**BA English with Classical Studies**           **UCAS code: Q3Q8**
**For students entering Part 1 in 2007**

Awarding Institution:          The University of Reading
Teaching Institution:          The University of Reading
Relevant QAA subject benchmarking group(s):      English; Classics & Ancient History
Faculty of Arts and Humanities          Programme length: 3 years
Date of specification: August 2007
Programme Director: Dr Andrew Nash
Programme Adviser: Dr David Carter
Board of Studies: English and Classics
Accreditation: not applicable

**Summary of programme aims and learning outcomes**
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 different kinds of English texts and Classical literature, art, philosophy, and their reception in modern culture, as well as perspectives on different methods of critical analysis. The programme also aims to foster an independent approach to formulating problems and arguments, using the close reading and analytical skills that are fundamental to both disciplines. There is provision for the development of students' specific interests through independent study for the dissertation.

**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, problem-solving, team working and use of information technology.

On completion of this programme, students are expected to have developed a range of transferable skills including: fluency in writing and oral communication, the ability to formulate and evaluate their own arguments and those of others, to translate subject-specific knowledge and skills to new environments, the ability to find and use relevant information resources, to manage their time effectively, to use basic word-processing and IT skills, and to work co-operatively with others.

**Programme content**
Each Part of the degree programme comprises 120 credits. In Part 1, students must take 60 credits in English, and a minimum of 40 credits in Classical Studies. In Parts 2 and 3 students must normally take 80 credits in English and 40 credits in Classics each year. In consultation with the programme adviser, however, they may choose to take up to 20 credits each year from modules available elsewhere in the University.

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

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

**In English**
*Compulsory modules*

| | | Credits | Level |
|---|---|---|---|
| EN1LL | *Languages of Literature* | 20 | C |
| EN1RS | *Revisioning Shakespeare* | 20 | C |
| EN1WKT | *What Kind of Text is This?* | 20 | C |

**In Classical Studies**

*Compulsory modules*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CL1CA | *Greek & Roman Civilisations A: Fifth Century Athens* | 20 | C |
| CL1CB | *Greek & Roman Civilisations B: Rome in the Augustan Age* | 20 | C |

*Optional modules*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CL1GM | *Greek Myths* | 20 | C |

| **Part 2 (three terms)   Intermediate level** | *Credits* | *Level* |
|---|---|---|

**In English (80 credits)**

Students choose 4 modules in Part 2—two in the Autumn term and two in the Spring. At least one module in each term must be an asterisked module. Not more than one module may be chosen from any one group.

*Autumn Term*

Group A

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| EN2RTC | *\*Renaissance Texts & Cultures* | 20 | I |
| EN2MC1 | *Modernism and Modern Poetry* | 20 | I |
| EN2RR | *The Eighteenth-Century: Restoration to Romantics* | 20 | I |

*Group B*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| EN2CMN | *\*Chaucer and Medieval Narrative* | 20 | I |
| EN2NCN | *Nineteenth-Century Novel* | 20 | I |
| EN2WAR | *Writing America: Romances of Nationhood* | 20 | I |

*Group C*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| EN2RDR | *\*Renaissance Drama* | 20 | I |
| EN2LCT | *Literary Criticism & Theory* | 20 | I |
| EN2WF1 | *Women's Writing and Feminist Theory 1* | 20 | I |
| EN2OEL | *\*Introduction to Old English* | 20 | I |

*Spring Term*

Group A

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| EN2ERE | *\*English Renaissance Epic* | 20 | I |
| EN2MC2 | *Modernity, Crisis and Narrative Fiction* | 20 | I |
| EN2RD | *Romantics to Decadents* | 20 | I |

*Group B*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| EN2LV | *\*Lyric Voices 1340 – 1650* | 20 | I |
| EN2MDR | *Modern Drama* | 20 | I |
| EN2WAS | *Writing America: Self, Race, Region* | 20 | I |
| EN2CAW | *Communications at Work* | 20 | I |

*Group C*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| EN2SH | *\*Shakespeare* | 20 | I |
| EN2WF2 | *Women's Writing and Feminist Theory 2* | 20 | I |
| EN2FN | *Film Narrative* | 20 | I |

Special Module:

Students may, with the permission of the Programme Director, replace one of their English modules with the following special module:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| EN2CW | *Creative Writing and Critical Practice* | 20 | I |

**In Classical Studies (40 credits)**

Students will take at least one core module (20 credits) and a further 20 credits from among **either** core **or** option modules.

*Core Modules*

| Mod Code | Module Title | | |
|----------|-------------|---|---|
| CL2AE1 | Ancient Epic I | 20 | I |
| CL2GD | Greek Drama | 20 | I |
| CL2LP | Roman Love Poetry | 20 | I |

*Optional modules: A complete list of options is available from the BA Programme Coordinator, and a list of current options can be found in the BA Programme Handbook. Part 2 modules normally include options in classical Literature, History, Art, Culture and Reception. Students may also take MC1AM, MC20A, MC3OA, MC3MT, and PP2PA, which are cross-listed modules.* Of the 120 credits in Part 2, 5 are taken up by Careers Management Skills.

