

**BA Classical Studies and English Literature**  
**For students entering Part 1 in 2013/4**

**UCAS code: QQ38**

Awarding Institution:	University of Reading
Teaching Institution:	University of Reading
Relevant QAA subject Benchmarking group(s):	Classics & Ancient History; English
Faculty:	Arts, Humanities and Social Science Faculty
Programme length:	3 years
Date of specification:	16/May/2014
Programme Director:	Prof Phiroze Vasunia
Programme Advisor:	Dr Stephen Thomson
Board of Studies:	Classics
Accreditation:	

**Summary of programme aims**

This is a multi-disciplinary programme which aims to provide students with subject specific knowledge and more general skills, including knowledge of a variety of different kinds of English texts and Classical literature, art, philosophy, and their reception in modern culture, as well as perspectives on different methods of critical analysis. The programme also aims to foster an independent approach to formulating problems and arguments, using the close reading and analytical skills that are fundamental to both disciplines. There is provision for the development of students' specific interests through independent study for the dissertation.

**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, interpersonal skills, learning skills, numeracy, self-management, use of IT and problem-solving and will have been encouraged to further develop and enhance the full set of skills through a variety of opportunities available outside their curriculum.

On completion of this programme, students are expected to have developed a range of transferable skills including: fluency in writing and oral communication, the ability to formulate and evaluate their own arguments and those of others, to translate subject-specific knowledge and skills to new environments, the ability to find and use relevant information resources, to manage their time effectively, and use basic word-processing and IT skills; the ability to work co-operatively with others; and the ability to enhance their skills in relationship to career management.

**Programme content**

Each Part of the degree programme comprises 120 credits. In Part 1, students must take 60 credits in English, and at least 40 credits in Classical Studies; the remaining 20 credits may be made up from modules available in Classical Studies or elsewhere in the University. In Part 2 students must normally take 60 credits in each Department, but, in consultation with their programme adviser, they may choose to take up to 20 credits each year from modules available elsewhere in the University. In Part 3 students must take 40 credits in each Department, plus a 40 credit dissertation, which maybe in either Department or jointly in both. Not all optional modules will necessarily be available every year. 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
EN1GC	Genre and Context	20	4
EN1RC	Research and Criticism	20	4
EN1PE	Poetry in English	20	4

*Optional modules*

CL1TO	Text and Object: the History of Greek and Roman Writing	20	4
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EN1TCL Twentieth-Century American Literature

**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

**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

*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 English:**

Students choose three modules from a list of options. At least one must be drawn from a list of pre-1800 modules. Options vary from year to year. A full list is available in the Part 2 Module Supplement and from the Programme Adviser in English.

**Part 3 (three terms)***Compulsory modules***Either**

CL3DE	Joint Dissertation	40	6
Or			
EN3DIS	Dissertation in English	40	6
Or			
CL3DP	Preparation for Dissertation in Classics	10	6
and either			
CL3DN	Dissertation in Classics	30	6
or			
CL3INP	Independent Third Year Project	30	6

Admission to CL3INP is at the discretion of the Programme Director

**In Classics (40 credits)**

*Optional modules:* A complete list of optional modules is available from the Programme Director, and a list of current options can be found in the BA Programme Handbook. Part 3 modules normally include a range of cross-disciplinary options. Students may also take cross-listed Museum Studies modules.

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

**In English (40 credits)**

Students choose optional modules totalling 40 credits. A complete list of options is available from the Programme Advisor and in the English Part 3 Module Supplement. Admission to optional modules will be at the discretion of the Programme Advisor.

### **Progression requirements**

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

1. obtain an average of 40% across all Part 1 modules;
2. achieve a minimum of 40% in each English module, and at least 40% in the module CL1CA and at least 40% in the module CL1CB; and
3. achieve a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to not less than 100 credits taken in Part 1.

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 essays and formal examination. In both Departments the Joint Dissertation module is supported by workshops and individual supervision.

Conventions for degree classification are included in the Programme Handbook, but you should note that weighting between Part 2 and Part 3 for classification purposes is 33% and 67%.

### **Admission requirements**

No previous experience of Classical Studies is required for admission. Entrants to the joint degree programme are normally required to have obtained:

#### **A-Levels:**

ABB from three A-level subjects (excluding General Studies). (including B in English Literature or English Language and Literature)

**International Baccalaureate:**32 points overall.

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

#### **Irish Leaving Certificate:**

AABBB

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

**Admissions Tutor:** Dr Matthew Nicholls

### **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)

Students receive Handbooks from both Classical Studies and English which give details of the programme, guidance on study skills such as note-taking and essay writing, and information about staff, facilities, and sources of specialized help within the University, such as the Study Skills Advisor and the Counselling Service. Both components of the programme are designed to support students throughout their degree course while encouraging more independent work in Part 3. Academic feedback and guidance is given through one-to-one essay tutorials, and academic and personal support is provided through the tutor system and the University's i-Learn Scheme. Dissertation workshops prepare students for the Part 3 dissertation which is individually supervised. The Department of Classics is the Curator of the Ure Museum of Greek Archaeology. The Geoffrey Matthews Collection, housed in the School of English, provides books, xeroxed materials, cassettes and an extensive collection of videos for loan to students. A video-viewing suite is available within the Faculty. The Library is well-stocked with printed materials as well as electronic databases, such as the OED, the MLA Bibliography, and the DNB on CD ROM, and such on-line resources as JSTOR and First Search. Specialist subject librarians are available to give students advice and guidance to library resources.

