

BA Archaeology and Classical Studies
For students entering Part 1 in 2012/3

UCAS code: QV84

Awarding Institution:	University of Reading
Teaching Institution:	University of Reading
Relevant QAA subject Benchmarking group(s):	Archaeology and Classics
Faculty:	Science Faculty
Programme length:	3 years
Date of specification:	25/Jul/2014
Programme Director:	Dr Gundula Müldner
Programme Advisor:	Prof Phiroze Vasunia
Board of Studies:	Archaeology
Accreditation:	Not applicable

Summary of programme aims

The programme aims to provide a complementary balance of degree-level education in Archaeology and Classical Studies. The Archaeology element combines practical training and experience (in the field and/or laboratory) with academic study of archaeology. There is an opportunity to specialise in the archaeology of the Greek and Roman worlds, areas in which the University of Reading has particular research and teaching strengths. The Classics element provides a broad exposure to the literature, history, and culture of the Greek and Roman worlds at the heart of modern western civilisation, and aims to produce graduates who have experience of literary, thematic and genre-based approaches to these cultures. This programme is distinctive both in its emphasis on the application of archaeological techniques and theory, particularly through the opportunity to participate at the Silchester Field School, and because of the interdisciplinary, cross-cultural, approach to the Classical world adopted by both the Departments of Classics and Archaeology at Reading. For students who wish to, there is also the opportunity (but not the requirement) to study either Greek or Latin as part of this programme. Students will expand the range, depth and sophistication of their knowledge of Archaeology and Classical Studies through the structured progression of the programme through Parts 1, 2 and 3.

This is a multi-disciplinary programme which aims to provide students with subject-specific knowledge and more general skills, including knowledge of the archaeology of later prehistoric, proto-historic, Roman and early medieval Europe and the Mediterranean region, and of a variety of Classical literature, art, philosophy, and their reception in modern culture, as well as perspectives on different methods of critical analysis. The programme aims to foster an independent approach to formulating problems and arguments, using the close reading and analytical skills that are fundamental to both disciplines. The programme also provides for the development of the specific interests of students through independent study for the dissertation, in which a topic can be approached from the perspectives of both disciplines.

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 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 Classical Studies are both 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 ancient literary and archaeological material evidence and its communication and presentation through written media, together with the ability to think comparatively and cross-culturally. 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. Through their coursework students develop skills of oral expression, independent learning, and the critical analysis of data. Through practical and/or field work in Archaeology they will also have the opportunity to develop proficiency in decision-making, problem-solving, information technology, and working with data. The opportunity for developing experience of teamwork in the field assists in developing skills of communication and a sense of personal and group responsibility.

Programme content

The profile which follows states which modules must be taken (the compulsory part) together with one or more lists of modules from which the student must make a selection (the option modules) for each half of the

combined degree. Students must choose such additional modules as they wish, in consultation with their programme adviser(s), to make 120 credits in each Part. The number of credits for each module is shown after its title. In Part 1 the remaining credits can be made up from any optional modules and/or from modules available elsewhere in the University. In Part 2, up to 20 credits can be taken from modules available elsewhere in the University.

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 Classics 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 topics.

Part 2 Archaeology provides the opportunity to engage with primary archaeological data through participation on the Silchester Field School, to explore approaches to interpretation, and to gain more detailed knowledge of the archaeology of the protohistoric and classical worlds of the Mediterranean, Europe and Britain. Part 2 Classical Studies provides the opportunity to explore key literary genres with the opportunity to take a further unit from a wide choice in language, literature, history or art history.

In Part 3, there is an increasing specialisation and progression in both Archaeology and Classical Studies to approach topics in greater depth through the provision of optional units and the opportunity to research a dissertation topic in depth.

