information handling, problem-solving, team working and use of information technology.

Archaeology and Italian are both disciplines that lend themselves to critical judgement and problem-solving, both through personal engagement with issues and through dialogue and group discussion. Integral to Archaeology is the collection, collation and analysis of substantial quantities of material and its communication and presentation, together with the ability to think comparatively and cross-culturally. Cross-cultural thinking is developed also through the Italian course, which encourages students to develop their abilities to deal with intellectual problems effectively by locating information, assessing it critically, communicating independent points of view logically and clearly (both orally and in writing), and substantiating opinions with evidence. Students of this programme utilise the powerful tools of research, analysis, and presentation associated with information technology 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. Through practical and field work in Archaeology they will also have the opportunity to develop proficiency in decision-making, and a sense of personal and group responsibility: the year in Italy provides further opportunities for independent decision-making, independent working, and the organisation of one's own time.

Programme content
The profile which follows states which modules must be taken (the compulsory part) together with one or more lists of modules from which the student must make a selection (the option modules) for each half of the combined degree. Students must choose such additional modules as

they wish, in consultation with their programme adviser(s), to make 120 credits in each Part. The number of credits for each module is shown after its title. In Part 1 the remaining credits can be made up from any optional modules and/or from modules elsewhere in the University. In Parts 2 and 3, up to 20 credits can be taken from modules available elsewhere in the University.

Part 1 in Archaeology introduces the methods of the discipline of archaeology and reviews basic evidence for past lifestyles and human social development. Part 1 in Italian includes the study of both language (at advanced or beginners' levels) and an introduction to aspects of Italian culture. Part 2 Archaeology provides the opportunity to engage with primary archaeological data through participation on the Silchester Field School, to explore techniques, and approaches to interpretation, and to gain more detailed knowledge of the archaeology of the Mediterranean, Europe and Britain. In Part 2 in Italian students must take one 20-credit Italian language module (the level depends on their previous experience), and two further Italian modules chosen from a range of broadly-based culture modules.

During the year abroad the experience of living in Italy enables students to make great strides in their linguistic skills, particularly their oral and aural ones: by the end of this period the differences between former beginners and other students will have been eliminated. Students further broaden their knowledge of Italian culture by pursuing courses of their own choice (to a value of 40 credits) at an Italian University. They also take a course (to the value of 20 credits) in archaeology and engage in independent research in preparation for their dissertation.

In Part 3, there is an increasing specialisation and progression in both Archaeology and Italian to approach topics in greater depth through the provision of more specialised optional modules. At this stage students take one further language module and complete their dissertations.

Part 1 (three terms)	*Credits*	*Level*

Students must take at least two Archaeology modules (40 credits), including the compulsory module *Archaeological Practice*, and the compulsory Italian module(s) (to the value of 40 credits), and make up a further 40 credits chosen either from other modules in Archaeology and/or the optional module in Italian, or from modules available elsewhere in the University.

In the Department of Archaeology

Compulsory module

AR1TS1	*Archaeological Practice*	20	C

Choose one or two modules

AR1P1	*Introduction to World Prehistory*	20	C
AR1RM1	*Introduction to Historical Archaeology*	20	C

In the Department of Italian Studies

Compulsory modules

For advanced students:

IT1001	*Advanced Italian Language I*	20	C
IT1002	*Twentieth-Century Italian Culture*	20	C

For students without A level (including complete beginners):

IT1003	*Italian Language (Elementary) and Culture*	40	C

Optional module (open to all students):

IT1004	*Italian Mediaeval and Renaissance Culture (in translation)*	20	C

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

There are two compulsory modules in Archaeology (20 credits) and one in Italian (20 credits), plus a number of optional modules, totalling 120 credits. However, those interested in a broader degree may substitute up to 20 credits chosen from modules available elsewhere in the University. Of the 120 credits, 5 are taken up by Career Management Skills.

