

**BA Classical Studies and English Literature  
For students entering Part 1 in 2008/9**

**UCAS code: QQ38**

Awarding Institution:	University of Reading
Teaching Institution:	University of Reading
Relevant QAA subject Benchmarking group(s):	Classics & Ancient History; English
Faculty:	Faculty of Arts and Humanities
Programme length:	3 years
Date of specification:	12/Aug/2009
Programme Director:	Dr David Carter
Programme Advisor:	Dr Andy Nash
Board of Studies:	Classics
Accreditation:	

**Summary of programme aims**

This is a multi-disciplinary programme which aims to provide students with subject specific knowledge and more general skills, including knowledge of a variety of different kinds of English texts and Classical literature, art, philosophy, and their reception in modern culture, as well as perspectives on different methods of critical analysis. The programme also aims to foster an independent approach to formulating problems and arguments, using the close reading and analytical skills that are fundamental to both disciplines. There is provision for the development of students' specific interests through independent study for the dissertation.

**Transferable skills**

During the course of their studies at Reading, all students will be expected to enhance their academic and personal transferable skills in line with the University's Strategy for Learning and Teaching. 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.

On completion of this programme, students are expected to have developed a range of transferable skills including: fluency in writing and oral communication, the ability to formulate and evaluate their own arguments and those of others, to translate subject-specific knowledge and skills to new environments, the ability to find and use relevant information resources, to manage their time effectively, and use basic word-processing and IT skills; the ability to work co-operatively with others; and the ability to enhance their skills in relationship to career management.

**Programme content**

Each Part of the degree programme comprises 120 credits. In Part 1, students must take 60 credits in English, and at least 40 credits in Classical Studies; the remaining 20 credits may be made up from Certificate-level modules available in Classical Studies or elsewhere in the University. In Parts 2 and 3 students must normally take 60 credits each year in each Department, but, in consultation with their programme adviser, they may choose to take up to 20 credits each year from modules available elsewhere in the University.

Not all optional modules will necessarily be available every year. Admission to optional modules will be at the discretion of the Programme Director.

**Part 1 (three terms)**

*Compulsory modules*

CL1CA	The Civilization of Fifth-Century Athens	20	C
CL1CB	Rome in the Augustan Age	20	C
EN1LL	Languages of Literature	20	C
EN1RS	Revisioning Shakespeare	20	C
EN1WKT	What Kind of Text is This?	20	C

*Optional modules*

CL1GM	Greek Myths	20	C
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**Part 2 (three terms)***Compulsory modules*

<i>Mod Code</i>	<i>Module Title</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Level</i>
CL2CMS	Career Management Skills	5	I

**In Classical Studies:**

Students will take at least two core modules (40 credits) and a further 20 credits from among either core or optional modules.

**Core modules (minimum of 40 credits)**

CL2AE1	Ancient Epic I	20	I
CL2GD	Greek Drama	20	I
CL2LP	Roman Love Poetry	20	I

Optional modules: 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 2 modules normally include options in classical Literature, History, Art, Culture and Reception. Students may also take MC1AM, MC20A, MC30A, MC3MT, and PP2PA, which are cross-listed modules.

Students may take IWLP Modern Greek in place of one I level module.

Career Management Skills (delivered in module CL2CMS) contributes 5 credits' worth of marks to the average for Part 2.

**In English**

Students choose three modules in Part 2, at least one in the Autumn and one in the Spring terms. At least one module must be an asterisked module. Not more than one module may be chosen from any one group.

**Autumn Term**

<b>Group A</b>			
EN2RTC	*Renaissance Texts & Cultures	20	I
EN2MC1	Modernism and Modern Poetry	20	I
EN2RR	The Eighteenth-Century: Restoration to Romantics	20	I
<b>Group B</b>			
EN2CMN	*Chaucer and Medieval Narrative	20	I
EN2NCN	Nineteenth-Century Novel	20	I
EN2WAR	Writing America: Romances of Nationhood	20	I
<b>Group C</b>			
EN2RDR	*Renaissance Drama	20	I
EN2LCT	Literary Criticism & Theory	20	I
EN2WF1	Women's Writing and Feminist Theory 1	20	I;
EN2OEL	*Introduction to Old English	20	I

**Spring Term**

<b>Group A</b>			
EN2ERE	*English Renaissance Epic	20	I
EN2MC2	Modernity, Crisis and Narrative Fiction	20	I
EN2RD	Romantics to Decadents	20	I
<b>Group B</b>			
EN2LV	*Lyric Voices 1340 - 1650	20	I
EN2MDR	Modern Drama	20	I
EN2WAS	Writing America: Self, Race, Region	20	I
<b>Group C</b>			
EN2SH	*Shakespeare	20	I
EN2WF2	Women's Writing and Feminist Theory 2	20	I
EN2FN	Film Narrative	20	I

