

**BA Classical Studies with English Literature  
For students entering Part 1 in 2008/9**

**UCAS code: Q8Q3**

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

**Summary of programme aims**

This multi-disciplinary programme aims to provide a thorough degree level education in Classical Studies and English. The syllabus aims to familiarise students with the literature, art, philosophy and history of Greek and Roman cultures and their reception and use in modern culture, whilst extending students' knowledge of a variety of kinds of English texts, and perspectives on different methods of critical analysis. The programme also 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 of their knowledge of Classical Studies and English 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.

On completion of the programme, students are also expected to have acquired a range of intellectual skills including the ability to formulate and evaluate their own arguments and those of others, to translate subject-specific knowledge and skills to new environments, to find and use relevant information resources, to manage their time effectively, and to work independently as well as co-operatively.

**Programme content**

Each Part of the degree programme comprises 120 credits. In Part 1, students must take a minimum of 40 credits in Classical Studies and 60 credits in English; the remaining 20 credits may come either from a Classical Studies option or from a module or modules available elsewhere in the University. Part 1 in Classical Studies introduces students to the study of Greek and Roman cultures, with a particular emphasis upon the development of the study of primary sources and source criticism. In English, students engage with fundamental debates about the study of literature through close analysis of selected texts from different periods. In Parts 2 and 3 students must normally take 80 credits in Classical Studies and 40 credits in the School of English each year. In consultation with their programme adviser, they may choose to take up to 20 credits each year from modules available elsewhere in the University. The English strand of the programme offers increased breadth of coverage, focusing on a variety of individual periods, topics and/or generic traditions, while Classical Studies develops students' knowledge of ancient literature and an awareness of the role of the classics in the shaping of modern Western culture.

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)**

*Compulsory modules*

CL1CA	The Civilization of Fifth-Century Athens	20	C
CL1CB	Rome in the Augustan Age	20	C
EN1LL	Languages of Literature	20	C
EN1RS	Revisioning Shakespeare	20	C
EN1WKT	What Kind of Text is This?	20	C

Optional modules CL1GM Greek Myths 20 C

## Part 2 (three terms)

### Compulsory modules

Mod Code	Module Title	Credits	Level
CL2CMS	Career Management Skills	5	I

In Classics (80 credits)

Students will take at least two core modules (40 credits) and a further 40 credits from among either core or optional modules.

*Core modules (minimum of 40 credits):*

CL2AE	Ancient Epic I	20	I
CL2GD	Greek Drama	20	I
CL2LP	Roman Love Poetry	20	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, MC30A, 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.

Students choose six modules in Part 2, one module from each group. In each term at least one of their choices must be an asterisked module.

Autumn Term

Group A	
EN2RTC	*Renaissance Texts & Cultures
EN2MC1	Modernism and Modern Poetry
EN2RR	The Eighteenth-Century: Restoration to Romanticism
Group B	
EN2CMN	*Chaucer and Medieval Narrative
EN2NCN	Nineteenth-Century Novel
EN2WAR	Writing America: Romances of Nationhood
Group C	
EN2RDR	*Renaissance Drama
EN2LCT	Literary Criticism & Theory
EN2WF1	Women's Writing and Feminist Theory 1
EN2OEL	*Introduction to Old English

Spring Term

Group A			
EN2ERE	*English Renaissance Epic	20	I
EN2MC2	Modernity, Crisis and Narrative Fiction	20	I
EN2RD	Romanticism 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
Group C			
EN2SH	*Shakespeare	20	I
EN2WF2	Women's Writing and Feminist Theory 2	20	I
EN2FN	Film Narrative	20	I

### **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

In Classics Students choose 40 credits from the 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, MC30A, MC3MT, and PP2PA, which are cross-listed modules.

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

In English Students choose two optional 20-credit modules, one in each term, to make a total of 40 credits. Optional modules: A complete list of options is available from the Programme Advisor in English and in the English Part 3 Module Supplement. Admission to optional modules will be at the discretion of the Programme Advisor in English.

#### **Progression requirements**

To proceed from Part 1 to Part 2, a Joint Honours student must:

1. Obtain an average of 40% across all Part 1 modules;
2. Achieve at least 40% in the module CL1CA and at least 40% in the module CL1CB and a minimum of 40 in each English module; and
3. Achieve 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:

1. Obtain an overall average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 2;
2. Obtain an average of 40% across English Part 2 modules;
3. Achieve 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 this programme are normally required to have obtained:

UCAS Tariff: 280 points including 100 points in English Literature or English Language and Literature  
GNVQ (Adv.): B in A-level plus Distinction in GNVQ: 12 modules of GNVQ (Adv) + pass four additional modules

Scottish Highers: BBBB

Irish Leaving Certificate: BBBB

International Baccalaureate: 30 points with at least 6 for Higher level English literature

GCSE/O: English Language preferred, grade C or above

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

**Admissions Tutor:** Professor 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.

Students receive Handbooks from both Classical Studies and English 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 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 i-Learn scheme. Dissertation workshops prepare students for the Part 3 dissertation which is individually supervised. The Department of Classics is the Curator of the Ure Museum of Greek Archaeology. The Geoffrey Matthews Collection, housed in the School of English, has a collection of books, xeroxed materials, cassettes and videos for loan to students, and a video-viewing suite is available within the Faculty. The Library's electronic databases include 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.

### **Career prospects**

Graduates from this joint degree programme have found that their course has been a good basis for careers in management, administration, the civil service, commerce, law, publishing, librarianship and teaching. A number of graduates have also gone on to further academic study and research. More generally, the degree provides students with a wide range of communication and analytical skills that will serve them in good stead in the marketplace.

### **Opportunities for study abroad or for placements**

Through the department of Classics, two students in year 2 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 may take a module for credit, and the British School in Rome.

### **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. Ancient literature
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, language classes 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 - *able to:***

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

#### **C. Practical skills - *able to:***

In Classical Studies

1. The ability to gather, organize and deploy evidence and information, and to show awareness of the consequences of the unavailability of evidence.
2. The ability to develop the capacity for critical judgement in the light of evidence and argument.
3. The ability to select and apply appropriate methodologies in assessing the meaning and significance of evidence or data.
4. The ability to use effective bibliographical and library based research tools effectively.

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

#### **D. Transferable skills - *able to:***

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 and management skills
7. A creative approach to problem-solving

#### **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 joint dissertation. 1- 4 are assessed formatively through seminar discussion and essay feedback and tutorials.

#### **Teaching/learning methods and strategies**

These skills are developed through the deployment of language classes, seminar classes and essay assignments.

#### *Assessment*

These skills are assessed through coursework and examinations  
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.

#### **Teaching/learning methods and strategies**

#### *Assessment*

8. Group and interpersonal skills
9. An ability to self-evaluate and self-reflect
10. Use of information technology, especially word-processing

**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.**