In the Department of Archaeology [60 credits]

Compulsory modules   *20 credits*

AR2F4	*Silchester Field School Joint Honours* (summer vacation)	10	I
AR2F1	*Professional Skills in Archaeology* (including *Careers Management Skil*ls - 5 credits)	10	I

40 credits

Modules (totalling 40 credits) to be chosen from:

AR2P5	*The Middle Palaeolithic of Europe & SW Asia*	20	I
AR2P6	*Later Prehistoric Europe*	20	I
AR2R1	*'Celts' and Romans in Northern Europe*	20	I
AR2M1	*Post-Roman & Early Medieval Europe*	20	I
AR2M2	*Later Medieval Europe*	20	I
AR2S1	*Archaeological Science*	20	I
GG2P3	*Human Activity & Environmental Change*	10	I
GO2K5	*Forensic Geology & Analysis*	10	I
AR2T1	*Archaeological Thought*	10	I
AR2F5	*Techniques in Artefact Interpretation*	10	I
AR2F6	*Techniques in Skeletal Interpretation*	10	I

In the Department of Italian Studies (60 credits)

Compulsory modules (to total of 20 credits)
Either:

IT201	*Advanced Italian Language II*	20	I

Or:

IT202	*Intermediate Italian Language*	20	I

Two of the following optional modules (to total of 40 credits). (Not all optional modules will be available in any one year; the availability of all optional modules is subject to availability of staff and will require a minimum number of participants.)

IT203	*History of the Italian Language*	20	I
IT204	*Introduction to the Renaissance: Boccaccio, Humanism and Machiavelli*	20	I
Either IT205	*Italian Cinema I: Introduction to Film Study, Neorealism, War and Resistance*	20	I
Or IT206	*Italian Cinema II: Popular Genre Cinema*	20	I
IT207	*Italian History and Society since 1945*	20	I
IT208	*Italian Modernism*	20	I

IT209	*Italian Narrative and Poetry in the Nineteenth Century*	20	I
IT2WW	*Writing Women in Early Modern Italy (1300-1650)*	20	I
IT2CON	*Contemporary Italian Literature*	20	I
IT2WCI	*Women in Contemporary Italy (1900-2000): from invisibility to feminism*	20	I

Year abroad (three terms) *Credits Level*

Students take compulsory modules in Italian language (40 credits) and gain credit for courses attended at their Italian university (40 credits). If their dissertation is in Italian, this is also completed this year (40 credits). If their dissertation is in Archaeology, then a further Italian university course is taken in Archaeology (20 credits), and time is spent on preparation for the dissertation (equivalent to 20 credits).

Compulsory modules (to total of 120 credits)

IT331	*Italian Oral*	20	H
IT332	*Italian Written and Oral Presentation*	20	H
IT231	*Credits from Italian University course (1)*	20	I
IT232	*Credits from Italian University course (2)*	20	I
Either			
IT333	*Dissertation (Italian)*	40	H
Or			
AR3I1	*Credits from Italian University course (Archaeology)*	20	I
AR3D1	*Preparation for Dissertation**	(20)	H

Part 3 (three terms) *Credits Level*

Students take 60 credits in Italian, and either complete their dissertation in Archaeology (equivalent of 20 credits) and take two option modules (40 credits), or, if their dissertation is in Italian, take three option modules in Archaeology (60 credits).

In the Archaeology Department
If doing a dissertation in Archaeology:

Mod Code	*Module Title*		
AR3D1	*Dissertation*	20	H

Two of the following selected modules (to total 40 credits):
(Not all optional modules will be available in any one year. The availability of all optional modules is subject to availability of staff and will require a minimum number of participants. Admission to optional modules will be at the discretion of the Programme Director)

AR3S1	*Environmental Archaeology & the Cultural Landscapes of Prehistory*	20	H
AR3S2	*Environment & Landscape in Historic Periods*	20	H
AR3S4	*Micromorphology & the study of early agricultural & urban settlements & landscapes*	20	H
AR3S6	*Palaeopathology*	20	H
AR3S10	*The Archaeology of Food and Nutrition*	20	H
AR3S11	*Information Molecules: biomolecular methods for the archaeologist*	20	H
AR3S9	*Coastal and Maritime Archaeology*	20	H
GG333	*Geographic Information Systems*	20	H
AR3T1	*Burial Archaeology*	20	H

