BA Italian and Classical Studies (part time)   **UCAS code:**
For students entering Part 1 in 2014/5

Awarding Institution:	University of Reading
Teaching Institution:	University of Reading
Relevant QAA subject Benchmarking group(s):	Languages and Related Studies; Classics and Ancient History
Faculty:	Arts, Humanities and Social Science Faculty
Programme length:	5 years
Date of specification:	19/Sep/2014
Programme Director:	Dr Federico Faloppa
Programme Advisor:	Prof Phiroze Vasunia
Board of Studies:	Modern Languages and European Studies
Accreditation:	

Summary of programme aims

The programme aims to provide a thorough degree level education in Italian and Classical Studies. It aims to develop students' intellectual potential, enabling them to progress to a wide range of careers or to postgraduate study, while also promoting a lifelong love of learning. Its multi-disciplinary approach aims to produce graduates who are competent communicators in spoken and written Italian, who have a sound knowledge of a range of aspects of Italian culture, history and society, selected in accordance with individual academic interests, and who have experience of literary, thematic and genre-based approaches to the cultures of antiquity. The programme also promotes work-related learning.

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. and will have been encouraged to further develop and enhance the full set of skills through a variety of opportunities available outside their curriculum.

Programme content

Part-time Degree Structure:

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 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.

The profile which follows states which modules must be taken (the compulsory modules) together with one or more lists of modules from which the student must make a selection (the 'optional' modules). Not all modules will necessarily be available every year. Admission to options will be at the discretion of the Programme Director. Students must choose such additional modules as they wish, in consultation with their

Programme Adviser, to make 120 credits in each Part. The number of credits for each module is shown after its title, and the credit requirement for progression is indicated for each Part.

In Part 1 students must take at least 40 credits in each of the Italian and Classics Departments: the remaining credits can be made up from any optional modules and/or from modules elsewhere in the University. In Parts 2 and 3, students must normally take a minimum of 60 credits in each of the Classics and Italian Departments.

Part 1 in Italian includes the study of both language and an introduction to aspects of Italian culture. All students must take a compulsory 20-credit language module (to which they will be allocated according to their previous qualifications) and a compulsory 20-credit module on cultural themes. All students, if they wish, may also take a further module in Italian culture. In Part 2 students take one compulsory 20-credit Italian language module (the level at this stage depends on their previous experience), and two optional modules from a range of broadly-based culture modules. During Part 3 comprises one module of further Italian language study, and two optional modules chosen from a range of specialised topics relating to many different aspects of Italian culture. 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. In Classical Studies Part 1 deals with the Culture, Literature and History of two key periods: fifth century Athens and Augustan Rome with an optional unit in the development of ancient writing. In Part 2, the core areas of literature are addressed. In Part 3, there is a range of options is available to explore specific periods, genres, and themes.

Part 1 (three terms)
Compulsory modules

CL1CA	The Civilisation of Fifth-Century Athens	20	4
CL1CB	Rome in the Augustan Age	20	4

In Italian Studies

Students must take at least 40 credits in Italian. A further 20-credit module in Italian Studies may be taken if desired.

For students with A Level or equivalent:
Compulsory modules

IT1L3	Advanced Italian Language I	20	4
IT1002	Twentieth-century Italian Culture	20	4

Optional module

IT1004	Italian Medieval and Renaissance Culture (in translation)	20	4

For non-advanced students:
Compulsory modules

Either	(for students with GCSE or AS-level)		
IT1L2	Intemediate Italian Language	20	4
Or	(for students with no previous knowledge of Italian)		
IT1L1	Beginners Italian Language	20	4
Plus			
Either			
IT1004	Italian Medieval and Renaissance Culture (in translation)	20	4
Or			
IT10M1	Making Italians: A Journey in the History and Culture of Modern Italy	20	4

Optional module
One of

IT1004	Italian Medieval and Renaissance Culture (in translation)	20	4
IT10MI	Making Italians: A Journey in the History and Culture of Modern Italy	20	4

In the Classics Department
Optional module

CL1CA	THE CIVILIZATION OF FIFTH-CENTURY ATHENS	20	4
CL1CB	ROME IN THE AUGUSTAN AGE	20	4

Part 2 (three terms)
In Italian Studies
Compulsory modules
Depending on level achieved at Part 1, either:
Either

IT2L4	Advanced Italian Language II	20	5

Or

IT2L2	Intermediate Italian Language	20	5
Or	if IT202 has been taken at Part 1		
IT1L3	Advanced Italian Language I	20	4

Optional modules (to total of 40 credits)
Students must choose two option modules to the value of 40 credits. A complete list of current options can be found in the relevant Departmental Handbook.

