

Programme Specification

BA Archaeology and History

For students entering Part 1 in September 2016

UCAS Code: VV14

UFARXHS

UFARXHSHY

UFARXHSSY

UFARXHSWY

This document sets out key information about your Programme and forms part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

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| Awarding Institution | University of Reading |
| Teaching Institution | University of Reading |
| Length of Programme | 3 years |
| Length of Programme with placement/year abroad | BA Archaeology and History with Placement and Study Abroad - 4 years (internal transfer only) BA Archaeology and History with Study Year Abroad - 4 years (internal transfer only) BA Archaeology and History with Professional Placement - 4 years (internal transfer only) |

Programme information and content

The programme aims to provide you with a long-term diachronic perspective on the diversity and richness of human experience by combining a complementary degree-level education in History and Archaeology with the development of numerous academic and personal transferable skills in preparation for a range of career choices. The Programme offers students the opportunity to study the human past in its broadest possible dimension, from the earliest hominin ancestors some 7 million years ago to modern times, and within Britain, Europe and globally. Students will have the opportunity to study using archives and collections, including those of the Reading University Museums and Special Collections Services, and to take part in experiential learning through the Archaeology Field School, vocational and technique-based options (e.g. bone and artefacts analysis), making use of the excellent teaching collections. Its strengths lie in the combination of methodologies from the humanities and sciences and insight into two different academic disciplines and cultures, in order to understand the human past in all its spatial and temporal dimensions and to lend past perspectives to global challenges. Students will expand the range, depth and sophistication of their knowledge and skills within the structured progression of the programme through Parts 1, 2 and 3.

| | |
|---------|---|
| Part 1: | Introduces you to the methodology of both disciplines through the study of themes and long-term historical change, providing a broad overview of past lifestyles and human social development in a diachronic perspective. |
| Part 2: | Provides you with understanding of both disciplines, individual time periods and historical problems. It encourages you to engage with primary data (documentary sources and material evidence) and develop practical skills through participation in the Archaeology Field School and further technique-based options. |

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| | A placement year provides the opportunity to obtain practical experience and apply academic knowledge. It also helps provide focus in the final year of academic study. Students gain transferable skills demanded by graduate employers and on return to university are better informed about future career paths. A year abroad provides the opportunity for students to broaden both their academic and cultural awareness. |
| Part 3: | Gives you the opportunity to increase specialisation through the provision of a range of specialist subjects from which a choice is made, and lets you conduct an original research project through a dissertation in either Archaeology or History. |

Module information

Each part comprises 120 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules as shown below. Compulsory modules are listed.

Part 1 Modules:

| Module | Name | Credits |
|--------|---|---------|
| AR1RM2 | From Rome to the Reformation: an introduction to historic archaeology | 20 |
| AR1TS3 | Practising Archaeology: methods and approaches | 20 |
| HS1JH1 | Journeys through History 1: Power and People | 20 |
| HS1JH2 | Journeys through History 2: Culture and Concept | 20 |
| HS1RSO | Research Skills and Opportunities in History | 20 |

Your remaining credits will be made up of optional modules in the Departments of Archaeology, Museum Studies or elsewhere in the University.

Part 2 Modules:

You must take 60 credits in the Department of Archaeology and 60 credits in the Department of History. You must choose either AR2F20: Professional Practice (10 credits) or HS2MC1: My Career: Working It Out (10 credits). You need to also choose a minimum of 20 credits from a list of 'Period Options' in Archaeology, focussing on specific time periods or regions.

Your remaining credits will be made up of optional modules in History and Archaeology, including the Archaeology Field School. Up to 20 credits may be chosen from modules available elsewhere in the University.

Modules during a placement year or study year (if applicable):

Students permitted to undertake a placement/study abroad year will take 120 credits in either Work Experience and/or Study Abroad.

Students may be permitted to undertake a placement year or a study abroad year between Part 2 and Part 3 of the programme. In such cases students will transfer to a 4-year programme. The placement or study abroad year should not normally be shorter than nine months full-time.