AR3T2	Gender Archaeology: Sex, Sexuality & Gender in the study of the past	20	H
MC3MT	Museum Theory, History & Ethics	20	H
MC3OA	Object Analysis and Museum Interpretation (2007-8 only)	20	H
AR3P4	Early Agricultural Societies in the Mediterranean	20	H
AR3P5	Early Complex Societies in the Mediterranean	20	H
AR3P9	British Prehistory 1: the Age of Stonehenge	20	H
AR3P10	British Prehistory 2: the Age of Hillforts	20	H
AR3P13	The Emergence of Civilisation in Mesopotamia	20	H
AR3P16	Ancient Aegean Landscapes: human interaction with the natural environment between the Neolithic & Classical periods	20	H
AR3P17	Hominins, Hearths and Handaxes: studies in the Lower Palaeolithic of North-west Europe	20	H
AR3R6	Roman Britain	20	H
AR3R4	Roman Material Culture Studies	20	H
AR3M1	The Archaeology of Early Anglo-Saxon England	20	H
AR3M3	Expansion or contraction in twelfth century England	20	H
AR3S1	Environmental Archaeology & the Cultural Landscapes of Prehistory	20	H
AR3S2	Environment & Landscape in Historic Periods	20	H
AR3S4	Micromorphology & the study of early agricultural & urban settlements & landscapes	20	H
AR3S6	Palaeopathology	20	H

If the dissertation is in Italian, *three* of the above modules are taken.

In the Department of Italian Studies:

Students must complete 60 credits in Italian, as follows:

Compulsory module in Italian (20 credits)

IT301	Advanced Italian Language III	20	H

Optional modules (40 credits)
Students must choose two option modules to the value of 40 credits. A complete list of options is available from the Programme Coordinator, and a list of current options can be found in the relevant Departmental Handbook.

Progression requirements
In order to progress from Part 1 to Part 2 students must:
a) Take at least 40 credits in Part 1 Archaeology and 40 credits in Italian.
b) Obtain an overall average of 40% in 120 credits taken in Part 1, including at least 40% in at two of the Part 1 Archaeology modules and at least 40% in each of the two compulsory modules in Italian.
c) Achieve a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to not less than 100 credits taken in Part 1.

In order to progress from Part 2 to The Year Abroad students must:
a) Obtain at least 40% in the compulsory modules in Archaeology.
b) Obtain a mark of at least 40% in either *Advanced Italian Language II* or *Intermediate Italian Language;*
c) Achieve an overall average of 40% in 120 credits taken in Part 2.
d) Achieve a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to not less than 100 credits.

To proceed from the Year Abroad to Part 3 students must satisfy the examiners that they have successfully completed an approved programme of studies at a University in Italy and have handed in the work and assignments required by the programme.

Summary of teaching and assessment
In Part 1 in Italian, language modules are always taught in small groups and the other modules are taught by a mixture of lectures and seminars. In Parts 2 and 3 students are normally taught in small groups for all modules, and when lectures are used they are informal. Most modules are assessed by a mixture of coursework and formal examination. The Credits from Italian University courses will derive from marks obtained in oral examinations set by the Italian university. The Oral in Italian and the Written and Oral Presentation will be examined at the beginning of Part 3.
Some Archaeology modules also involve workshops and practical sessions in the field and laboratory. Modules are assessed by a mixture of coursework and formal examination, with the proportion of coursework (including seminar performance) increasing as the degree progresses. The Silchester Field School is assessed by coursework (a self-assessment document) and an on-site examination. The dissertation in Part 3 comprises a piece of work based on supervised independent study supported by workshops and is assessed entirely by coursework; part of the independent study is conducted during the Year Abroad.

The conventions for classification are included in the Programme Handbook but you should note that weighting between Part 2 (and I Level modules in the Year Abroad) and Part 3 (and H Level modules in the Year Abroad) for classification purposes is 33% and 67%.

Admission requirements
No previous experience of Archaeology or Italian is required for admission. Entrants should have achieved:
Either: 260 points from 3 full A-levels, or: 280 points from 3 A-levels and 1 AS level. Two AS grades are accepted in place of one A-Level.
GNVQ (Adv): B in A level plus distinction in GNVQ (Adv) – 12 modules of GNVQ (Adv) + pass 4 additional modules
International BaccaLaureat: 30 points
Scottish Highers: BBBB
Irish Leaving Certificate: BBBBC

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 or is undertaking recent study, for example one or more A levels or an Access course, but each case is assessed on its individual merits. You are advised to contact an Admissions Tutor as soon as possible to discuss your individual circumstances.

Applications from international students are welcomed. If you are not offering A-levels or an International Baccalaureat, we advise you to contact an 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.

Admissions Tutor: Dr H Eckardt

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 Student Access to Independent Learning (S@IL) computer-based teaching and learning facilities. There are language laboratory facilities both for those students reading for a modern-language degree and for those taking

modules offered by the Institution-wide Language Programme. Student guidance and welfare support is provided by Personal Tutors, 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 their progress.