Part 1 (three terms)

Compulsory modules

<i>Mod Code</i>	<i>Module Title</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Level</i>
CLICA	The Civilization of Fifth-Century Athens	20	4
CLICB	Rome in the Augustan Age	20	4
ARITS3	Practising Archaeology: methods and approaches	20	4
ARIRM2	From Rome to the Reformation: an introduction to historic archaeology	20	4

Students must take at least two Archaeology modules (40 credits) and the two compulsory Classics modules (40 credits), and make up a further 40 credits chosen either from extra modules in Archaeology and/or Classics, or from modules available elsewhere in the University, including the language modules offered by the Institution-Wide Language Programme (IWLP). Students may take up to 20 Archaeology or Classics credits from the level above (i.e. Part 2), **but any such choices must first be discussed with, and approved by, the Programme Director.**

In the Department of Archaeology:

Optional modules:

AR1P2	Primates to Pyramids: an introduction to world prehistory	20	4
AR1TS2	Bones, Bodies and Burials: the archaeology of death	20	4
MC1AM	Analysing Museum Displays	20	4

In the Classics Department:

Optional module:

CLITO	Text and Object: the History of Greek and Roman Writing	20	4
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Part 2 (three terms)

Compulsory modules

Compulsory Modules:

There is one compulsory module (10 credits), taken either in Archaeology (AR2F11) or in Classics (CL2PR or CL2PL).

AR2F11	Careers for Archaeologists	10	5
OR			
CL2PR	Prospects for Classicists and Ancient Historians	10	5
OR			
CL2PL	Work Placement for Classicists and Ancient Historians	10	5

Optional Modules:

In addition you choose a further 50 credits (if taking the compulsory module in Archaeology) or 60 credits in Archaeology from a list of optional modules (totalling 60 credits in Archaeology).

In Classical Studies at least two core modules (40 credits) must be chosen, and students must choose module(s) worth a further 20 credits (or 10 credits, if the compulsory module CL2PR or CL2PL is taken) from Classics. Altogether, 60 credits must be taken in Classics.

Of the 120 credits, career learning is particularly emphasised within modules AR2F11, CL2PL and CL2PR (only one of these modules is taken). However, those interested in a broader degree may substitute up to 20 credits chosen from University-wide options, including a museums-based module (Curatorship and Collections Management MC2CCM), or language modules offered by the Institution-Wide Language Programme (IWLP). Students may take up to 20 Archaeology or Classics credits from the level below (i.e. Part 1) or above (i.e. Part 3), **however any such choices must be first discussed with, and approved by, the Programme Director.**

In the Department of Archaeology

Optional modules (totalling 50 or 60 credits, depending on whether or not module AR2F11 is taken). Those available vary from year to year, but students will receive a definitive list before the academic year commences. Those currently planned for 2013-14 include:

AR2F4	Silchester Field School (Joint Honours)	10	5
AR2P5	The Middle Palaeolithic of Europe and SW Asia	20	5
AR2P20	People and Societies of the Ancient Near East	20	5
AR2P21	The Mesolithic of North-West Europe	10	5
AR2P6	Later Prehistoric Europe	20	5
AR2R9	Celts & Romans: Northern Europe & Britain	20	5
AR2R8	Rome's Mediterranean Empire	20	5
AR2M3	Post-Roman and Early Medieval Europe	20	5
AR2M4	Later Medieval Europe	20	5
AR2T1	Archaeological Thought	10	5
AR2S1	Archaeological Science	20	5
AR2F5	Techniques in Artefact Interpretation	10	5
AR2F6	Techniques in Skeletal Interpretation	10	5
AR2F9	Geophysics	10	5
AR2Z1	Introduction to Zooarchaeology	10	5
GG2P3	Human Activity & Environmental Change	10	5
AR2L1	Study Abroad	50	5

The Study Abroad (AR2L1) option **must be discussed with the Study Abroad Co-ordinator** (currently Dr Anna Boozer).

Students should note that module CL2PR may clash with the preparatory week for the Silchester Field School (AR2F4). IF you are considering taking both CL2PR and AR2F4 you **must discuss this first** with the Programme Director.

In the Department of Classics (50 or 60 credits)

At least 40 credits must be taken from the core modules, with no more than 20 credits from the options (or 10 credits, depending on whether or not CL2PR or CL2PL has also been taken). The third core may be taken as a 20 credit option (IF CL2PR or CL2PL have not been selected).

Core modules

CL2AE	Ancient Epic	20	5
CL2DR	Ancient Drama	20	5
CL2PE	Ancient Persuasion	20	5

Optional modules

A complete list of options is available from the Classics Department, and a list of current options can be found in the Classics BA Programme Handbook. Part 2 modules normally include options in Classical Literature, History, Art, Culture, Reception and languages. Students may also take MCICI or MC1HPE which are cross-listed modules.