In the Classics Department:
Students will take at least two core modules (40 credits) and a further 20 credits from among either core or optional modules.
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 options is available from the Classics Department, 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 take IWLP Modern Greek in place of one level 5 module.

Part 3 (three terms)
Compulsory modules

IT3L6	Advanced Italian Language III	20	6
CL3ITDS	Dissertation (Italian and Classical Studies)	20	6

In Italian Studies
Optional modules (to total of 40 credits)
Students must choose two option modules to the value of 40 credits. A complete list of current options can be found in the relevant Departmental Handbook.
(NB: In those programmes where the taking of 20 credits outside the main programme is permitted, no IWLP Level 1 Romance Language, or a Beginners' Latin, module, can be taken for credit by any Language finalist)

In the Classics Department:
Optional modules (to total of 40 credits)
Part 3 modules normally include a range of cross-disciplinary options. A complete list of optional modules is available from the BA Programme Coordinator, and a list of current options can be found in the BA Programme Handbook. Students may take IWLP Modern Greek in place of one level 6 module.

Progression requirements
To proceed from Part 1 to Part 2 students must:
(i) obtain a mark of at least 40% in each of their compulsory modules in Italian, and a mark of at least 40% in CL1CA and at least 40% in CL1CB at Part 1;
(ii) achieve an overall average of 40% in 120 credits taken in the examination;

(iii) achieve 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
Teaching is through seminars, lectures, essay tutorials and language classes. Over the programme as a whole, assessment will be conducted through a mixture of assessed essays and formal examination. The Dissertation modules are supported by workshops and individual supervision.
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

Admission requirements
No previous experience of Italian or of Classical Studies is required for admission. Entrants to this programme are normally required to have obtained BBB from 3 A Level subjects. Equivalent international qualifications will be accepted, Mature applicants: Applications from mature candidates are welcomed, and many have done notably well in the past. A mature applicant is more likely to receive an offer of a place if he or she has undertaken recent study, for example 2 or more A Levels or an Access course but each case is assessed on its merits. Potential applicants should contact the Admissions Tutor well in advance to discuss individual circumstances. International applicants: Applications from international candidates are also particularly welcomed. Advice on the acceptability of your qualifications may be sought, where necessary, from the Admissions Tutor.

Admissions Tutor: Dr Sophie Heywood

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 Handbooks issued to Part 1 and to degree course students provide extensive information on resources and study skills. 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 University Library is particularly well stocked with works relating to many different aspects of Italian and Classical culture and the Faculty possesses a video suite to support cinema studies. The Departmental Libraries contains a range of reference works which can be used by students and offer congenial study spaces. The Department of Classics is the Curator of the Ure Museum of Greek Archaeology

Career learning

Career prospects

Students graduating in Italian work in many different fields. Some use their linguistic skills in teaching, including teaching English as a Foreign Language abroad; others proceed to post-graduate courses in various areas, including translating. A degree involving Italian can also, like degrees in other arts subjects, lead to careers in such areas as administration, management or marketing, or be a prelude to study in law or accountancy; and increasing numbers of students find positions in the business world, including the travel industry, where their knowledge of Italian can be a distinct asset. In recent years students who have gained degrees from the Classics Department have gone into a wide variety of jobs, including teaching, publishing, journalism, the media, management, administration, and public relations. A number of graduates each year go on to further academic study and research.

Opportunities for study abroad

Part-time students ar encouraged to spend time amounting to a minimum of six weeks in Italy over the duration of their degree.

Placement opportunities

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 Italian language and Classical Studies 2. Selected aspects of Italian literature, history and culture, as well as the literature, thought and art of Graeco-Roman Antiquity. 3. Methods of approach, analysis and interpretation associated with the various disciplines covered. 4. A diverse range of ancient evidence. 5. A Range of problems of interpretation and evaluation of ancient evidence. 6. The reception of Graeco-Roman culture in the West.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

1. At Part 1, Italian is taught at three distinct levels: beginners, intermediate and advanced. Separate teaching is maintained throughout Part 2, but after the year 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. Regular non-assessed coursework is set, and considerable emphasis is based on individual study. These areas are taught through a combination of usually informal lectures and seminars. Students are expected to undertake independent reading on the basis of bibliographies issued for each module, and prepare seminar papers and essays. The dissertation provides an opportunity for the further development of independent research.