The Departmental Handbooks issued to Part 1 and to degree course students provide extensive information on resources and study skills. The Archaeology Department occupies a purpose-built structure with further shared facilities providing a research laboratory, teaching laboratories, computer laboratories, and space for undergraduates to work in the Department (including a Reading Room). There are also traditional and digital drawing office facilities; geophysical and tacheometric survey equipment; excavation equipment; soil and sediment coring equipment; audio-visual resources. The University Library is well stocked with works relating to many different aspects of both archaeology and Italian culture. The Italian Departmental Library contains a range of reference works which can be used by students and offers a congenial study space. The University Language Centre (ULC) contains a range of audio and audio-visual materials to promote self-study in languages, together with facilities for watching Italian television by satellite. The Faculty of Arts and Humanities possesses a video suite to support cinema studies.

Career prospects
The degree in Archaeology and Italian at Reading offers a firm foundation qualification in the humanities, together with skills relevant to many careers and life-long learning, especially the learning of languages. Graduates in Archaeology and in Italian have found that their degree course has been a good basis for careers in teaching (including teaching English as a foreign language abroad), management, administration, the civil service, commerce (especially the travel industry), law, publishing, and librarianship. The emphasis on field and practical training in the Archaeology part offers a broad range of vocational skills leading to careers in field archaeology, museums and heritage management, in addition to those of communication and problem-solving. Graduates in Archaeology and in Italian have also gone on to postgraduate courses at Reading and elsewhere. Whether direct from a BA degree, or after graduate study, a number of graduates have found positions in UK and European archaeology.

Opportunities for study abroad or for placements
The Department of Italian Studies participates in SOCRATES exchanges with the Universities of Padova, Roma III, Firenze, Siena, Pisa, Pavia, Genova, Napoli (Federico II), Bologna, Bergamo, and Venezia. Students spend the whole of the third year studying at one of these Universities. Further information on these Universities is available on the Internet at http://www.rdg.ac.uk/italian/courses/undergraduate/year%20abroad.htm

Educational aims of the programme
This is a multi-disciplinary programme which aims to provide a thorough degree-level education in Archaeology and Italian. The syllabus aims to familiarise students with selected aspects of the archaeology of prehistoric, proto-historic, Roman and medieval Europe and the Mediterranean region, and to produce graduates who are competent communicators in Italian and have a sound knowledge of a range of aspects of Italian culture, history and society. It also provides students with the opportunity to study more thematic topics in depth. The programme 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 is distinctive in its emphasis on the application of archaeological techniques, through practical experience in the Silchester Field School and laboratory-based modules. The programme provides for the development of the specific interests of students through independent study and, specifically, the dissertation. Students will expand the range, depth and sophistication through the structured progression through Parts 1, 2, and 3 of the programme.

The programme also aims to develop skills of critical analysis: students will be able to think comparatively and cross-culturally, to draw conclusions from literary and archaeological evidence and to communicate these through written media. Through practical experience they will gain proficiency in problem-solving and decision-making, numeracy, information technology and working with data. Experience of teamwork in the field assists in developing skills of communication and a sense of personal and group responsibility. Through their coursework students develop skills of oral expression, independent learning, and the critical analysis of data.

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
1. the growth of archaeology as a discipline, and current practice within its wider political, social and institutional context; 2. the development of selected human societies from our earliest ancestors to the medieval period, particularly in Europe and the Mediterranean; 3. the Italian language; 4. selected aspects of Italian literature, history and culture; 5. a diverse range of primary source material and evidence, their variability and reliability; 6. a range of problems of dating, interpretation and evaluation of primary materials in their historical, political and social context; 7. a range of techniques and methodologies, including scientific methods in Archaeology.	Knowledge and understanding are gained through formal teaching (lectures, seminars, small-group classes, and individual essay feedback), recommended reading, and the writing of essays and a dissertation. Knowledge of practical techniques and methodologies are further developed through participation in the Silchester Field School, and in dedicated modules by problem-oriented class work. At Part 1, Italian is taught at three distinct levels: beginners, intermediate and advanced. Separate teaching is maintained throughout Part 2, but after the year in Italy all students follow the same courses. Teaching is always in small groups, with different classes being devoted to grammar, oral and aural skills, reading and writing skills and translation. Audio-visual resources are used as appropriate and the use of self-access facilities is encouraged. Regular non-assessed coursework is set, and considerable emphasis is based on individual study. The Year Abroad provides experience in the use of everyday Italian and the opportunity to follow University courses. In all Parts students are expected to undertake independent reading on the basis of bibliographies issued for each module, and prepare essays and seminar papers. The dissertation provides an opportunity for the further development of independent research. *Assessment* Most knowledge is tested by a combination of coursework and formal examination, except that in most practical-based modules it is examined entirely by coursework; the dissertation is mostly by coursework. In Part 3, oral presentations also contribute. Language work is assessed by oral and written examinations. The Italian University courses are assessed by oral examinations.