Students may take IWLP Modern Greek in place of one level 5 module.

Compulsory module taken in Archaeology or Classics:

AR3D1	Dissertation in Archaeology	40	6
or			
CL3DP	Preparation for Dissertation in Classics	10	6
CL3DN	Dissertation in Classics	30	6
or			
CL3DP	Preparation for Dissertation in Classics	10	6
CL3NP	Independent Third Year Project	30	6

Not all Part 3 optional modules will be available in any one year. The availability of all optional modules is subject to availability of staff and will require a minimum number of participants. Admission to optional modules will be at the discretion of the Programme Director. Students may take up to 20 of their Archaeology or Classics modules from the level below (i.e. Part 2), but **any such choices must first be discussed with, and approved by, the Programme Director.**

In the Archaeology Department

Two modules (totalling 40 credits) chosen from a list approved each year. Those approved for 2012/13 (as an example) included:

AR3S16	<i>Holocene Climate Change & Human Societies</i>	20	6
AR3S4	<i>Micromorphology and the study of early agricultural and urban settlements and landscapes</i>	20	6
AR3S6	<i>Palaeopathology</i>	20	6
AR3S10	<i>The Archaeology of Food and Nutrition</i>	20	6
AR3S9	<i>Coastal and Maritime Archaeology</i>	20	6
AR3S12	<i>Science and the Dead: Taphonomy and Molecular Analysis of Human Remains</i>	20	6
AR3S15	<i>People, Plants & Environmental Change</i>	20	6
AR3P17	<i>Hominins, Hearths and Handaxes: studies in the Lower Palaeolithic of North-west Europe</i>	20	6
AR3P9	<i>British Prehistory 1: the Age of Stonehenge</i>	20	6
AR3P19	<i>The Archaeology of Early Iran</i>		
AR3P13	<i>Emergence of Civilisation in Mesopotamia</i>	20	6
AR3R10	<i>The Archaeology of Money: Coins, Power and Society</i>	20	6
AR3R8	<i>Imperial Encounters in the Roman World</i>	20	6
AR3R4	<i>Roman Material Culture</i>	20	6
AR3M12	<i>Untold Stories: Artefacts of Medieval Daily Life</i>	20	6
AR3M9	<i>The Archaeology of the Dark Ages</i>	20	6
AR3M3	<i>Expansion or contraction in twelfth century England?</i>	20	6

In the Department of Classics [40 credits]

Optional modules

A complete list of optional modules is available from the Classics Department, and a list of current options can be found in the Classics BA Programme Handbook. Part 3 modules normally include a range of cross-disciplinary options, and languages.

Students may take IWLP Modern Greek in place of one level 6 module.

Progression requirements

In order to progress from Part 1 to Part 2 students must:

- a) Take a total of at least 40 credits in Part 1 Archaeology (must include AR1RM2 and AR1TS3) and at least 40 credits in Classics (must include CL1CA and CL1CB).
- b) Obtain an overall average of 40% in 120 credits taken in Part 1, including a mark of at least 40% in *each* of the compulsory Part 1 Archaeology modules (AR1RM2 and AR1TS3), and at least 40% in the module CL1CA and at least 40% in the module CL1CB.
- c) Obtain a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to not less than 100 credits taken in Part 1.

In order to progress from Part 2 to Part 3, students must achieve a threshold performance.

To gain a threshold performance at Part 2, a student shall normally be required to achieve:

- (i) a weighted average of 40% over 120 credits taken at Part 2;
- (ii) marks of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to not less than 80 credits; and
- (iii) marks of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to not less than 120 credits.

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: <http://www.reading.ac.uk/internal/exams/Policies/exa-class.aspx>.

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, seminars, and essay tutorials. 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 entirely by coursework, including performance in the field, an on-site examination, and a skills self-assessment. The dissertation in Part 3 comprises a piece of work 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 range of combinations of A-Levels will be appropriate. Entrants should have achieved:

UCAS Tariff: 300 points from 3 full A-levels. Total points exclude Key Skills and General Studies.

