

Programme Specification

MA Classics and Ancient History (full-time)

PFTZCLAXAHHM

MA Classics and Ancient History (part-time)

PPTZCLAXAHHM

For students entering in 2023/24

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

Awarding Institution	University of Reading
Teaching Institution	University of Reading
Length of Programme	MA Classics and Ancient History (full-time) - 12 months MA Classics and Ancient History (part-time) - 2 years
Accreditation	N/A
Programme Start Dates	September

Programme information and content

The programme aims to provide both a transition between first degree level work and doctoral research in the various fields of Classics, and an opportunity for students to expand their knowledge of the ancient world and to research new or specialist topics. It offers an introduction to the techniques, methods, and tools of advanced study and research. The provision is multidisciplinary, combining literary, historical, artistic and archaeological approaches. A wide choice of pathways enables students to follow their own preferences in terms of disciplinary approach and period. Teaching in optional modules and dissertation supervision are geared towards the development of students as individual and independent researchers. Students are also expected to take a course in Ancient Greek or Latin language at an appropriate level from beginner to advanced. They may take Italian instead with the approval of the Programme Director.

Module information

The programme comprises of 180 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules. Compulsory modules are listed.

Compulsory modules

Module	Name	Credits	Level
CLMACAH	Approaches to Classics and Ancient History	30	M
CLMDS	Dissertation	80	M
CLMRM	Classics Research Methods	10	M

Students must select two 20 credit Special Options modules available in the Department of Classics or one 40 credit Study Abroad module, which would be subject to the agreement of the Programme Director. One 20 credit Special Options module may be replaced by a module available outside the Department, subject to the agreement of the Programme Director.

Students must in addition select one 20 credit module in Ancient Greek or Latin at the appropriate level. Subject to the agreement of the Programme Director, IWLP Italian language may be taken instead of Ancient Greek or Latin.

Part-time or flexible modular arrangements

The programme can be taken part-time over two years. The modules taken in each year are agreed on an individual basis with the Programme Director, but it is usual for a student to take the compulsory modules Approaches to Classics and Ancient History and Research Methods in the first term of study. Special Option topics may be split across the two years of study. The programme may not be completed over more than two years.

Additional costs of the programme

Students may wish to purchase personal copies of various primary source texts, particularly those used in higher-level language classes. £100-£200 should be budgeted for this.

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 is submitted electronically.

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 2022.

Optional modules

For programmes that include credits allocated to 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 any additional costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the programme. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability. 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

The Department has several Erasmus Agreement with universities in other European countries which allows postgraduate student mobility in the Summer, for the exclusive purpose of researching/writing the MA dissertation when the topic justifies such mobility. Because of the University system in allocating Erasmus funds, students considering this option should have decided on their dissertation topic and on the planned mobility already in autumn term.

Study abroad opportunities

N/A

Teaching and learning delivery

All the modules are delivered through small group teaching. For the Dissertation, students work with a Supervisor on an individual basis. The Research Methods module is assessed through a short written assignment. The Approaches to Classics and Ancient History module is assessed through a book review, an oral or web presentation and a portfolio of smaller exercises. The Special Options module is assessed by two 4,000 word essays, one per option. Language modules are assessed by a combination of written assignments and formal examination

Total study hours for your programme will be 1800 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 190 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

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

Progression

N/A

Classification

The University's taught postgraduate marks classification is as follows:

Mark Interpretation

70 - 100% Distinction

60 - 69% Merit

50 - 59% Good standard (Pass)

Failing categories:

40 - 49% Work below threshold standard

0 - 39% Unsatisfactory Work

For Masters Degree

To qualify for **Distinction**, students must

- i. gain an overall average of 70 or more over 180 credits; and
- ii. a mark of 60 or more for the dissertation; and
- iii. the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- iv. students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Merit**, students must

- i. gain an overall average of 60 or more over 180 credits; and
- ii. a mark of 50 or more for the dissertation; and
- iii. the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- iv. students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Passed**, students must

- i. gain an overall average of 50 or more over 180 credits; and
- ii. a mark of 50 or more for the dissertation; and
- iii. the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- iv. the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 30 credits.

For PG Diploma

To qualify for **Distinction**, students must

- i. gain an overall average of 70 or more over 120 credits; and
- ii. In addition, the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- iii. students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Merit**, students must

- i. gain an overall average of 60 or more over 120 credits; and
- ii. the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- iii. students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Passed**, students must

- i. gain an overall average of 50 or more over 120 credits; and
- ii. the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and

- iii. the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 30 credits.

For PG Certificate

To qualify for a **Postgraduate Certificate**, students must

- i. gain an overall average of 50 or more over 60 credits; and
- ii. the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 10 credits.

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.

MA Classics and Ancient History (full-time) for students entering in session 2023/24
17 June 2022

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