

**BA Classical Studies and History of Art  
For students entering Part 1 in 2012/3**

**UCAS code: QV83**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Awarding Institution:                       | University of Reading                       |
| Teaching Institution:                       | University of Reading                       |
| Relevant QAA subject Benchmarking group(s): | Classics & Ancient History; History of Art  |
| Faculty:                                    | Arts, Humanities and Social Science Faculty |
| Programme length:                           | 3 years                                     |
| Date of specification:                      | 17/May/2013                                 |
| Programme Director:                         | Prof Barbara Goff                           |
| Programme Advisor:                          | Dr Paul Davies                              |
| Board of Studies:                           | Classics                                    |
| Accreditation:                              |   |

**Summary of programme aims**

The programme aims to provide a through degree level education in Classical and Art Historical Studies. In Classics it aims to produce graduates who have experience of literary, thematic and genre-based approaches to the cultures of antiquity. The History of Art element gives students a broad perspective on Western art and architecture since the Middle Ages, as well the ability to acquire specialist knowledge of chosen periods. The programme will provide a basis for interpreting primary and secondary sources of evidence, and understanding methods of analysis, appreciate the changing nature of each discipline's priorities and approaches, and in History of Art it will promote a critical understanding of the relationship between contemporary conceptions of art and architecture and those of the past. All this will be achieved through structured progression from Parts 1 to 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 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.

Classical Studies and History of Art are disciplines which 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. Students will become skilled at visual analysis, learning how to describe evidence from visual sources in oral and written forms. Both fields of study also prompt an awareness of numeracy through chronology, periodisation, and basic quantification. In addition, the use of powerful tools of research, analysis and presentation associated with information technology is developed 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. Students must normally take a minimum of 40 credits in each of the Classics and History of Art units in Part 1. In Part 1 the remaining credits can be made up from any optional modules and/or from modules elsewhere in the University. In Part 2 they must normally take a minimum of 60 credits in each subject and a distinctive feature of the degree is the opportunity to study abroad via History of Art's study trip, during which works of art and architecture are studied at first hand. In Part 3, 40 credits are taken in each subject, plus the dissertation of 40 credits in one subject. In consultation with their programme adviser, they may choose to take up to 20 credits each year from modules available elsewhere in the University.

Part 1 introduces students to the disciplines; Part 2 develops skills through the study of broad, contrasting genres and periods, and Part 3 contains a more detailed focus and specific research work.

Admission to optional modules will be at the discretion of the Programme Director.

**Part 1 (three terms)**

*Compulsory modules*

| <i>Mod Code</i> | <i>Module Title</i>                      | <i>Credits</i> | <i>Level</i> |
|-----------------|--|----------------|--------------|
| CL1CA           | The Civilization of Fifth-Century Athens | 20             | 4            |
| CL1CB           | Rome in the Augustan Age                 | 20             | 4            |
| HA1AB           | History of Art and Architecture Workshop | 20             | 4            |

### *Optional Module*

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

Optional modules At least 20 credits to be made up from the following:

|       |  |    |   |
|-------|--|----|---|
| HA1AA | Art's Histories: a survey                                  | 20 | 4 |
| HA1AC | Makers and making: artists, architects and their practices | 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 |
| And    |   |    |   |
| HA2ST  | Study Trip Abroad   | 20 | 5 |
| HA2DDC | Distance and difference: perspectives on art, architecture and visual culture | 20 | 5 |

### **In Classics (60 credits)**

Students will take between 20 and 40 credits from the core modules and a further 10 credits only from one of the employability modules. Students can then take between 10 and 30 credits from Classics options.

#### *Core modules:*

|       |                    |    |   |
|-------|--------------------|----|---|
| CL2AE | Ancient Epic       | 20 | 5 |
| CL2DR | Ancient Drama      | 20 | 5 |
| CL2PE | Ancient Persuasion | 20 | 5 |
| CL2GH | Greek History      | 20 | 5 |
| CL2RO | Roman History      | 20 | 5 |

*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 cross-listed Museum Studies modules.

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

#### **In History of Art**

Students will take one option module (20 credits) in addition to the two compulsory modules. A complete list of options is available from the BA Programme Coordinator, and a list of current options can be found in the BA Programme Handbook.

#### *Compulsory dissertation:*

|        |  |    |   |
|--------|--|----|---|
| Either |  |    |   |
| HA3DI  | Dissertation (History of Art)            | 40 | 6 |
| Or     |  |    |   |
| CL3DP  | Preparation for Dissertation in Classics | 10 | 6 |
| CL3DN  | Dissertation in Classics                 | 30 | 6 |

In the Department of 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 also take cross-listed Museum Studies modules.

