BA Museum and Classical Studies   **UCAS code: P1Q8**
For students entering Part 1 in 2015/6

Awarding Institution:	University of Reading
Teaching Institution:	University of Reading
Relevant QAA subject Benchmarking group(s):	Classics
Faculty:	Arts, Humanities and Social Science Faculty
Programme length:	3 years
Date of specification:	17/Aug/2015
Programme Director:	Dr Rachel Mairs
Programme Advisor:	Dr Rhi Smith
Board of Studies:	Museum Studies
Accreditation:	Not applicable

Summary of programme aims

The programme aims to provide a thorough degree level education in Museum and Classical Studies, and a sound preparation for those considering a career in the museums and heritage sector. The Classics side aims to give students experience in and understanding of Classical culture from a literary, material and thematic perspective, while also equipping them with a sound historical framework which allows them to appreciate the context of ancient texts and objects. On the Museum Studies side, students learn about the presentation of ancient culture to the public, and reflect on how we approach the past through objects and their display. They also gain essential hands-on experience working with museum objects alongside a range of professional archive and museum staff, employed across the University's Museums and Special Collections Service (UMASCS), including its three museums: MERL, the Ure Museum of Classical Archaeology, and the Cole Museum of Zoology. 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 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. Museum and Classical Studies 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. 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 Museum and Classical Studies modules 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. In Part 3, 40 credits are taken in Museum Studies, an optional 40 credit dissertation in Classics is strongly recommended with the remaining 40 or 80 credits taken from Classics. 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, themes and periods, and Part 3 contains a more detailed focus and specific research work. Not all options will necessarily be available every year. Admission to options will be at the discretion of the Programme Director. In Parts 2 and 3, up to 20 credits can be taken from modules available elsewhere in the University.

Part 1 (three terms)
Compulsory modules

MC1PP	Presenting the Past	20	4
MC1HPE	Museum History, Policy and Ethics	20	4

Students must choose to take
Either

CL1GH	Greek History	20	4

and

CL1RH	Roman History	20	4

OR

CL1SO	Ancient Song	20	4

and

CL1TR	Texts, Readers, and Writers	20	4

In addition, students may choose up to 40 credits of Latin and Greek modules or from modules offered university-wide

Part 2 (three terms)
Compulsory modules

In Museum Studies (60 credits) Students will take the following compulsory modules:

Code	Title	Credits	Level
MC2BM	Break into the Museum: Work Placement	20	5
MC2CCM	Curatorship & Collections Management	20	5
MC2LE	Museum Learning and Engagement	20	5
CL2PR	Prospects for Classicists and Ancient Historians	10	5

Optional Modules A complete list of optional modules in the Classics Department 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.

In Classics students will take 20-40 credits from:

Code	Title	Credits	Level
CL2AE	Ancient Epic	20	5
CL2DR	Ancient Drama	20	5
CL2GH	Greek History	20	5
CL2RO	Roman History	20	5

Part 3 (three terms)
Compulsory modules

MC3DD	Display Design, Planning and Creation: Project Module	40	6

Optional recommended modules

Code	Title	Credits	Level
CL3DP	Dissertation preparation 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
Optional modules In the Department of Classics 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.

Progression requirements
Progression requirements To proceed from Part 1 to Part 2 students should: 1. achieve an overall average of 40% in 120 credits taken in the examination; 2. achieve a mark of at least 40% in the module CL1CA and at least 40% in the module CL1CB, or at least 40% in the module CL1TR and at least 40% in the module CL1SO; 3. achieve a mark of at least 40% in both the Museum Studies modules 4. 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: - a weighted average of 40% over 120 credits taken at Part 2; and - marks of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to not less than 80 credits; and - 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, student must achieve a threshold performance

Summary of Teaching and Assessment
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. On the Classics side, the recommended optional Dissertation module is supported by workshops and individual supervision, and is assessed both as coursework and through oral presentation. On the Museum Studies side, modules involve working primarily in the University's museums and/or other collections. The Break into the Museum work placement module focuses on placement performance and a post-placement report and presentation. The Part 3 project module involves the creation of a museum display, based on supervised groupwork, and is assessed entirely by coursework (essay, report, and group 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 Museum Studies 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. Telephone - 0118 931 6999 Email - admissions-classics@reading.ac.uk Fax - 0118 931 6661

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-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

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Career learning

Career prospects

Graduates in Museum and Classical Studies will find that their degree programme has been a good grounding for developing a career in the museums or heritage sector (including field archaeology and/or heritage management), through the emphasis upon working with objects and collections within and outside of museum settings. However the degree will also provide a sound basis for careers in other areas including the arts, media, management, administration, the civil service, commerce, law, publishing, librarianship and teaching. Graduates should also be able to proceed onto postgraduate programmes within the fields of Classical Studies and/or Museum Studies.

Opportunities for study abroad

Students may 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. Placement Opportunities The Museum and Classical Studies degree provides a formal museum placement (as part of the 'Break into the Museum' module) for all students, but other valuable volunteering opportunities within UMASCS may also be available to students taking this programme, giving students 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 (MERL), and the Cole Museum of Zoology.

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 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, 5. the reception of Graeco-Roman culture in the West. 6. The current principles and practices of the museums sector, within its wider historical, political and ethical context

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 the completion of a Museum Project. Knowledge of practical techniques and methodologies are further developed through the museum placement and the creation of a museum display.

Assessment
Most knowledge is tested through a combination of coursework and formal examination. The oral presentations in the display design modules, and in other Part 2 and 3 modules, 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. Engage in analytical and evaluative thinking about the management and presentation of material culture, with reference to both practical and theoretical considerations and integrating evidence from museum displays and archival sources, independently judging material displays with relevance to the requirements of the provider and the audience, and forming judgements on the basis of evidence and argument

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

Skills will be introduced in lectures, practicals and placements, developed through reading, writing of essays, practical activities, designing of a display, and examination, with individual feedback provided on the content and organisation of essays and other coursework. Independent thinking is developed especially through the display design module and recommended dissertation for which initial preparation and regular support are provided.

Assessment
Intellectual skills are tested through coursework and written examinations, with coursework incorporating written work, oral presentations, and practical tasks.

C. Practical skills - *able to:*

1. gather, organise and deploy evidence and information, and to show awareness of the consequences of the unavailability of evidence, 2. develop the capacity for critical judgement in the light of evidence and argument, 3. select and apply appropriate methodologies in assessing the meaning and significance of evidence or data, 4. Select and apply appropriate methodologies for the visual and/or written presentation of material evidence or data 5. have effective bibliographical and library research skills 6. Plan and carry out a primary research project, working independently.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

These are developed through the deployment of seminar classes and essay assignments, and through participation in the placement module. Oral presentation also constitutes a percentage of the assessment of the Project Module. They may also be developed through the recommended optional dissertation module where work on collections will be encouraged.

Assessment
These skills are tested through coursework and examinations, with a particular emphasis upon the practical-based modules and the independent research modules (the display design module and optional dissertation module at Part 3).

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. to write and think under pressure and to meet deadlines. 6. to develop numeracy within the parameters of the subject. 7. to assess aptitudes in preparation for a career.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

In lectures and seminars and applied in self-study and writing of assignments, as well as through participation in the placement module.

Assessment
These transferable skills are assessed through written coursework, oral presentations, and examinations, with a number of modules assessing groupworking alongside individual performance.

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.