

Programme Specification

BA Italian and Classical Studies

For students entering Part 1 in September 2022

UCAS Code: QR83

UFITXCL

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 | 4 years |
| Accreditation | N/A |

Programme information and content

In **Italian** the Programme aims to provide you with the ability to understand native-spoken Italian within an educated Italian environment and to communicate orally with fluency and accuracy, to read with understanding, critical judgement and evaluation a range of specialist and non-specialist cultural, factual and other texts and to write accurately in Italian with an appropriate understanding of register and style. The programme emphasises student-centred learning, intensifying the learning experience through small group teaching and a range of opportunities to engage in projects and workshops. The culture studies modules are informed by staff research specialisms and designed to develop your intellectual skills and to critically apply literary and historical concepts, analyse and interpret a range of cultural texts, develop and demonstrate independence of thought and sensitivity to cultural difference.

Studying a Modern Language opens a variety of career paths. These include careers in business and marketing, publishing, international organisations, teaching and translation. The degree will equip you with a range of transferable skills, including structuring ideas and communicating them effectively, participating effectively in groups and team work, working independently, retrieving, structuring and presenting information, time management, responsibility as well as adaptability and self-reliance.

In **Classical Studies** the Programme aims to provide a thorough degree level education in Classical Studies. The syllabus aims to familiarise students with the literature, art, philosophy and history of Greek and Roman cultures and their reception and use in modern culture, whilst providing them with the opportunity to study more thematic topics in depth. The programme also provides for the development of the specific interests of students through independent study and specifically the dissertation. Students are encouraged to include elements of ancient languages throughout their degree programme. Students will expand the range, depth and sophistication of their knowledge of Classical Studies through the structured progression of Parts 1, 2, and 3 of the programme.

Part 1:

Italian: Develops your practical language skills in your core language module in all four areas (speaking, writing, reading, listening). You will also have the opportunity to understand and apply key terms in the structural analysis of language. The culture studies modules provide you

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| | <p>with a sound understanding of key issues and developments in Italian and European history and culture.</p> <p>Classical Studies: Introduces you to the study of Greek and Roman culture, with a particular emphasis upon the development of the study of primary sources and source criticism, alongside the development of writing skills to explore specific topics in Greek and Roman Civilisations.</p> |
| Part 2: | <p>Italian: Further develops your practical language skills in your core language module in all four areas (speaking, writing, reading, listening), building on the work done in Part 1. The cultural studies module provide you with an opportunity to encounter and critically engage with a range of material in the target language, such as films, literature, essays and historical documents, enhancing your ability to apply a range of analytical concepts as well as approaches to the critical analysis of this material.</p> <p>Classical Studies: Provides you with a knowledge of ancient literature and develops an awareness of the role of the classics in the shaping of the modern Western culture via compulsory core modules which also develop their literary skills. In addition, students choose three option modules that are either more thematic or add greater depth than the core modules.</p> |
| Placement/Study abroad year: | <p>The Placement or Study Abroad will give you the opportunity to apply and enhance your practical language skills in either a work or study environment, or a combination of both. You will further develop your adaptability and self-reliance as well as your sensitivity to cultural difference.</p> |
| Part 3: | <p>Italian: Gives you the opportunity to build up on your existing language skills, refining your use of more complicated structures as well as variation in register and style. The cultural studies modules will give you an opportunity to engage deeply and critically with topics based on staff research specialisms and to apply concepts and approaches for critical analysis to an increased amount of material in the target language.</p> <p>Classical Studies: Gives you the opportunity to approach topics in greater depth through the provision of optional modules and the opportunity to research a dissertation topic in depth.</p> |

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 |
|--------|-----------------------------|---------|
| CL1SO | Ancient Song | 20 |
| CL1TR | Texts, Readers, and Writers | 20 |

In Italian

Students must take one 20 credit module in Beginners or Intermediate or Advanced Italian language.

Students taking the Advanced Italian language module will take a 20 credit module in twentieth century Italian culture.

Students taking the Beginners level or Intermediate level Italian language module must take at least one 20 credit content module in Italian.

Remaining credits will be made up of optional modules from a list provided by the Department of Modern Languages and European Studies.

Part 2 Modules:

In Classical Studies

Students must take at least 40 credits of specified modules in Classics.

In Italian

Students must take one 20 credit language module which will be dependent on the level studied at Part 1.

Students must take 40 credits of optional modules from a list provided by the Department of Modern Languages and European Studies, of which at least 20 credits will be made up of optional modules in Italian.