Students may choose to replace one 20 credit intermediate module from English or Classics with a module or modules totalling 20 credits from outside the programme, e.g. IWLP.

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

**In English (80 credits)**
*Compulsory*

| EN3DIS | *Dissertation* | 40 | H |
|--------|---------------|----|---|

In addition, students choose optional modules totalling 40 credits. A complete list of options is available from the Programme Advisor and in the English Part 3 Module Supplement. Admission to optional modules will be at the discretion of the Programme Advisor.

**In Classical Studies**
*Students select optional modules totalling 40 credits. A complete list of optional modules is available from the BA Programme Coordinator,and a list of current options can be found in the BA Programme Handbook. Part 3 modules normally include a range of cross-disciplinary options. Students may also take MC20A, MC3OA, MC3MT, and PP2PA, which are cross-listed modules.*

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

**Progression requirements**
To proceed from Part 1 to Part 2, a Joint Honours student must obtain (i) an overall average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 1, where all the credits are at C level or above; (ii) a mark of at least 40% in each English module; (iii) a weighted average of at least 40% over the modules CL1CA and CL1CB; (iv) a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to not less than 100 credits taken in Part 1.

To proceed from Part 2 to Part 3, students must obtain (i) an overall average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 2; (ii) an average of 40% across English Part 2 modules; (iii) a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to not less than 100 credits taken in Part 2.

**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 essays and formal examination. The Dissertation module is supported by workshops and individual supervision.
Conventions for degree 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 Classical Studies is required for admission. Entrants to the joint degree programme are normally required to have obtained:
**UCAS Tariff**: *either* 300 points from three A2s, including 100 points (grade B) in English Literature or English Language and Literature; *or* 320 points from 3 A2s + up to two AS, including 100 points (grade B) in English Literature or English Language and Literature
**GNVQ** (Adv): B in A level plus distinction in GNVQ (Adv) – 12 modules of GNVQ (Adv) + pass 4 additional modules
**Scottish Highers**: BBBBB
**Irish Leaving Certificate**: BBBBC
**International Baccalaureat**: 30 points with at least 6 for Higher level English Literature
**GCSE/O**: English Language preferred, grade C or above

Mature candidates will be usually be expected to have a B (100 points) at A level English, or equivalent qualifications, but consideration is also given to applicants with other qualifications and experience.

Admissions tutor: Mrs Carolyn Lyle

**Support for students and their learning**
University support for students and their learning falls into two categories. Student guidance and welfare support is provided by Personal Tutors, the Study Advice Team, the University's Special Needs Adviser, Hall Wardens, the Students' Union and the Careers Advisory Service. 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 studying on a language degree and for those taking modules offered by the Institution-wide Language Programme. Transferable skills are supported by the Skills Opportunities At Reading (SOAR) website with links to information about resources and events offered by the Library, IT Services, Study Advisers, RUSU, Mathematics Support Centre and the University Language Centre.

The School of English and American Literature also offers students specific help to improve and develop their essay writing skills through the Royal Literary Fund Fellowship scheme, which provides a resident professional writer whose role is to advise students individually, from first-year to postgraduate level, on raising the level of their academic writing.

Students receive Handbooks from both English and Classical Studies which give details of the programme, guidance on study skills such as note-taking and essay writing, and information about staff, facilities, and sources of specialized help within the University, such as the Study Skills Advisor and the Counselling Service. Both components of the programme are designed to to support students throughout their degree course while encouraging more independent work in Part 3. Academic feedback and guidance is given through one-to-one essay tutorials, and academic and personal support is provided through the tutor system and the University's Personal and Academic Record (PAR) Scheme. Dissertation workshops prepare students for the Part 3 dissertation which is individually supervised. The Geoffrey Matthews Collection, housed in the

School of English, contains books, xeroxed materials, cassettes and videos for loan to students, and a video-viewing suite is available within the Faculty. The Library's collection of electronic databases includes the OED, the MLA Bibliography, and the DNB on CD ROM, and such on-line resources as JSTOR and First Search. Specialist subject librarians are available to give students advice and guidance to library resources. The Department of Classics is the Curator of the Ure Museum of Greek Archaeology.

## Career prospects

In recent years students who have gained degrees in English with Classical Studies 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 also go on to further academic study and research. More generally, the degree programme provides graduates with a range of communication and analytical skills that will serve them in good stead in the marketplace. In addition to the help provided by the University Careers Advisory Service, SEAL has a Careers Tutor available to advise students in English on researching and planning their career choices.

