

BA Ancient History
For students entering Part 1 in 2008/9

UCAS code: V110

Awarding Institution:	University of Reading
Teaching Institution:	University of Reading
Relevant QAA subject Benchmarking group(s):	Classics and Ancient History
Faculty:	Faculty of Arts and Humanities
Programme length:	3 years
Date of specification:	12/Aug/2009
Programme Director:	Dr David Carter
Programme Advisor:	
Board of Studies:	Classics
Accreditation:	

Summary of programme aims

The programme aims to provide a thorough degree level education in Ancient History. The syllabus aims to familiarise students with the core chronological and geographical range of Greek and Roman cultures, whilst providing them with the opportunity to study more thematic topics in depth. The programme also provides for the development of the specific historical interests of students through independent study and specifically the dissertation. Students are encouraged to include elements of ancient languages throughout their degree programme. Students will expand the range, depth and sophistication of their knowledge of Ancient History through the structured progression of Parts 1, 2, and 3 of the programme.

Transferable skills

During the course of their studies at Reading, all students will be expected to enhance their academic and personal transferable skills in line with the University's Strategy for Learning and Teaching. In following this programme, students will have had the opportunity to develop such skills, in particular relating to communication, interpersonal skills, learning skills, numeracy, self-management, use of IT and problem-solving, and will have been encouraged to further develop and enhance the full set of skills through a variety of opportunities available outside their curriculum.

Programme content

Part 1 introduces students to the study of Greek and Roman Civilisations, with a particular emphasis upon the development of the study of primary sources and source criticism, alongside the development of historical writing skills to explore specific historical topics. Students are encouraged to take an additional 20 credits as well in Greek Myths. Part 2 develops the student's knowledge of the chronological changes within the period of study via compulsory core modules which also develop their historical skills. In addition, students choose three option modules that are either more thematic or add greater depth than the core modules. In Part 3, there is an increasing specialisation and progression to approach topics in greater depth through the provision of optional modules and the opportunity to research a dissertation topic in depth. Students take 120 credits per year.

Not all options will necessarily be available every year. Admission to options will be at the discretion of the Programme Director.

In Parts 2 and 3, up to 20 credits can be taken from modules available elsewhere in the University.

Part 1 (three terms)

Compulsory modules

CL1CA	The Civilization of Fifth-Century Athens	20	C
CL1CB	Rome in the Augustan Age	20	C

Optional Modules

CL1GM	Greek Myths	20	C
CL1G1	Ancient Greek 1	20	C
or			
CL2G2	Ancient Greek 2	20	I
or			
CL2G3	Ancient Greek 3	20	I

CL1L1	Latin 1	20	C
or			
CL2L2	Latin 2	20	I
or			
CL2L3	Latin 3	20	I

Part 2 (three terms)

Compulsory modules

<i>Mod Code</i>	<i>Module Title</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Level</i>
CL2GH	Greek History: Archaic Age to Alexander	20	I
CL2RE	Roman Empire	20	I
CL2RR	Roman Republic	20	I
CL2CMS	Career Management Skills	5	I

Optional modules: A complete list of optional modules is available from the Programme Director, 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.

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

Career Management Skills (delivered in module CL2CMS) contributes 5 credits' worth of marks to the average for Part 2.

Part 3 (three terms)

Compulsory modules

<i>Mod Code</i>	<i>Module Title</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Level</i>
CL3DS	Dissertation in Classics	40	H

Optional modules: A complete list of optional modules is available from the Programme Director, 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 students must:

1. Obtain at least 40% in the module CL1CA and at least 40 % in the module CL1CB;
2. Achieve an overall average of 40% in 120 credits taken in the examination;
3. Achieve not less than 30% in any module, except that marks of less than 30% in a total of 20 credits may be condoned.

To proceed from Part 2 to Part 3 students must:

1. Achieve an overall average of 40% in 120 credits taken in the examination;
2. Achieve not less than 30% in any module, except that marks of less than 30% in a total of 20 credits may be condoned.

Summary of teaching and assessment

Teaching is delivered by a mixture of lectures and seminars in Parts 1 and 2 and with a greater emphasis on seminars in Part 3. The dissertation in Part 3 comprises a piece of work based on supervised independent study.

Admission requirements

No previous experience of Ancient History is required for admission.

Entrants to this programme are normally required to have obtained:

Grade C or better in English in GCSE; and achieved

UCAS Tariff: 300 points from 3 A2 and 1 A/S level or 280 points from 3 A2 levels.
International Baccalaureate: scores of 6,5,5 in 3 Higher Level subjects
Scottish Highers: 280 points from 4 subjects including at least 1 Advanced Higher
Irish Leaving Certificate: BBBB

Admissions Tutor: Helen King

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 studying on a language degree and for those taking modules offered by the Institution-wide Language Programme. Student guidance and welfare support is provided by Personal Tutors, School Senior Tutors, the Students' Union, the Medical Practice and the Student Services Centre. The Student Services Centre is housed in the Carrington Building and includes the Careers Advisory Service, the Disability Advisory Service, Accommodation Advisory Team, Student Financial Support, Counselling and Study Advisors. Student Services has a Helpdesk available for enquiries made in person or online, or by calling the central enquiry number on (0118) 378 5555. Students can get key information and guidance from the team of Helpdesk Advisers, or make an appointment with a specialist adviser; Student Services also offer drop-in sessions on everything from accommodation to finance. The Carrington Building is open between 8:30 and 17:30 Monday to Thursday (17:00 Friday and during vacation periods). Further information can be found in the Student Diary (given to students at enrolment) or on the Student website.

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Career prospects

Graduates in Ancient History have found that their degree course has been a good basis for careers in management, administration, the civil service, commerce, law, publishing, librarianship and teaching. Graduates have also gone on to postgraduate courses within the field of the Classics at Reading and elsewhere.

Opportunities for study abroad or for placements

In Year 2, two students can study for the Fall Semester at the University of Calgary's Department of Greek and Roman Studies. Applications to take part in the exchange need to be made in the Spring term of Year 1. The Department also has an ERASMUS link with the University of Crete. Students are also encouraged to apply to the British School in Athens, where they can take a module for credit, and the British School in Rome.

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:

1. another culture's history and political and social organisation.
2. a diverse range of primary materials.
3. a range of problems of interpretation and

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

Knowledge and understanding are gained through formal teaching (lectures, seminars, and individual essay feedback), recommended reading, and the writing of essays and a dissertation.

- evaluation of primary materials.
4. a range of techniques and methodologies.

Assessment

Most knowledge is tested through a combination of coursework and formal examination. The Dissertation and oral presentations also contribute.

Skills and other attributes

B. Intellectual skills - *able to:*

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.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

Skills will be introduced in lectures, developed through reading, writing of essays, dissertation and examination

Assessment

Coursework and examinations, as well as in the dissertation

C. Practical skills - *able to:*

1. gather, organise 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 methodologies in assessing the meaning and significance of evidence or data,
4. have effective bibliographical and library research skills.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

These are developed through the deployment of seminar classes and essay assignments. Oral presentation also constitutes a percentage of the assessment of the dissertation

Assessment

Coursework and examinations, as well as in the dissertation

D. Transferable skills - *able to:*

1. deploy a range of IT resources effectively,
2. present material orally in a clear and effective manner,
3. present material in a written form, with discrimination and lucidity in the use of language, professional referencing, and clear layout,
4. work creatively, flexibly and adaptably with others,
5. to write and think under pressure and to meet deadlines.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

In lectures and seminars and applied in self-study and writing of assignments

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 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 process or external sources, such as professional bodies, requires a change to be made. In such circumstances, a revised specification will be issued.