BA in Classical and Medieval Studies   UCAS code: QV81

Awarding Institution: The University of Reading
Teaching Institution: The University of Reading
Relevant QAA subject benchmarking group(s):   Classics & Ancient History, History
Faculty of Arts and Humanities   Programme length: 3 years
For students entering Part 1 in 2003   Date of specification: April 2003
Programme Director: Dr Gill Knight
Programme Adviser: Dr Helen King
Board of Studies: History and Classics
Accreditation: Not appropriate

Summary of programme aims
The programme aims to provide a through degree level education in Classical and Medieval Studies. It aims to produce graduates who have experience of literary, thematic and genre-based approaches to both the cultures of antiquity and the Medieval period. Students explore issues of critical and historical interpretation and engage with primary sources from both eras.

Transferable skills
The University's Strategy for Teaching and Learning has identified a number of generic transferable skills which all students are expected to have developed by the end of their degree programme. In following this programme, students will have had the opportunity to develop their skills relating to career management, communication (both written and oral), information handling, numeracy, problem-solving, team working and use of information technology.

Mediaeval 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 development of powerful tools of research, analysis and presentation associated with information technology is reflected 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 Classics and History 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 and in Part 3, 40 credits in each subject, plus the dissertation of 40 credits in one subject.

Part 1 introduces students to the disciplines; Part 2 develops skills through the study of broad, contrasting genres and periods, and Part 3 contains the detailed focus and specific research work.

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

Part 1 (three terms)   *Credits   Level*

In Classics:
Compulsory modules (40 credits)
CL1CA Greek and Roman Civilisations A: Fifth-Century Athens 20   C
CL1CB   Greek and Roman Civilisations B: Rome in the Augustan Age   20   C

Optional Module
CL1GRF   Greece and Rome on Film   20   C
CL1BG/AG   Beginners or Advanced Greek   40   C
CL1BL/AL   Beginners or Advanced Latin   40   C

In History:

Compulsory modules (40 credits)

HS1APH	Approaches to History	20	C
HS1LMH	Landmarks in History	20	C

Optional module which may only be taken if the compulsory modules are also studied

HS1DSH	Directed Study in History } corequisites	20	C

Part 2 (three terms)   *Credits*   *Level*

In Classics *(60 credits)*:
Compulsory modules (40 credits)

Mod Code	Module Title		
CL2AE	Ancient Epic	20	I
CL2GD	Greek Drama	20	I

And 20 credits taken from:

Optional modules:

Mod Code	Module Title		
CL2SS	Study Skills	10	I
CL2LS	Literary Skills	10	I
CL2LP	Roman Love Poetry	20	I
CL2EG	Egypt and Greece	20	I
CL2AM	Greek and Roman Medicine	20	I
CL2AP	Greek and Roman Painting	20	I
CL2AS	Greek and Roman Sculpture	20	I
CL2RL	Religions of the Roman World	20	I
CL2CM	Classical Mythology	20	I
CL2GH	Greek History	20	I
CL2RR	Roman Republic	20	I
CL2RE	Roman Empire	20	I
CL2EG	Greek Lyric Poetry	20	I
CL3PS	Plato	20	I
CL3EP	Early Greek Philosophy	20	I
CL2BG	Beginners Ancient Greek II	20	I
CL2IG	Intermediate Ancient Greek II	20	I
CL2AG	Advanced Ancient Greek II	20	I
CL2BL	Beginners Latin II	20	I
CL2IL	Intermediate Latin II	20	I
CL2AL	Advanced Latin II	20	I
CL2LL	Later Latin Authors	20	I

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

In History *(60 credits)*

Two modules and their corequisite skills modules must be taken from the following options:

Period and Skill in Medieval History from:

HS2P01	Byzantine Empire 324-1453	20	I
HS2K01	Skills in Byzantine Empire 324-143	10	I
HS2P02	Britain and Europe, c.550-c.750	20	I
HS2K02	Skills in Britain and Europe, c.550-750	10	I
HS2P03	The Medieval West 1050-1200	20	I
HS2K03	Skills in The Medieval West 1050-1200	10	I
HS2P04	England 1272-1485	20	I
HS2K04	Skills in England 1272-1485	10	I

HS2P05	Women in the Medieval and Renaissance Worlds: England and Europe, c.1100-c.1650	20	I
HS2K05	Skills in Women in the Medieval and Renaissance Worlds: England and Europe, c.1100-c.1650	10	I

Of the 120 credits in Part Two, 5 are taken up by Career Management Skills.