## Opportunities for study abroad

Students may, with permission, opt to spend the Autumn term during Part 2 abroad at one of the European universities with which Reading has a Socrates exchange agreement. They would actively participate in courses abroad, experience the teaching and learning processes of another institution, learn or improve their knowledge of a European language, and enhance their curriculum vitae. Students opting for the term abroad will take the equivalent of 60 SEAL credits at Intermediate level while abroad. These will count towards final degree classification. Students are also encouraged to apply to the British School at Athens, where they may take a module for credit, and the British School at Rome.

There may also be opportunities to spend one term in the United States via the American Studies exchange programme.

## Educational aims of the programme

The programme aims to develop students' knowledge and understanding of a wide range of English texts and works of Classical literature, art and philosophy. It also aims to promote an informed and self-reflective awareness of procedures of critical and cultural analysis, and, by exposing students to a variety of learning experiences, to equip them with broad transferable skills of potential value to future employers.

**Programme Outcomes**

*Knowledge and Understanding*

**A. Knowledge and understanding of:**

1. Literary texts in English from selected periods between the Middle Ages and the present day
2. A range of kinds of texts including fiction, poetry and drama
3. Methods of critical textual analysis
4. Ways in which social, cultural and historical issues relate to texts
5. A range of approaches in English studies
6. Selected special fields of English
7. The literature, thought, art and religion of Graeco-Roman culture
8. A diverse range of ancient evidence.
9. A range of problems of interpretation and evaluation of ancient evidence.
10. The reception of Graeco-Roman culture in the West.

**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**

Knowledge and understanding are gained through formal teaching (lectures, seminar discussions, and individual essay feedback), prescribed and recommended reading, and the writing of essays and a dissertation. Part 1 offers a broad introduction to 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8. In Part 2 the understanding and skills acquired in Part 1 are developed with particular emphasis on 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 9, and 10 through seminars, lectures and individual feedback. Part 3 introduces more specialized study, particularly in relation to 3, 5, 6, through a choice of seminar-based modules together with supervised, independent study leading to a dissertation.

*Assessment*
In Parts 1 and 2, knowledge and understanding of 1 – 5 and 7-10 are tested through a combination of essays and unseen written examinations. In Part 3, assessment is through a mixture of methods, such as extended essays, essays plus unseen exams, and the dissertation.

*Skills and other attributes*

**B. Intellectual skills** :

1. Capacity for independent analysis and research
2. Identification of problems and issues
3. The ability to read closely and critically
4. An ability to reflect on one's own positions

**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**

Intellectual skills are acquired through independent reading (1), seminar preparation and discussion, and essay writing (1, 2, 3) and essay feedback through tutorials (2, 3 and 4).

**Assessment**
1 – 3 are assessed both formatively in coursework essays, and summatively in essays, unseen exams and the dissertation.
1- 4 are assessed formatively through seminar discussion and essay feedback and tutorials.

**C. Practical skills**:
**In English**
1. The ability to criticize and formulate interpretations of texts
2. An ability to engage in critical argument using relevant theoretical approaches
3. An awareness of the rhetorical resources of the English language
4. Bibliographical and research skills
5. A knowledge of appropriate conventions in the presentation of written work
6. An ability to relate the study of English to cultural and social issues

**In Classical Studies –** able to
1. Gather, organize and deploy evidence and information, and to show awareness of the consequences of the unavailability of evidence.
2. Develop the capacity for critical judgement in the light of evidence and argument.
3. Select and apply appropriate method-ologies in assessing the meaning and significance of evidence or data.
4. Deploy effective bibliographical and library based research skills.

**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**
**In English**
1 – 3 and 6 are developed in seminars, essays and essay tutorials. 4 and 5 are developed through essays, essay feedback and dissertation guidance and supervision.

*Assessment*
All the subject specific practical skills are assessed through formative and summative essays, and through the Dissertation. 1 – 3 and 6 are also tested in unseen examinations.

**In Classical Studies**
These are developed through the deployment of seminar classes and essay assignments.

*Assessment*
Coursework and examinations

**D. Transferable skills**:

1. Fluency in written and oral communication
2. The ability to formulate and present arguments
3. Assessing the merits of competing approaches
4. The ability to translate subject-specific knowledge and skills into other environments
5. The ability to find and use relevant information resources
6. Time –management skills
7. A creative approach to problem-solving
8. Group and interpersonal skills
9. An ability to self-evaluate and self-reflect
10. Use of information technology, especially word-processing

**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**

Transferable skills are developed through seminar discussions (1, 2, 3, 4, 7 and 9), through seminar presentations, essay writing, tutorial feedback and unseen examinations (1 – 9). 4 and 7 particularly are developed through requiring students to draw on acquired knowledge and skills when analyzing new material in essays and unseen examinations. 5 and 10 are developed through use of the library and other sources of information, for seminar preparation, essay writing and research for the dissertation. We require that all summatively assessed essays are word-processed (10).

*Assessment*
1 – 7 and 9 are formatively assessed through coursework essays and seminar presentations, and summatively assessed through essays, unseen examinations, and the dissertation. 9 is encouraged through essay feedback and essay tutorials. 8 is encouraged through seminars and in tutorials.