## BA Archaeology and Italian (part time) For students entering Part 1 in 2010/1

Awarding Institution: Teaching Institution: Relevant QAA subject Benchmarking group(s): Faculty: Programme length: Date of specification: Programme Director: Programme Advisor: Board of Studies: Accreditation:

## Summary of programme aims

## UCAS code:

University of Reading University of Reading Archaeology; Languages and Related Studies Arts, Humanities and Social Science Faculty 5 years 22/May/2012 Dr Rob Hosfield Miss Paola Nasti Archaeology Not appropriate

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/or 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**

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 career management, communication (both written and oral), information handling, problem-solving, team working and use of information technology. and will have been encouraged to further develop and enhance the full set of skills through a variety of opportunities available outside their curriculum.

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/or field work in Archaeology they will also have the opportunity to develop proficiency in decision-making, and a sense of personal and group responsibility: time in Italy provides further opportunities for independent decision-making, independent working, and the organisation of one's own time.

### **Programme content**

Part-time degree programmes, like full-time programmes, are made up of study elements called modules. The size of a module is measured in terms of credits, a credit entails a notional 10 hours of study. For a full-time programme each year contains modules totalling 120 credits. Most modules are 20 credits in size but some are 10 credits and others are multiples of 20 credits (for example dissertations are often 40 credits in size). Modules are offered at one of three levels. In ascending order these are:

- Level 4
- Level 5
- Level 6

All part-time degree programmes entail study of modules totalling a minimum of 360 credits. Students must take the compulsory and optional modules required for their degree programme, the following minimum number of credits being required at the levels indicated:

- Level 4: 100 credits minimum

- Level 5: 100 credits minimum

- Level 6: 100 credits minimum

Part-time programmes are divided into two sections:

Part 1 involves studying modules totalling at least 100 credits and no more than 120 Level 4 credits (120 credits are equivalent to one year of full-time study). Students must complete at least 80 credits at Level 4 before they can proceed to study any Level 5 (Part 2) module. Students must take those modules required for progression to one or more degree subjects, but may take individual modules from any available programme to make up the necessary minimum total of 100 credits at Level 4.

Part 2 & Part 3: Students must complete at least 80 credits at Level 5 before they can proceed to study any Level 6 modules.

#### BA Archaeology & Italian (Part-Time) Content:

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 optional 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 their time at Reading, students will be required to spend a period of time in Italy. Students will have to discuss with the Programme Director the length of their stay in Italy. Career learning is also emphasised at Part 2, and there is an opportunity to apply for an accredited placement.

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 undertake a dissertation.

## Part 1 (three terms)

### Compulsory modules

Students must take at least two Archaeology modules (40 credits), including the compulsory module *Practicing Archaeology*, 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

AR1TS3	Practising Archaeology: methods and approaches	Credits 20	Level 4	
At least 20 credit	ts from either:			
AR1P2 Or	Primates to Pyramids: an introduction to world prehistory	20	4	
AR1RM2	From Rome to the Reformation: an introduction to historical archaeology	20	4	
Optional modules				
AR1TS2 MC1AM	Bones, Bodies and Burials: the archaeology of death Analysing Museum Displays	20 20	4 4	

In the Department of Italian Studies

Compulsory modules

For advanced students:

IT1001	Advanced Italian Language I	20	4
IT1002	Twentieth Century Italian Culture	20	4

Non-advanced students (including complete beginners) take ONE of the following, depending on experience:

IT1003	Italian Language (Elementary) and Culture	40	4	
IT1005	Italian Language (Lower Intermediate) and Culture	40	4	
Optional module (open to all students):				

IT1004	Italian Medieval and Renaissance Culture (in translation)	20	4
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# Part 2 (three terms)

Compulsory modules

There is one compulsory module in Archaeology (10 credits) with a further 50 credits taken from the archaeology options list below. There are three compulsory modules in Italian (40 credits), plus one optional module (20 credits), altogether 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 comprise Career Management Skills.