Part 3 (three terms)   *Credits*   *Level*

Compulsory module
Dissertation to be taken either in History or in Classics

HS3HLD	*Dissertation in History*	40	H
OR	*OR*		
CL3DS	*Dissertation in Classics*	40	H

In Classics:
Students take 40 credits from the following Optional modules:

Mod Code	*Module Title*		
CL3AB	Ancient Biography	20	H
CL3GG	Ancient Greek Gods	20	H
CL3AR	Aristotle	20	H
CL3CN	Conversion of the Roman Empire	20	H
CL3GD	Gender in the Ancient World	20	H
CL3AM	Greek and Roman Medicine	20	H
CL3GA	Greek Art and Drama	20	H
CL3HL	Hellenistic Philosophy	20	H
CL3LL	Litigation and Life in the Graeco-Roman World	20	H
CL3NC	New Comedy	20	H
CL3HO	Odes of Horace	20	H
CL3OA	Oedipus and Antigone in the 20th Century	20	H
CL3PW	Peloponnesian War	20	H
CL3PP	Pornography and Power in the Graeco-Roman World	20	H
CL3RM	Renaissance Medicine	20	H
CL3RL	Roman Life Cycle	20	H
CL3RF	Rome On Film	20	H
CL3ST	Special Topics in Greek Drama	20	H
CL3TC	Tourism, Classics and National Identity	20	H
CL3UA	Uses and Abuses of Antiquity	20	H
CL3BG	Beginners Greek III	20	H
CL3IG	Intermediate Greek III	20	H
CL3AG	Advanced Greek III	20	H
CL3BL	Beginners Latin III	20	H
CL3IL	Intermediate Latin III	20	H
CL3AL	Advanced Latin III	20	H

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

In History:

Students choose either two optional 20 credit Topic modules to make a total of 40 credits or a Special Subject consisting of two corequisite modules of 20 credits each, totalling 40 credits.

Topics

HS3T01	The Vikings	20	H
HS3T02	The Golden Age of Anglo-Saxon England	20	H
HS3TO3	Art and Society in France and Italy in the High Middle Ages	20	H

HS3T04	German Imperial Age	20	H
HS3T05	The Medieval Town	20	H
HS3T06	Hundred Years War	20	H
HS3T07	The Church in England in the Middle Ages	20	H
HS3R25	Medieval Magic and the Origins of the Witch-craze	20	H

Special Subject (A & B):

HS3S01, HS3S51	Gregory of Tours and his World, A & B	40	H
HS3S02, HS3S52	The Crusader States in the Twelfth Century, A & B	40	H
HS3S03, HSES53	The Reign of Richard II, A & B	40	H
HS3S04, HS3S54	The English Peasantry, 1350-1450, A & B	40	H
HS3S05, HSES55	Rituals, Myths and Magic in Early Modern Europe, A & B	40	H

Progression requirements

(a) To proceed from Part One to Part Two students should achieve an overall average of 40% in 120 credits taken in the examination, and at least 40% in 20 credits of History and in 40 credits of Classical Studies. *NB, candidates who only take 20 credits in History may progress to a joint History degree so long as they achieve 40% in their History module*

(b) To proceed from Part 2 to Part 3 students should achieve an overall average of 40% in 120 credits taken in the examination.

(c) In both cases they should achieve not less than 30% in any module except that marks of less than 30% in a total of 20 credits may be condoned, provided that the candidate has pursued the course for the module(s) with reasonable diligence and has not been absent from the examination without reasonable cause.

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. The Dissertation module is supported by workshops and individual supervision. The Part 2 Skills modules are assessed through portfolios of skills and the Dissertation is assessed both as coursework and through oral 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 is required for admission. Entrants should have achieved:
UCAS Tariff : 280 points from 3 A2 and 1 A/S; or 260 points from 3 A2 levels.
GNVQ (Adv): B in A level plus distinction in GNVQ (Adv) – 12 modules of GNVQ (Adv) + pass 4 additional modules
International Baccalaureate: 30 points
Irish Leaving Certificate: BBBBC

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 who will pass your query to an appropriate Admissions Tutor. The current Admissions Secretary is Ms Agostina Hawkins who can be contacted by:

Telephone – 0118 931 8420
Email – admissions-classics@reading.ac.uk
As well as by post.