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

Scottish Highers: 300 tariff points

Scottish Advanced Highers: 300 tariff points

Irish Leaving Certificate: 300 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 Baccalaureat, 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 H Eckardt

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-session 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 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 with diverse teaching collections, computer laboratories (undergraduate access), 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 surveying equipment; excavation equipment; soil and sediment coring equipment; audio-visual resources; and a minibus. The Classics Department is housed in the Humanities and Social Sciences Building and curates the Ure Museum of Greek Archaeology. The University Library is well stocked with works relating to many different aspects of archaeology and classical studies.

Career prospects

The degree in Archaeology and Classical Studies at Reading offers a firm foundation qualification in the humanities and social sciences, and a set of skills relevant to many careers and life-long learning - including the opportunity for linguistic development. The interdisciplinary nature of the Archaeology and Classical Studies programme, and the emphasis on development of transferable skills including teamwork, oral presentation, numeracy and IT, and essay/report writing, makes Reading Archaeology and Classical Studies graduates highly suitable for a wide range of professional careers in teaching, the arts, media, communication, business, and other fields. The emphasis on field and/or 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 Classics have also gone onto postgraduate courses at Reading and elsewhere. Whether direct from a BA degree, or following graduate study, a number of Archaeology graduates have found positions in UK and European archaeology. Classics and Archaeology represent the core of our modern western civilisation, and together offer analytical and presentation skills set within a broad cultural education.

Opportunities for study abroad or for placements

Opportunities for study abroad:

Students may spend a period of study abroad, normally during Part 2, in the Spring term, through the Department of Archaeology's ERASMUS exchange scheme, currently with the University of Lund, Sweden.

Placement Opportunities:

Valuable volunteering opportunities within UMASCS are available to students taking this programme, giving them the opportunity to develop further curatorial skills at one or more of the University's museums: the Ure Museum of Classical Archaeology, the Museum of English Rural Life and the Coles Museum of Zoology. During your time in the Archaeology Department students will have the opportunity to develop their archaeological employability through various placements. They will be able to develop their fieldwork skills (e.g. planning and post-excavation archive management, presentation to the public, excavation and recording, geophysics and other scientific techniques) through the Silchester Field School module and, in their 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, the Central Zagros Archaeological Project, and the Inner Hebrides Archaeological Project. 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. 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, Placement and Experience Centre (CPEC) provides all Reading students with information about a wide range of placement opportunities, including the Summer Enterprise Experience & Discovery internship scheme, the Community Service Volunteering scheme (tutoring in local schools), the Student Associates Scheme (work experience in local schools), and the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Programme.

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 origins and growth of archaeology as a discipline, and current practice within its wider political, social and institutional context;
2. the archaeology, literature, thought, art and religion of antiquity and the reception of Graeco-Roman culture in the West;
3. a diverse range of primary source material and evidence, their variability and reliability;
4. a range of problems of dating, interpretation and evaluation of primary materials in their historical, political and social context;
5. a range of techniques and methodologies, including scientific methods in Archaeology.

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. 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.

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 examination, 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.

Skills and other attributes

B. Intellectual skills - able to:

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;

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

These skills are developed throughout the programme. Skills will be introduced in lectures, developed through reading, writing of essays, dissertation and examination, with 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.

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*:

1. to gather, organise and deploy evidence and information, and to show awareness of the consequences of the unavailability of evidence;
2. to develop the capacity for critical judgement in the light of evidence and argument;
3. to select and apply appropriate methodologies in assessing the meaning and significance of evidence or data
4. to have effective bibliographical, internet and library research skills;
5. to plan and carry out a primary research project, working independently.

D. Transferable skills - *able to*:

1. 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;
2. to deal effectively with a variety of visual material and numerical data;
3. to identify and devise strategies for solving problems;
4. to work effectively in a team;
5. to locate information and use a range of information technology effectively;
6. to organise their own time purposefully and work independently;
7. to make informed career plans.

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 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.

Assessment

Coursework and examinations, as well as in the dissertation.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

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. Career management is taught through a dedicated Part 2 module, and is linked with placement opportunities and the skills acquired through the Silchester Field School and/or other aspects of the degree.

Assessment

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.