### **Career learning**

#### **Career prospects**

In recent years students who have gained degrees in Classical Studies and English have gone into a wide variety of jobs, including teaching, publishing, journalism, the media, management, administration, and public relations. The degree programme provides graduates with a range of communication and analytical skills that will serve them in good stead in the marketplace. A number of graduates each year also go on to further academic study and research.

#### **Opportunities for study abroad**

As part of the degree programme students have the opportunity to study abroad at an institution with which the University has a valid agreement.

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 also have the opportunity to take any one module in English Literature at Part 2 or Part 3 as a placement module. 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.

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## Programme Outcomes

### Knowledge and Understanding

#### A. Knowledge and understanding of:

1. Literary texts in English from selected periods between the Middle Ages and the present day
2. A range of kinds of texts including fiction, poetry and drama
3. Methods of critical textual analysis
4. Ways in which social, cultural and historical issues relate to texts
5. A range of approaches in English studies
6. Selected special fields of English
7. The literature, thought, art and religion of Graeco-Roman culture
8. A diverse range of ancient evidence.
9. A range of problems of interpretation and evaluation of ancient evidence.
10. The reception of Graeco-Roman culture in the West.

#### Teaching/learning methods and strategies

Knowledge and understanding are gained through formal teaching (lectures, seminar discussions, and individual essay feedback), prescribed and recommended reading, and the writing of essays and a dissertation. Part 1 offers a broad introduction to 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8. In Part 2 the understanding and skills acquired in Part 1 are developed with particular emphasis on 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 9, and 10 through seminars, lectures and individual feedback. Part 3 introduces more specialized study, particularly in relation to 3, 5, 6, through a choice of seminar-based modules together with supervised, independent study leading to a dissertation.

#### Assessment

In Parts 1 and 2, knowledge and understanding of 1 - 5 and 7-10 are tested through a combination of essays and unseen written examinations. In Part 3, assessment is through a mixture of methods, such as extended essays, essays plus unseen exams, and the dissertation.

### Skills and other attributes

#### B. Intellectual skills - *able to*:

1. Capacity for independent analysis and research
2. Identification of problems and issues
3. The ability to read closely and critically
4. An ability to reflect on one's own positions

#### Teaching/learning methods and strategies

Intellectual skills are acquired through independent reading (1), seminar preparation and discussion, and essay writing (1, 2, 3) and essay feedback through tutorials (2, 3 and 4).

#### Assessment

1 - 3 are assessed both formatively in coursework essays, and summatively in essays, unseen exams and the joint dissertation. 1- 4 are assessed formatively through seminar discussion and essay feedback and tutorials.

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

In English

1. The ability to criticize and formulate interpretations of texts
2. An ability to engage in critical argument using relevant theoretical approaches
3. An awareness of the rhetorical resources of the

#### Teaching/learning methods and strategies

In English

1 - 3 and 6 are developed in seminars, essays and essay tutorials. 4 and 5 are developed through essays, essay feedback and dissertation guidance and supervision.

English language

4. Bibliographical and research skills
5. A knowledge of appropriate conventions in the presentation of written work
6. An ability to relate the study of English to cultural and social issues

In Classical Studies - able to

7. Gather, organize and deploy evidence and information, and to show awareness of the consequences of the unavailability of evidence.
8. Develop the capacity for critical judgement in the light of evidence and argument.
9. Select and apply appropriate methodologies in assessing the meaning and significance of evidence or data.
10. Have effective bibliographical and library based research skills.

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

1. Fluency in written and oral communication
2. The ability to formulate and present arguments
3. Assessing the merits of competing approaches
4. The ability to translate subject-specific knowledge and skills into other environments
5. The ability to find and use relevant information resources
6. Time-management skills
7. A creative approach to problem-solving
8. Group and interpersonal skills
9. An ability to self-evaluate and self-reflect
10. Use of information technology, especially word-processing
11. Assessment of aptitudes for a career

**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.**

#### *Assessment*

All the subject specific practical skills are assessed through formative and summative essays. 1 - 3 and 6 are also tested in unseen examinations.

In Classical Studies

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

Oral presentation also constitutes a percentage of the assessment for the dissertation.

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

Developed via participation in relevant modules.

#### *Assessment*

Assessed within relevant modules.