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

Optional modules in History of Art : 40 credits. A complete list of options is available from the BA Programme Coordinator, and a list of current options can be found in the BA Programme Handbook.

### **Progression requirements**

To proceed from Part 1 to Part 2 students should:

1. achieve an overall average of 40% in 120 credits;
2. obtain a mark of at least 40% in HA1AB and obtain a mark of at least 40% in either HA1AA or HA1AC
3. achieve a mark of at least 40% in the module CL1CA and at least 40% in the module CL1CB;
4. achieve not less than 30% in any module except that marks of less than 30% in a total of 20 credits may be condoned.

To 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.

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

### **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 the 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 through seminars, lectures and essay tutorials. Over the programme as a whole, assessment will be conducted through a mixture of assessed coursework and formal examination. The Dissertation module is supported by workshops and individual supervision. The Part 2 Skills modules are assessed through portfolios of skills and 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 Classical Studies or History of Art is required for admission. Entrants should have achieved:

**A-Levels:**ABB from three A-level subjects (excluding General Studies).

**International Baccalaureate:**32 points overall.

**Scottish Highers:**ABBBB/ **Advanced Highers:** ABB

## **Irish Leaving Certificate:**

AABBB

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 or the Admissions Tutor. The current Admissions Secretary is Jennifer Allison who can be contacted by:

Telephone - 0118 931 6999

Email - admissions-classics@rdg.ac.uk

Fax - 0118 931 6661

**Admissions Tutor:** Prof. Phiroze Vasunia

## **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](http://www.reading.ac.uk/student)

Departmental Handbooks are provided to students in the first year. They are also available on the Internet. The Departmental Libraries contain a range of reference works which can be used by students and offer congenial study spaces. 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 History of Art has an extensive slide library (84,000 slides) and the Department of Classics is the curator of the Ure Museum of Greek Archaeology.

## **Career prospects**

In recent years students who have gained degrees in Classical Studies and History of Art have gone into a wide variety of jobs, including teaching, publishing, journalism, the media, management, administration, and public relations. The visual skills developed in the degree make graduates attractive to the advertising industry. A number of graduates each year go on to further academic study and research.

## **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. 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:**

1. the literature, thought, art and religion of antiquity
2. a diverse range of primary materials
3. a range of problems of interpretation and evaluation of primary materials
4. a range of techniques and methodologies the reception of Graeco-Roman culture in the West
5. a broad range of Western art and architecture from the Middle Ages to the present day;
6. specialist information about certain chosen periods of art history;
7. key issues and current priorities in art and architectural history including conflicting interpretations and specific methods of analysis germane to history of art and architecture;
8. the issues involved in interpreting visual artefacts, their function and meaning;
9. technical language of the subjects.

##### **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.

##### *Assessment*

Most knowledge is tested through a combination of coursework and formal examination. The Dissertation and an oral presentation 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. negotiate both primary and secondary sources in classical and medieval studies, and demonstrate how they inter-relate
3. develop creative intelligence in independent research and interpretation.
4. analyse and interpret visual artefacts;
5. synthesise and integrate evidence from multiple and diverse sources, including visual resources, in order to articulate an argument effectively.
6. transfer appropriate skills and methods from one topic within the subject to another;
7. recognise and critically evaluate past and current theoretical approaches and competing interpretations;
8. think comparatively and cross-culturally;
9. think critically and independently;
10. gather, organise and deploy evidence and information, including visual sources, and show awareness of the consequences of the unavailability of evidence

##### **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. The Dissertation requires students to engage creatively and critically with primary sources and/or historical interpretative works.

##### *Assessment*

These skills are assessed in all Parts of the programme by a combination of coursework, essays, oral presentations, dissertation and unseen examinations. Examinations in History of Art also include compulsory questions analysing visual artefacts.

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

1. locate, extract and assemble data and information;
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. memorise and be able to recall key features of different visual resources;
6. plan and carry out a primary research project, working independently

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

1. deploy a range of IT resources effectively
2. present material orally in a clear and effective manner
3. present material in a written form, with discrimination and lucidity in the use of language, professional referencing, and clear layout
4. work creatively, flexibly and adaptably with others
5. write and think under pressure and to meet deadlines
6. deal effectively with a variety of visual material and numerical data;
7. evaluate evidence and use reasoned arguments
8. identify and devise strategies for solving problems;
9. work effectively in a team;
10. locate information and use a range of information technology effectively;
11. make informed career plans.

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

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

#### *Assessment*

These are assessed through coursework and examinations, as well as in the dissertation

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

These are developed in lectures and seminars and applied in self-study and writing of assignments. The use of IT is embedded throughout the programme. Time management is essential for the effective completion of the programme. Career management is taught through a distinct Part 2 module

#### *Assessment*

These are assessed through 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.**