Compulsory module in Archaeology

AR2F8	Contemporary Practice in British Archaeology (including Career	10	5
	Management Skills)		

## In the Department of Archaeology [60 credits]

Optional modules (totalling 50 credits) chosen from a list approved each year. Those approved in 2010/11, as an example included:

	AR2F4	Silchester Field School Joint Honours (summer vacation)	10	5	
	AR2P5	The Middle Palaeolithic of Europe and SW Asia	20	5	
	AR2P6	Later Prehistoric Europe	20	5	
	AR2R8	Rome's Mediterranean Empire	20	5	
	AR2R7	Roman Britain	20	5	
	AR2M4	Later Medieval Europe	20	5	
	AR2M3	Post-Roman & Early Medieval Europe	20	5	
	AR2S1	Archaeological Science	20	5	
	AR2T1	Archaeological Thought	10	5	
	GG2P3	Human Activity & Environmental Change	10	5	
	AR2F5	Techniques in Artefact Interpretation	10	5	
	AR2F6	Techniques in Skeletal Interpretation	10	5	
	AR2L1	Study Abroad	50	5	
In the Department of Italian Studies (60 credits) Compulsory modules (to a total of 40 credits) Either:					
	IT201 Or	Advanced Italian Language II	20	5	
	IT202	Intermediate Italian Language	20	5	
	And				
	IT212	Oral in Italian	10	5	
	IT213	Project or approved short course	10	5	

## Optional modules (to a total of 20 credits)

Students must choose one option module to the value of 20 credits. A complete list of options is available from the Programme Coordinator, and a list of current options can be found in the relevant Department Handbook.

### Study abroad

Students take compulsory modules in Italian language (IT201 or IT202) and gain credit for studying abroad through modules IT212 and IT213. The length and timing of periods of residence abroad will be subject to agreements made between the Departments and students.

In Italian, the residence abroad module will be assessed by oral examination(s) (10 credits; IT212) and either on the basis of marks gained abroad or on the completion of a project (10 credits; IT213).

## Part 3 (three terms)

## Compulsory modules

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

Compulsory Modules			
Either			
IT3SD	Short Dissertation	20	6
Or			
AR3D1	Dissertation	20	6

In their final year students take 60 credits in Italian and 60 credits in Archaeology. If the dissertation is in Italian a further 40 credits are taken in Italian (including the compulsory module IT301), and 60 optional credits are taken in Archaeology. If the dissertation is in Archaeology a further 20 credits are taken in Archaeology, and 60 credits (including IT301) are taken in Italian.

## In the Archaeology Department

If doing a dissertation in Archaeology, one of the following modules (to a total of 20 credits) are taken from a list approved each year. If doing a dissertation in Italian, three of the following modules (to a total of 60 credits) are taken from a list approved each year (those approved in 2010/11, as an example, included):

In Italian Studies:				
6				
6				

### *Optional module (20 credits)*

Students must choose one option module to the value of 20 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. If the dissertation is in Archaeology, students will take the compulsory Italian language module

IT301 Advanced Italian Language III 20 6 plus *two* Italian optional modules (40 credits).

## **Progression requirements**

In order to progress from Level 4 to Level 5 students must:

a) Take at least 40 credits in Part 1 Archaeology and 40 credits in Part 1 Italian;

b) Achieve an overall average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 1; and

c) Achieve a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to not less than 100 credits taken in Part 1.

- Certificate of Higher Education: 100 credits at Level 4 and 20 credits at any Level.

- Diploma of Higher Education: 240 credits, with at least 100 credits at Level 5 or above.

