School of Humanities
Look, see, think with Humanities

The School of Humanities and the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise

The renowned research strengths of the University of Reading were recognised in the outcomes of the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise (RAE), with over 87% of the University’s research rated as of international standing.

The RAE 2008 rates the quality of research in higher education across the UK. This research is classified in units of assessment related to the academic area as either 4* (world leading), 3* (international excellent), 2* (internationally recognised), 1* (nationally recognised), or 0 (sub standard).

The School of Humanities’ four departments were each recognised for the high quality of their research.

For the Department of Philosophy, 100% of the overall research profile was classified at ‘international’ level, with 30% of research classified as 4* and 45% at 3*. No part of the department’s submission fell below the category ‘internationally recognized’. The outstanding achievement by the Department places it in the top three of the UK’s philosophy departments for research.

For the Department of Classics, 90% of research was classified at ‘international’ level, and a substantial part of the overall quality profile (50%) was in the two highest categories of research excellence. Over 90% of research outputs were of ‘international’ quality, with a proportion being of world-leading quality.

For the Department of History, 90% of research was classified at ‘international’ level, and a substantial part of the overall quality profile (50%) was in the two highest categories of research excellence. Almost all outputs were of international quality, with a proportion being of world-leading quality.

For the Department of the History of Art, 100% of the overall research profile was classified at international level. No part of the department’s profile fell below the category ‘internationally recognized’, and a proportion were of world-leading quality.