**Special Module:**

Students may, with the permission of the Programme Director, replace one of their English modules with one of the following special modules:

EN2CAW	Communications at Work	20	I
EN2CW	Creative Writing and Critical Practice	20	I

Compulsory dissertation:

Either

CL3DE      Joint Dissertation

or

CL3DS      Dissertation in Classical Studies

or

EN3DIS      Dissertation in English

In Classical Studies (40 credits)

Optional modules: 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. Students may also take MC20A, MC30A, MC3MT, and PP2PA, which are cross-listed modules.

Students may take IWLP Modern Greek in place of one H level module.

In English (40 credits)

Students choose optional modules totalling 40 credits. A complete list of options is available from the Programme Advisor and in the English Part 3 Module Supplement. Admission to optional modules will be at the discretion of the Programme Advisor.

### **Progression requirements**

To proceed from Part 1 to Part 2, a Joint Honours student must

1. obtain an average of 40% across all Part 1 modules;
2. achieve a minimum of 40% in each English module, and at least 40% in the module CL1CA and at least 40% in the module CL1CB; and
3. achieve a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to not less than 100 credits taken in Part 1.

To proceed from Part 2 to Part 3, students must obtain

1. an overall average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 2;
2. an average of 40% across English Part 2 modules;
3. a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to not less than 100 credits taken in Part 2.

### **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 essays and formal examination. In both Departments the Joint Dissertation module is supported by workshops and individual supervision.

Conventions for degree 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 is required for admission. Entrants to the joint degree programme are normally required to have obtained:

UCAS Tariff: 280 points including 100 points in English Literature or English Language and Literature.

GNVQ (Adv): B in A level plus distinction in GNVQ (Adv) - 12 modules of GNVQ (Adv) + pass 4 additional modules

Scottish Highers: BBBB

Irish Leaving Certificate: BBBB

International Baccalaureat: 30 points with at least 6 for Higher level English Literature

GCSE/O: English Language preferred, grade C or above

Mature candidates will usually be expected to have a B (100 points) at A level English, or equivalent qualifications, but consideration is also given to applicants with other qualifications and experience.

**Admissions Tutor:** Helen King

### **Support for students and their learning**

University support for students and their learning falls into two categories. Learning support includes IT Services, which has several hundred computers, and the University Library, which across its three sites holds over a million volumes, subscribes to around 4,000 current periodicals, has a range of electronic sources of information and houses 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 the Student Services Centre. The Student Services Centre is housed in the Carrington Building and includes the Careers Advisory Service, the Disability Advisory Service, Accommodation Advisory Team, Student Financial Support, Counselling and Study Advisors. Student Services has a Helpdesk available for enquiries made in person or online, or by calling the central enquiry number on (0118) 378 5555. 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 on everything from accommodation to finance. The Carrington Building is open between 8:30 and 17:30 Monday to Thursday (17:00 Friday and during vacation periods). Further information can be found in the Student Diary (given to students at enrolment) or on the Student website.

Students receive Handbooks from both Classical Studies and English which give details of the programme, guidance on study skills such as note-taking and essay writing, and information about staff, facilities, and sources of specialized help within the University, such as the Study Skills Advisor and the Counselling Service. Both components of the programme are designed to support students throughout their degree course while encouraging more independent work in Part 3. Academic feedback and guidance is given through one-to-one essay tutorials, and academic and personal support is provided through the tutor system and the University's i-Learn Scheme. Dissertation workshops prepare students for the Part 3 dissertation which is individually supervised. The Department of Classics is the Curator of the Ure Museum of Greek Archaeology. The Geoffrey Matthews Collection, housed in the School of English, provides books, xeroxed materials, cassettes and an extensive collection of videos for loan to students. A video-viewing suite is available within the Faculty. The Library is well-stocked with printed materials as well as electronic databases, such as the OED, the MLA Bibliography, and the DNB on CD ROM, and such on-line resources as JSTOR and First Search. Specialist subject librarians are available to give students advice and guidance to library resources.

### **Career prospects**

In recent years students who have gained degrees in Classical Studies and English have gone into a wide variety of jobs, including teaching, publishing, journalism, the media, management, administration, and public relations. The degree programme provides graduates with a range of communication and analytical skills that will serve them in good stead in the marketplace. A number of graduates each year also go on to further academic study and research.