In order to progress from Level 5 to Level 6 students must:

a) Obtain a mark of at least 40% in either Advanced Italian Language II (IT201); or Intermediate Italian Language (IT202);

b) Obtain an overall average of 40% in 120 credits taken at Level 5; and

c) Obtain a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to not less than 100 credits taken at Level 5. Students who do not qualify for a degree will be entitled to the following qualification provided they have obtained the minimum number of credits indicated:

The University's honours classification is as follows: Mark Interpretation70% - 100% First Class60% - 69% Upper Second Class50% - 59% Lower Second Class40% - 49% Third Class35% - 39% Below Honours Standard0% - 34% Fail. 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%.

#### 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 Part 2 and 3 students are normally taught in small groups for all modules, and where lectures are used they are informal. Most modules are assessed by a mixture of coursework and formal examination, with other methods used where appropriate (eg placement reports).

Some Archaeology modules also involve workshops and practical sessions in the field and/or the 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, on-site performance) and an on-site examination. The dissertation in Part 3 comprises a piece of research based on supervised independent study supported by workshops and is assessed entirely by coursework.

## **Admission requirements**

No previous experience of Archaeology is required for admission. Because Archaeology draws on many elements of the Arts and Sciences, a wide range of combinations of A-Levels will be appropriate. Entrants should have achieved:

UCAS Tariff: Either: 280 (i.e. BBC) from 3 A levels, or 300 from 3 A levels + 1 AS level. Total points exclude Key Skills and General Studies.

International Baccalaureate: Pass Diploma and achieve 5, 5, 5 in three higher level subjects

Scottish Highers: 280-340 UCAS Tariff points

Scottish Advanced Highers: 280-340 UCAS Tariff points

Irish Leaving Certificate: 280-340 UCAS Tariff points

We welcome deferred-entry applications from those wanting to take a gap year between School and University, and applications from mature students and students with special needs, for whom we may take a broader view of entry requirements. 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 A-levels or an Access course, but each case is assessed on its individual merits. For those with special needs, we are happy, where necessary to take a flexible approach to field-work and practical work requirements, and to make appropriate arrangements for note taking and examinations.

Applications from international students are welcomed. If you are not offering A-levels or an International Baccalaureate, 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 G Thomas

#### Support for students and their learning

University support for students and their learning falls into two categories. Learning support is provided by a wide array of services across the University, including: the University Library, the Student Employment, Experience and Careers Centre (SEECC), In-sessional English Support Programme, the Study Advice and Mathematics Support Centre teams, IT Services and 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 advisers in the Student Services Centre. The Student Services Centre is housed in the Carrington Building and offers advice on accommodation, careers, disability, finance, and wellbeing. 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 and runs workshops and seminars on a range of topics. For more information see www.reading.ac.uk/student

The Departmental Handbooks issued to 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 Total Station/GPS survey equipment; excavation equipment; soil and sediment coring equipment; and 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**

During your time in the Archaeology Department you will have the opportunity to develop your archaeological employability through various placements. You will be able to develop your fieldwork skills (e.g. excavation and recording, geophysics and other scientific techniques, planning and post-excavation, presentation to the public) through the Silchester Field School module and, in your second and third years, through the Placement and Trainee Schemes at Silchester.

Other optional placements are provided by fieldwork projects run by different members of the Department (these currently include: The Ecology of Crusading [http://www.ecologyofcrusading.com/], the Central Zagros Archaeological Project [http://www.czap.org/], and the Inner Hebrides Archaeological Project [http://www.reading.ac.uk/archaeology/research/Projects/arch-project-IHAP.aspx]). A limited number of placements are also available to graduating 3rd year students within our commercial scientific company (QUEST), which provides archaeological, forensic, and environmental services to the commercial sector (http://www.reading.ac.uk/afess/). You will have also have the opportunity to develop curatorial skills through voluntary work placements at the University's museums (http://www.reading.ac.uk/Ure/index.php), the Museum of English Rural Life (MERL; http://www.reading.ac.uk/merl/), and the Coles Museum of Zoology (http://www.colemuseum.reading.ac.uk/). Voluntary post-excavation opportunities are also available in the form of finds processing and assisting with human bone curation.

