BA Ancient History and History   **UCAS code: V117**
For students entering Part 1 in 2011/2

Awarding Institution: University of Reading
Teaching Institution: University of Reading
Relevant QAA subject Benchmarking group(s):   History and Classics and Ancient History
Faculty: Arts, Humanities and Social Science Faculty
Programme length: 3 years
Date of specification: 14/May/2013
Programme Director: Prof Barbara Goff
Programme Advisor: Dr Rachel Foxley
Board of Studies: Classics
Accreditation:

Summary of programme aims
This joint degree aims to provide a thorough degree level education in History and Ancient History. The syllabus aims to familiarise students with the core chronological and geographical range of Greek and Roman cultures, and to explore the broad sweep of post-classical history through study of Britain, Europe and the United States. Students are also able to study thematic topics in depth and develop special interests through independent study and the dissertation. Students will expand the range, depth and sophistication of their knowledge of History and 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 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.
History and Classics are a disciplines that lend themselves to critical judgement and problem-solving, both through personal engagement with issues and through dialogue and group discussion. Also integral is the collection, collation and analysis of substantial quantities of material and its communication and presentation. History also prompts an awareness of numeracy through chronology, periodisation, and basic quantification. In addition, students 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.

Programme content
Each part comprises 120 credits. In Part 1 students normally take 40 credits in Classics and 40 credits in History. The remaining credits can be made up from any optional modules and/or from modules elsewhere in the University in Part 2 students normally take a minimum of 60 credits in each Department, but, in consultation with their programme adviser, they may choose to take up to 20 credits available elsewhere in the University. In Part 3 students take 40 credits in each subject and a 40 credit dissertation in one subject.
Part 1 introduces students to the study of both Greek and Roman Civilisations and post-classical history, 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. Part 2 develops the student's knowledge of chronological ranges within both Ancient and Modern History and 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. In consultation with their programme adviser, they may choose to take up to 20 credits each year from modules available elsewhere in the University.
Not all optional modules will necessarily be available in any year. Admission to optional modules will be at the discretion of the Programme Director.

Part 1 (three terms)
Compulsory modules

Mod Code	Module Title	Credits	Level
HS1APH	Approaches to History	20	4

HS1LMH	Landmarks in History	20	4
CL1CA	The Civilization of Fifth-Century Athens	20	4
CL1CB	Rome in the Augustan Age	20	4

Optional Modules (40 credits)
The remaining credits can be made up from any optional modules available in the departments of Classics and History and/or from modules elsewhere in the University
In Classics (20 credits)

| CL1TO | Text and Object: the History of Greek and Roman Writing | 20 | 4 |

In History (20 credits)

| HS1DSH | Directed Study in History | 20 | 4 |

Part 2 (three terms)
Compulsory modules

CL2PR	Prospects for Classicists and Ancient Historians	10	5
Or			
CL2PL	Work Placement for Classicists and Ancient Historians	10	5

Classics Optional modules (50 credits)
Students must take one core module (20 credits) and a further 30 credits from **either** core **or** optional modules.
Core Modules

CL2GH	Greek History	20	5
CL2RO	Roman History	20	5
CL2TIH	Themes and Issues in History	20	5

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 whcih is a cross-listed module.
 Students may take IWLP Modern Greek in place of one level 5 module.

In History (60 credits)
Students must take THREE Period modules (20 credits each). At least one of these must be from the 'Early (Medieval and Early Modern) Period and one from the Modern Period. Normally students take two modules in the Autumn and one in the Spring. Not all optional modules run in any one year.
A complete list of Period modules is available from the Department of History.

Part 3 (three terms)
Compulsory modules

Compulsory dissertation
Either

CL3DP	Preparation for Dissertation in Classics	10	6
And			
CL3DN	Dissertation in Classics	30	6
Or			
HS3HLD	Dissertation in History	40	6

Optional Modules in Classics (40 credits)
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 take IWLP Modern Greek in place of one level 6 module.

Optional Modules In History (40 credits)
Students choose two optional 20 credit Topic modules, one in the Autumn and one in the Spring. Not all optional modules run in any one year. A complete list of Topic modules is available from the Department of History.

Progression requirements

To proceed from Part 1 to Part 2 students should:

1. Achieve an overall average of 40% in 120 credits;
2. Obtain marks of at least 40% in the module CL1CA and at least 40% in the module CL1CB;
3. Obtain marks of at least 40% in each compulsory module;
4. Obtain a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to not less than 100 credits taken in Part 1.
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To proceed from Part 2 to Part 3, students must obtain:

1. an overall average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 2;
2. a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to not less than 100 credits taken in Part 2.
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Assessment and classification

The University's honours classification scheme is:

Mark	interpretation
70% - 100%	First class
60% - 69%	Upper Second class
50% - 59%	Lower Second class
40% - 49%	Third class
35% - 39%	Below Honours Standard
0% - 34%	Fail

For the University-wide framework for classification, which includes details of the classification method, please see Examinations Office website.
The weighting of the Parts/Years in the calculation of the degree classification is

Three-year programmes

Part 2 one-third
Part 3 two-thirds

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. Modules are assessed by a mixture of coursework and examination. The Dissertation is assessed both as coursework and through oral presentation.
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%.