### **Opportunities for study abroad or for placements**

Students may, with permission, opt for a four-year degree programme which involves spending the third year abroad, at one of the European universities with which the School of English has a Socrates exchange agreement. They would actively participate in courses abroad, experience the teaching and learning processes of another institution, learn or improve their knowledge of another European language, and enhance their curriculum vitae. Students following the four-year programme must take 120 credits in their Year Abroad. Of this total, 40 credits of English studies (two courses undertaken at the host institution) will count towards degree classification; the remaining 80 credits are assigned for the experience and satisfactory completion of the year abroad, and are assessed on a Pass/Fail basis.

Through the department of Classics, two students in year 2 can study for the Fall Semester at the University of Calgary's Department of Greek and Roman Studies. Applications to take part in the exchange need to be made in the Spring term of Year 1. The Department also has an ERASMUS link with the University of Crete. Students are also encouraged to apply to the British School at Athens, where they may take a module for credit, and the British School at Rome.

## Programme Outcomes

### Knowledge and Understanding

#### A. Knowledge and understanding of:

1. Literary texts in English from selected periods between the Middle Ages and the present day
2. A range of kinds of texts including fiction, poetry and drama
3. Methods of critical textual analysis
4. Ways in which social, cultural and historical issues relate to texts
5. A range of approaches in English studies
6. Selected special fields of English
7. The literature, thought, art and religion of Graeco-Roman culture
8. A diverse range of ancient evidence.
9. A range of problems of interpretation and evaluation of ancient evidence.
10. The reception of Graeco-Roman culture in the West.

#### Teaching/learning methods and strategies

Knowledge and understanding are gained through formal teaching (lectures, seminar discussions, and individual essay feedback), prescribed and recommended reading, and the writing of essays and a dissertation. Part 1 offers a broad introduction to 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8. In Part 2 the understanding and skills acquired in Part 1 are developed with particular emphasis on 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 9, and 10 through seminars, lectures and individual feedback. Part 3 introduces more specialized study, particularly in relation to 3, 5, 6, through a choice of seminar-based modules together with supervised, independent study leading to a dissertation.

#### Assessment

In Parts 1 and 2, knowledge and understanding of 1 - 5 and 7-10 are tested through a combination of essays and unseen written examinations. In Part 3, assessment is through a mixture of methods, such as extended essays, essays plus unseen exams, and the dissertation.

### Skills and other attributes

#### B. Intellectual skills - *able to*:

1. Capacity for independent analysis and research
2. Identification of problems and issues
3. The ability to read closely and critically
4. An ability to reflect on one's own positions

#### Teaching/learning methods and strategies

Intellectual skills are acquired through independent reading (1), seminar preparation and discussion, and essay writing (1, 2, 3) and essay feedback through tutorials (2, 3 and 4).

#### Assessment

1 - 3 are assessed both formatively in coursework essays, and summatively in essays, unseen exams and the joint dissertation. 1- 4 are assessed formatively through seminar discussion and essay feedback and tutorials.

#### C. Practical skills - *able to*:

In English

1. The ability to criticize and formulate interpretations of texts
2. An ability to engage in critical argument using relevant theoretical approaches
3. An awareness of the rhetorical resources of the English language
4. Bibliographical and research skills
5. A knowledge of appropriate conventions in the presentation of written work
6. An ability to relate the study of English to cultural and social issues

In Classical Studies - able to

#### Teaching/learning methods and strategies

In English

1 - 3 and 6 are developed in seminars, essays and essay tutorials. 4 and 5 are developed through essays, essay feedback and dissertation guidance and supervision.

#### Assessment

All the subject specific practical skills are assessed through formative and summative essays. 1 - 3 and 6 are also tested in unseen examinations.

In Classical Studies

These are developed through the deployment of seminar classes and essay assignments.

7. Gather, organize and deploy evidence and information, and to show awareness of the consequences of the unavailability of evidence.
8. Develop the capacity for critical judgement in the light of evidence and argument.
9. Select and apply appropriate methodologies in assessing the meaning and significance of evidence or data.
10. Have effective bibliographical and library based research skills.

Oral presentation also constitutes a percentage of the assessment for the dissertation.

**D. Transferable skills - able to:**

**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**

1. Fluency in written and oral communication
2. The ability to formulate and present arguments
3. Assessing the merits of competing approaches
4. The ability to translate subject-specific knowledge and skills into other environments
5. The ability to find and use relevant information resources
6. Time & management skills
7. A creative approach to problem-solving
8. Group and interpersonal skills
9. An ability to self-evaluate and self-reflect
10. Use of information technology, especially word-processing

*Assessment*

**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.**