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

| Module | Name | Credits | Level |
|--------|---|---------|-------|
| ML2YL5 | Year Abroad Language | 40 | 5 |
| ML2YS1 | Semester 1 Study or Work Placement Abroad | 40 | 5 |
| ML2YS2 | Semester 2 Study or Work Placement Abroad | 40 | 5 |

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

Part 3 Modules:

| Module | Name | Credits | Level |
|--------|--|---------|-------|
| CL3EE | Extended Essay for Italian and Classical Studies | 20 | 6 |
| IT3L6 | Advanced Italian Language III | 20 | 6 |

In Italian

Students must take 40 credits of optional modules from a list provided by the Department of Modern Languages and European Studies, of which at least 20 credits will be made up of optional modules in Italian.

In Classical Studies

Students must take 40 credits selected from the list of optional modules available from the Department of Classics.

Students may be permitted to substitute 20 credits of optional modules with modules available across the University, subject to the permission of the Programme Director.

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.

Additional costs of the programme

During your programme of study you will incur some additional costs.

In **Italian**: for textbooks and similar learning resources, we recommend that you budget between £50 to £75 a year. The core textbook(s), which most students normally purchase, cost(s) £25 new, and there may be other books/resources which you would find it convenient to buy.

In **Classical Studies**: there are no textbooks which you must buy and students are encouraged to discuss the purchase of textbooks or other resources with the module convenor before purchasing.

Some books may be available second-hand, which will reduce costs. A range of resources to support your curriculum, including textbooks, more specialist studies and electronic resources, are available through the library.

Reading lists and module specific costs are listed on the individual module descriptions.

Printing and photocopying facilities are available on campus at a cost per A4 page of £0.05 (black and white) and £0.30 (colour). Essential costs in this area will be low as most coursework will be submitted electronically.

For students studying on a year abroad, a discounted fee of 15% of the normal Tuition Fee is payable to the University for the year abroad, as detailed in the Fees Policy. No Tuition Fee is paid to the host institution abroad for which there is a valid exchange agreement in place.

Year Abroad: You may incur additional costs, in addition to those which you would normally expect to pay at the University, during your year abroad, in accordance with clause 6.4 of the Terms and Conditions for Undergraduate Students. These additional costs

will depend on your host institution and destination, but may include the purchase of a visa, and mandatory medical insurance. Students will be briefed on these issues prior to them submitting the form detailing the institutions to which they would like to be allocated, and general information on additional costs is discussed in the Year Abroad preparatory meetings. *Further indicative details on costs and funding are available on the UoR Erasmus & Study Abroad webpages and the webpages of the host institution.*

Costs are indicative and may vary according to optional modules chosen and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations.

The estimates were calculated in 2021.

Placement opportunities

You may 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.

Teaching and learning delivery:

In **Italian** you will be taught through seminars, language classes and lectures. Some modules involve a combination of lectures and seminars.

In **Classical Studies**, you will be taught through a mixture of lectures and seminars in Parts 1 and 2, with a greater emphasis on seminars in Part 3. The dissertation in Part 3 comprises a piece of work based on supervised independent study.

Students either study at a university with which the University of Reading has an agreement under the Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP) and Erasmus University Charter or go on a placement which may be either a teaching placement or a work placement. Full details of potential destinations can be found on both the departmental and the Erasmus & Study Abroad websites.

Total study hours for each Part of your programme will be 1200 hours. The contact hours for your programme will depend upon your module combination; an average for a typical set of modules on this programme is Part 1 - 300 hours, Part 2 - 276 hours, Part 3 - 192 hours. In addition to your scheduled contact hours, you will be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about module contact hours and the amount of independent study which a student is normally expected to undertake for a module is indicated in the relevant module description.

Accreditation details

N/A

Assessment

In **Italian** the programme will be assessed through a combination of written examinations, coursework (including class tests) and oral examinations. Further information is contained in the individual module descriptions.

In **Classical Studies** the programme will be assessed through a combination of written examinations and coursework.

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 a 20 credit Italian language module and a 20 credit Italian content module, at Part 1 .

(iv) Obtain a mark of at least 40 % in all compulsory modules in Classics taken at Part 1 (CL1SO, CL1TR).

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; and
- (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, a student must achieve a threshold performance and obtain a pass in the Year Abroad:

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:

Four-year programmes with a year abroad (MFL)

Part 2: one-third

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 Italian and Classical Studies for students entering Part 1 in session 2022/23

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