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: 320 points from 3 A2 levels or 340 points from 3 A2 levels and 1 A/S level.
International Baccalaureate: scores of 6,6,5 in 3 Higher Level subjects
Scottish Highers: 300 points from 4 subjects including at least 1 Advanced Higher
Irish Leaving Certificate: BBBBB
All applicants are considered on their individual merits and the Department may vary these requirements if it sees fit.
Mature applicants. 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 recent study, for example two or more A levels or an Access course, but each case is assessed on its individual merits. We recommend that you contact an admissions tutor as soon as possible to discuss your individual circumstances.
International applicants. Applications from international candidates are welcomed. If you are not offering A levels we advise you to contact either the EU or the international 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.
Applicants wishing to make any inquiries should contact the Admissions Secretary who will pass your query to an appropriate Admissions Tutor. The current Admissions Secretary can be contacted by:

Telephone: ext 6999
Email - admissions-classics@reading.ac.uk

Admissions Tutor: Dr Katheine Harloe

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 Careers, Placement and Experience Centre (CPEC), 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, academic issues (eg problems with module selection) and exam related queries. 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 Libraries contain a range of reference works which can be used by students and offer congenial study spaces. In History, students are supported and advised by the Director of Teaching and Learning. There is also full written feedback on essay work. Each module teacher gives personal guidance and feedback and sends termly reports on progress to Personal Tutors for discussion with students.
The Department of Classics is the Curator of the Ure Museum of Greek Archaeology.

Career prospects
Graduates in Ancient History and History have found that their degree courses have been a good basis for careers in management and administration; the civil service; commerce; law; the media including journalism, broadcasting and 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
CL2PL is the placement module Work Placement for Classicists and Ancient Historians. It gives students the opportunity to gain experience in a graduate level employment position. Students find their own placements (that is part of the exercise), but they are guided and supported in this by the Department. Full details of assessment etc. may be found in the accompanying draft module description.
Students are encouraged to study abroad for a term to a year (normally in Part 2) either within Europe via the ERASMUS programme or at one of the University of Reading's non-European partner institutions. They will require the consent of the departmental study abroad coordinator in order to participate. Full details of potential destinations can be found on both the departmental and Erasmus & Study Abroad websites. Application early in the preceding year (autumn term/very early spring term) is essential.

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 history and political and social organisation of a range of cultures, both classical and modern.	Knowledge and understanding are gained through formal teaching (lectures, seminars, and individual essay feedback), recommended reading, and the writing of essays and a dissertation.
2. a diverse range of primary materials as defined by period and culture.	*Assessment*
3. a range of problems of interpretation and	Most knowledge is tested through a combination of coursework and formal examination. The

evaluation of both primary and secondary materials,

4. a range of techniques and methodologies and the nature of debate and dispute in historical writing.

Dissertation and oral presentations also contribute.

Skills and other attributes

B. Intellectual skills - *able to:*

1. 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.

2. Accumulate and apply information and perspective in a structured manner.

3. Identify and appreciate the forces which generate historical change.

4. Negotiate both primary and secondary sources in history, and demonstrate how they inter-relate.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

Skills will be introduced in lectures, developed through reading, writing of essays, dissertation and examination. Through specific focus on topics, issues and texts in seminars, workshops and personal study, students are enabled to develop critical modes of enquiry about the selection and treatment of material. Through essay and dissertation preparation, the research and analytical skills are reinforced which are necessary to form and to validate arguments and judgements.

Assessment
Essay work tests all aspects of intellectual skills, while examinations assess the ability to marshal information and arguments under given time constraints, and according to a variety of conventions, involving open book, seen and unseen papers. The Dissertation represents the evaluation of personal research and creative interpretation.

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. use bibliographical and library research tools effectively.

5. Use IT to access sources and information relating to a subject.

6. Engage in group discussion and debate on historical issues.

7. Develop a critical self-awareness as a working historian.

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. In History, the Period modules consist of various appropriate exercises aimed to promote, amongst other things, research, IT and referencing skills. Feedback on an individual basis combined with the University's personal tutor system encourages constructive self-criticism.

Assessment
These skills are assessed by means of coursework and examinations, as well as in the dissertation

D. Transferable skills - *able to:*

1. deploy a range of IT resources effectively,

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

In lectures and seminars and applied in self-study

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. write and think under pressure and to meet deadlines.

6. Show a competence in numeracy within the parameters of the subject.

7. Assess aptitudes in preparation for a career.

and writing of assignments

Assessment
These skills are assessed by means of 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.