If you take a year-long placement or study abroad, Part 3 as described below may be subject to variation.

Part 3 Modules:

You must choose one Dissertation module in either Archaeology (AR3D1: Dissertation (40 credits)) or History (HS3HLD: Dissertation in History (40 credits)).

You need to also choose an additional 40 credits worth of optional modules in each Department. Under certain circumstances, up to 20 credits may be chosen from modules available elsewhere in the University, subject to approval by the Programme Director.

Additional costs of the programme

Depending on your module combination, you may be asked to contribute to the costs of non-compulsory fieldtrips and museum visits (c. £50/year). If you wish to participate in the Archaeology Field School you will be required to contribute approx. £75/week to costs for your food and board and you will be expected to be equipped with suitable outdoor clothing, footwear and some camping gear. There are no compulsory textbooks, but you may expect to want to spend around £75/year on books. Discounted second hand copies may be available.

Costs are indicative, but will vary according to module choice and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations. The estimates were calculated in 2016.

Optional modules:

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your Programme is set out in the Further Programme Information. Details of optional modules for each part, including any Additional Costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the Part in which they are to be taken and you will be given an opportunity to express interest in the optional modules that you would like to take. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability and may be subject to pre-requisites, such as completion of another module. Although the University tries to ensure you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

Placement opportunities

You will be provided with the opportunity to undertake a credit-bearing placement as part of your Programme. This will form all or part of an optional module. You will be required to find and secure a placement opportunity, with the support of the University.

Study Abroad:

You may be provided with the opportunity to undertake a Study Abroad placement during your Programme. This is subject to you meeting academic conditions detailed in the Programme Handbook, including obtaining the relevant permissions from your School, and the availability of a suitable Study Abroad placement. If you undertake a Study Abroad placement, further arrangements will be discussed and agreed with you.

Teaching and learning delivery:

You will be taught through a combination of lectures, seminars, practicals, fieldtrips and laboratory based sessions.

The contact hours for your Programme will be approximately 600 hours, depending upon your module combination; information about contact hours for individual modules can be located in the relevant module description.

Assessment

The programme will be assessed through a combination of written examinations, written coursework (including an independent research dissertation), oral presentations, practical tests, and fieldwork.

Progression

The University-wide rules relating to 'threshold performance' as follows

Part 1

- (i) obtain an overall average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 1; and
- (ii) obtain a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to at least 100 credits taken in Part 1.

In order to progress from Part 1 to Part 2, a student must achieve a threshold performance; and

- (iii) obtain a mark of at least 40% in each of the compulsory modules in Archaeology (AR1TS3 and AR1RM2); and History (HS1JH1, HS1JH2 and HS1RSO);

The achievement of a threshold performance at Part 1 qualifies a student for a Certificate of Higher Education if they leave the University before completing the subsequent Part.

Part 2

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

- (i) obtain a weighted average of 40% over 120 credits taken at Part 2; and
- (ii) obtain marks of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to at least 80 credits;
- (iii) obtain marks of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to at least 120 credits, except that a mark below 30% may be condoned in no more than 20 credits of modules owned by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

In order to progress from Part 2 to Part 3 in the **3 year programme**, a student must achieve a threshold performance

In order to progress from Part 2 to Part 3 in the **4 year programme**, a student must achieve a threshold performance and obtain a pass in the professional/work placement or study

abroad year. Students who fail the professional/placement year transfer to the non-placement year version of the programme.

The achievement of a threshold performance at Part 2 qualifies a student for a Diploma of Higher Education if they leave the University before completing the subsequent Part.

Classification

Bachelors' degrees

The University's honours classification scheme is based on the following:

| 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 |

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

Four year programmes, including professional/work placement or study abroad:

Part 2: one-third

Placement/Study Abroad Year abroad not included in the classification

Part 3: two-thirds

For further information about your Programme please refer to the Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions, which are available at <http://www.reading.ac.uk/module/>. The Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions do not form part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

BA Archaeology and History for students entering Part 1 in session 2016/17

17 October 2017

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