Assessment
Language work is assessed by oral and written examinations. The Italian University courses are assessed by oral examinations. Modules on literature

and culture are assessed by a combination of coursework and examination or, in one case, by an independent dissertation. B Intellectual skills - able to: 1. analyse and interpret literary or cinematic works in their cultural contexts;
2. apply literary and historical concepts;
3. conduct lucid arguments in support of a case, using evidence appropriately;
4. think critically, engage in analytical and evaluative thinking about texts, sources, arguments and interpretations, independently estimating their relevance to the issue in question,
5 discriminate between opposing theories, and form judgements on the basis of evidence and argument. Teaching/learning methods and strategies These skills are developed throughout the programme. Classes in literary, historical, cinematic and other cultural modules involve analysis and discussion, often based on papers presented by students; and set essays involve analysis and debate on intellectual problems. Awareness of new approaches is encouraged as options are often linked to teachers' research interests. Individual feedback is provided on content and organisation of essays. Independent thinking is developed especially through the dissertation module for which initial preparation and regular support are provided. Assessment These skills are assessed in all Parts of the programme by a combination of coursework essays and examination. The independent dissertation is a key element, and there are further opportunities for writing extended essays.

Skills and other attributes

B. Intellectual skills - *able to:*

1. analyse and interpret literary or cinematic works in their cultural contexts;
2. apply literary and historical concepts;
3. conduct lucid arguments in support of a case, using evidence appropriately;
4. think critically, engage in analytical and evaluative thinking about texts, sources, arguments and interpretations, independently estimating their relevance to the issue in question,
5 discriminate between opposing theories, and form judgements on the basis of evidence and argument.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

These skills are developed throughout the programme. Classes in literary, historical, cinematic and other cultural modules involve analysis and discussion, often based on papers presented by students; and set essays involve analysis and debate on intellectual problems. Awareness of new approaches is encouraged as options are often linked to teachers' research interests. Individual feedback is provided on content and organisation of essays. Independent thinking is developed especially through the dissertation module for which initial preparation and regular support are provided.

Assessment
These skills are assessed in all Parts of the programme by a combination of coursework essays and examination. The independent dissertation is a key element, and there are further opportunities for writing extended essays.

C. Practical skills - *able to:*

1. speak, write, read and understand Italian at a high

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

Language classes are compulsory throughout the

or near-native level of proficiency;
2. seek out and select information from published and Internet sources and use it critically;
3. make clearly-constructed written and oral presentations;
4. plan and carry out limited research projects.
5. gather, organise and deploy ancient evidence and information, and show awareness of the consequences of the unavailability of evidence from antiquity.
6. develop the capacity for critical judgement in the light of ancient evidence and scholarly argument.
7. select and apply appropriate methodologies in assessing the meaning and significance of ancient evidence or data
8. use bibliographical and library research tools effectively

D. Transferable skills - *able to:*

1. construct and communicate arguments clearly and effectively in speech and writing, and support arguments with evidence;
2. think critically;
3. locate information and use information technology (especially word-processing and web-based resources);
4. participate effectively in group activities; 5. organise their own time purposefully and work independently;
6. show sensitivity to cultural differences;
7. make informed career plans.
8. present material orally in a clear and effective manner.
9. present material in a written form, with discrimination and lucidity in the use of language, professional referencing and clear layout
10. write and think under pressure and to meet deadlines.

programme and there is regular unassessed coursework. 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. 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 provide experience of researching topics independently.

Assessment
Skill 1 is assessed at different stages by oral examinations and unseen written papers. Skills 2-8 are assessed by a combination of coursework, examinations and dissertation.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

Skills 1-6 are developed progressively throughout the programme. Participation in seminars and oral classes develops skills in self-expression and teamwork. Critical thought, the construction of arguments, and information skills are all developed through essay writing and the dissertation, and all assessed work must be word-processed. Time-management skills are enhanced by the regular production of language work and the meeting of strict essay deadlines.

Assessment
Skills 1-2 are assessed through coursework and examinations, including the examinations in Italy. The location of information forms part of the activity involved in the dissertation, but word-processing skills are not formally assessed. Skill 4 is not directly assessed. There are strict, clearly-defined penalties for lateness in handing in assessed work and for plagiarism. Skill 8 is assessed formatively. Skills 9-10 are developed through the submission of written course work and examinations.

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.