During your time at Reading you will also have the opportunity to develop non-vocational skills, gain new work experiences, and further boost your employability through a diverse range of other placement opportunities. The University's Careers Advisory Service (CAS) provides all Reading students with information about a wide range of placement opportunities (http://www.reading.ac.uk/careers/placements/), including the Summer Enterprise

Experience & Discovery internship scheme (http://www.reading.ac.uk/careers/placements/seed/), the Community Service Volunteering scheme (tutoring in local schools;

http://www.reading.ac.uk/studentrecruitment/StudentTutoring/sr-studenttutoringinschools.aspx), the Student Associates Scheme (work experience in local schools; http://www.reading.ac.uk/internal/urop/urop\_home.aspx), and the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Programme (UROP;

http://www.reading.ac.uk/internal/urop/urop\_home.aspx).

The length and timing of the period(s) of residence abroad in Italy will be subject to agreements made between the Departments and students.

## **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. the growth of archaeology as a discipline, and current practice within its wider political, social and institutional context;

 the diverse sources of evidence used by archaeologists, their variability and reliability;
 the main methods by which archaeologists acquire, date and analyse their primary evidence, including scientific methods;

4. the range of interpretative approaches applied to archaeological evidence in their historical, political and social context;

5. the development of selected human societies from our earliest ancestors to the medieval period,

particularly in Europe and the Mediterranean; 6. the Italian language;

7. selected aspects of Italian literature, history and culture;

8. a diverse range of primary source material and evidence, their variability and reliability;

9. a range of problems of dating, interpretation and evaluation of primary materials in their historical, political and social context.

## Teaching/learning methods and strategies

Knowledge and understanding are gained through formal teaching (lectures, seminars, small-group classes, and group and/or individual essay feedback), recommended reading, and the writing of essays and other coursework and a dissertation. Knowledge of practical techniques and methodologies are further developed through participation in the Silchester Field School, and/or 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 study abroad period 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 study abroad period provides experience in the use of everyday Italian. 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 examinations, except that in most practical-based modules it is examined entirely by coursework; the dissertation is entirely by coursework. In Part 3, oral presentations also contribute.

Language work is assessed by oral and written examinations.

## Skills and other attributes

#### 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.

## C. Practical skills - able to:

 to speak, write, read and understand Italian at high or near-native levels of proficiency;
 to gather, organise and deploy evidence and information, and to show awareness of the consequences of the unavailability of evidence;
 to develop the capacity for critical judgement in the light of evidence and argument;

4. to select and apply appropriate methodologies in assessing the meaning and significance of evidence or data;

5. to have effective bibliographical, internet and library research skills;

6. to plan and carry out a primary research project, working independently;

7 to make clearly-constructed written and oral presentations.

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

 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;
 Apply language skills to learn languages other than Italian; These skills are developed throughout the programme. Skills will be introduced in lectures, developed through reading, writing of essays and other coursework, the dissertation and examinations, with group and/or individual feedback provided on content and organisation of essays. Independent thinking is developed especially through the dissertation module for which initial preparation and subsequent progress are supported through workshops and supervisions.

#### Assessment

These skills are assessed in all Parts of the programme by a combination of coursework, essays, oral presentations, the dissertation and examinations.

#### Teaching/learning methods and strategies

These are developed through the deployment of small-group classes, seminar classes and essay assignments, and through participation in the Silchester Field School and/or 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, unless individually stated in module descriptions. The study abroad period 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

Assessment through coursework and examinations, as well as in the dissertation.

### Teaching/learning methods and strategies

Skills developed in lectures and seminars and applied in self-study and writing of assignments, as well as through the Field School and/or in the practical elements of several Archaeology modules. Sensitivity to cultural difference informs the whole programme and, together with the development of 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.

self-motivation and self-reliance, is greatly encouraged by the study abroad period. Career management is taught through a distinct Part 2 careers and placements module in Archaeology.

#### Assessment

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