Skills and other attributes

B. Intellectual skills – Students will be able:	**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**
1. to assess the character and quality of archaeological data; 2. to engage in analytical and evaluative thinking about texts, sources, arguments and interpretations; 3. to synthesise and integrate evidence from multiple and diverse sources; 4. to recognise and to evaluate past and current theoretical approaches and competing interpretations critically, independently estimating their relevance to the issue in question; 5. to think comparatively and cross-culturally; 6. to think critically and independently, forming judgements on the basis of evidence and argument; 7. to locate, extract and assemble data and information; 8. to organise material in order to synthesise and articulate an argument effectively.	These skills are developed throughout the programme. Skills will be introduced in lectures, developed through reading, writing of essays, dissertation and examination, with individual feedback provided on content and organisation of essays. Independent thinking is developed especially through the dissertation module for which initial preparation and regular support are provided. *Assessment* These skills are assessed in all Parts of the programme by a combination of coursework, essays, oral presentations, dissertation and examination.

C. Practical skills – students will be able :	**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**
1. to identify, excavate, record and analyse archaeological stratigraphy, features and deposits, and to recognise and interpret archaeological traces in the landscape; 2. to speak, write, read and understand Italian at high or near-native levels of proficiency; 3. to gather, organise and deploy evidence and information, and to show awareness of the consequences of the unavailability of evidence; 4. to develop the capacity for critical judgement in the light of evidence and argument; 5. to select and apply appropriate methodologies in assessing the meaning and significance of evidence or data 6. to have effective bibliographical, internet and library research skills; 7. to plan and carry out a primary research project, working independently. 8 to make clearly-constructed written and oral presentations;	These are developed through the deployment of small-group classes, seminar classes and essay assignments, and through participation in the Silchester Field School and in problem-oriented class work. Oral presentation also constitutes a percentage of the assessment of the dissertation. Language classes are compulsory throughout the programme and there is regular coursework: the marks for this work are given for guidance and do not contribute to the final module mark. The Year Abroad provides a range of experiences in the use of everyday and academic Italian. Primary source material and much secondary literature is in Italian. Bibliographies are provided for all modules, students are trained in library use, and many modules provide experience searching for information via the Internet. Departmental Handbooks provide guidance in preparing coursework essays and dissertations. Students regularly give oral presentations and write essays and are given feedback on them. In the latter half of the programme the dissertation and, in some cases, extended essays provided experience of researching topics independently. *Assessment* Coursework and examinations, as well as in the dissertation

D. Transferable skills – Students will be able:

1. to communicate clearly and effectively in speech and in a variety of types of writing, showing discrimination and lucidity in the use of language, professional referencing, and clear layout;
2. apply language skills to learn languages other than Italian;
3. to deal effectively with a variety of visual material and numerical data;
4. to identify and devise strategies for solving problems;
5. to work effectively in a team;
6. to locate information and use a range of information technology effectively;
7. to organise their own time purposefully and work independently;
8. to make informed career plans.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

In lectures and seminars and applied in self-study and writing of assignments, as well as through the Field School and in the practical elements of several Archaeology modules. Sensitivity to cultural difference informs the whole programme and, together with the development of self-motivation and self-reliance, is greatly encouraged by the Year Abroad. Career management is taught through a distinct Part 2 module linked with other professional skills in Archaeology.

Assessment

Coursework, oral presentations, 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 be expected 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 the module description and in the programme handbook. The University reserves the right to modify this specification in unforeseen circumstances, or where the process of academic development and feedback from students, quality assurance processes or external sources, such as professional bodies, requires a change to be made. In such circumstances, a revised specification will be issued.