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 Learning Resource Centre with some 200 workstations. There are language laboratory facilities both for those students studying on a modern-language degree and for those taking modules offered by the Institution-wide Language Programme. Student guidance and welfare support is provided by the Careers Advisory Service, the University's Special Needs Advisor, Study Advisors, Hall Wardens and the Students' Union. Support for students in their studies is provided through the University's Personal Academic Record (PAR) Scheme, in which students meet their personal tutors regularly to review progress.

Departmental Handbooks are provided to students in the first year. They are also available on the internet at http://www.reading.ac.uk:80/AcaDepts/lh/History/history.htm. The Departmental Libraries contain a range of reference works which can be used by students and offer congenial study spaces. The Department of Classics is the Curator of the Ure Museum of Greek Archaeology. In the History Department, students are supported and advised by the Degree Course Tutor. There is also full written feedback on essay work. Each module teacher gives personal guidance and feedback and sends termly reports on progress to Personal Tutors for discussion with students.

Career prospects
In recent years students who have gained degrees in Classical and Medieval Studies have gone into a wide variety of jobs, including teaching, publishing, journalism, the media, management, administration, and public relations. A number of graduates each year go on to further academic study and research.

Opportunities for study abroad
The Departments of Classics and History have various links under the Socrates scheme through which students can spend a period of study abroad (normally during Part 2). A study period abroad is also possible in conjunction with the American Studies programme's exchange.

Educational aims of the programme
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 Medieval and Classical literature, art, philosophy, and their reception in modern culture, as well as perspectives on different methods of critical analysis.   The course aims to foster an independent approach to formulating problems and arguments, using the close reading and analytical skills that are fundamental to both disciplines. The programme also provides for the development of the specific interests of students through independent study for the dissertation, in which a topic is approached from the perspectives of both disciplines.

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:	Teaching/learning methods and strategies
➢ the literature, thought, art and religion of antiquity and the Medieval period ➢ a diverse range of primary materials ➢ a range of problems of interpretation and evaluation of primary materials ➢ a range of techniques and methodologies ➢ the reception of Graeco-Roman culture in the West	Knowledge and understanding are gained through formal teaching (lectures, seminars, and individual essay feedback), recommended reading, and the writing of essays and a dissertation. *Assessment* Most knowledge is tested through a combination of coursework and formal examination. The Dissertation and an oral presentation also contribute.

Skills and other attributes

B. Intellectual skills – able to:	Teaching/learning methods and strategies
➢ 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 ➢ identify and appreciate the forces which generate historical and cultural change ➢ negotiate both primary and secondary sources in classical and medieval studies, and demonstrate how they inter-relate ➢ develop creative intelligence in independent research and interpretation.	Skills will be introduced in lectures, developed through reading, writing of essays, dissertation and examination. Through specific focus on topics, issues and texts in seminars, workshops and personal study, students are enabled to develop critical modes of enquiry about the selection and treatment of material. Through essay, project, and dissertation preparation, the research and analytical skills are reinforced which are necessary to form and to validate arguments and judgements. The Dissertation requires students to engage creatively and critically with primary sources and/or historical interpretative works. *Assessment* Essay and project work tests all aspects of intellectual skills, while examinations assess the ability to marshal information and arguments under given time constraints, and according to a variety of conventions, involving open book, seen and unseen papers. Independent study and the Dissertation represent the evaluation of personal research and creative interpretation.

C. Practical skills – able to:

➢ gather, organise and deploy evidence and information, and to show awareness of the consequences of the unavailability of evidence
➢ develop the capacity for critical judgement in the light of evidence and argument
➢ select and apply appropriate methodologies in assessing the meaning and significance of evidence or data
➢ use bibliographical and library research tools effectively

Teaching/learning methods and strategies
These are developed through the deployment of seminar classes and essay assignments. Oral presentation also constitutes a percentage of the assessment of the dissertation

Assessment
These skills are assessed through coursework and examinations, as well as in the dissertation

D. Transferable skills – able to:

➢ deploy a range of IT resources effectively
➢ present material orally in a clear and effective manner
➢ present material in a written form, with discrimination and lucidity in the use of language, professional referencing, and clear layout
➢ work creatively, flexibly and adaptably with others
➢ to write and think under pressure and to meet deadlines

Teaching/learning methods and strategies
These are developed in lectures and seminars and applied in self-study and writing of assignments

Assessment
These skills are assessed through coursework and examinations, as well as in the dissertation

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 expect 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 module and programme handbooks.