

## Programme Specification

### BA Ancient History and Archaeology

For students entering Part 1 in September 2023

UCAS Code: VV41

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**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	3 years
Length of Programme with placement/year abroad	BA Ancient History and Archaeology with Study Year Abroad - 4 years (UCAS Code: VV43) BA Ancient History and Archaeology with Professional Placement - 4 years (UCAS Code: VV42)
Accreditation	N/A

### Programme information and content

The programme aims to provide you with a long-term perspective on the diversity and richness of human experience with a special emphasis on ancient Greek and Roman history and culture, combining a degree-level education in ancient history and archaeology with the development of numerous academic and personal transferable skills in preparation for a wide range of career choices. The Programme integrates the study and critical appraisal of primary and secondary ancient historical sources with practical experience (in the field and laboratory) and the academic study of the archaeology of pre- and protohistoric, Classical, and medieval periods, in Britain, Europe, the Mediterranean, the Near East and globally. Students will have the opportunity to learn or deepen their understanding of ancient languages throughout their degree, and to take part in experiential learning through the Archaeology Field School, working within the Ure Museum of Greek Archaeology, and vocational and technique-based options (e.g. bone and artefacts analysis utilising our excellent teaching collections). Its strengths lie in the combination of methodologies from the humanities and sciences and insight into two different academic disciplines and cultures, in order to understand the ancient world and wider human past in its spatial and temporal dimensions and to lend past perspectives to global challenges. Students will expand the range, depth and sophistication of their knowledge and skills within the structured progression of the programme through Parts 1, 2 and 3.

Part 1:	Introduces you to the study of Greek and Roman Civilizations with a particular emphasis on primary sources and to the discipline of archaeology and its methodology. It provides a broad overview of past lifestyles and human social development in a diachronic perspective and with a special emphasis on ancient Greek and Rome.
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Part 2:	Provides you with knowledge of the protohistoric and historic periods within the Mediterranean, Near East, Europe and Britain. It also provides the opportunity to engage with primary archaeological data through participation in the Archaeology Field School and further technique-based options.
Placement/Study abroad year:	A placement year, if undertaken, provides the opportunity to obtain practical experience and apply academic knowledge. It also helps provide focus in the final year of academic study. Students gain transferable skills demanded by graduate employers and on return to university are better informed about future career paths. A year abroad provides the opportunity for students to broaden both their academic and cultural awareness.
Part 3:	Gives you the opportunity to increase specialisation through the provision of a range of specialist subjects from which a choice is made, and lets you conduct an original research project through a dissertation in either Ancient History or Archaeology.

### 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	Level
AR1EMP	Early Empires: Mesopotamia, Egypt & Rome	20	4
AR1MET	Archaeology today: methods and practice	20	4
CL1GH	Greek History: war, society, and change in the Archaic Age	20	4
CL1RH	Roman History: the rise and fall of the Republic	20	4

Your remaining credits will be made up of optional modules in the Departments of Archaeology, Classics, Museum Studies or elsewhere in the University, including ancient languages.

#### Part 2 Modules:

You need to take 60 credits in the Department of Classics and 60 credits in the Department of Archaeology, including cross-listed modules such as in Museum Studies. You must choose either AR2F20: Professional Practice (10 credits) or one of the 10-credit employability modules offered by the Department of Classics (a list will be provided). You need to also choose a minimum of 20 credits from a list of 'Core Options' in Ancient History and a minimum of 20 credits from a list of 'Period Options' in Archaeology, which focus on specific time periods or regions.

Your remaining credits will be made up of optional modules in Ancient History, Classics, including ancient languages, and Archaeology, including the Archaeology Field School.

Under certain circumstances, up to 20 credits may be chosen from modules available elsewhere in the University, subject to approval by the Programme Director.

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

Students permitted to undertake a placement/study abroad year will take 120 credits in either Work Experience and/or Study Abroad.

Students may be permitted to undertake a placement year or a study abroad year between Part 2 and Part 3 of the programme. In such cases students will transfer to a 4-year programme. The placement or study abroad year should not normally be shorter than nine months full-time.

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

**Part 3 Modules:**

You must choose 40 credits worth of Dissertation modules in either Ancient History (CL3DP: Preparation for Dissertation in Classics (10 Credits) and either CL3DN: Dissertation in Classics (30 credits) or CL3INP: Independent Third Year Project\* (30 credits)) or Archaeology (AR3D1: Dissertation (40 credits)).

You need to also choose an additional 40 credits worth of optional modules in each Department.

\* Admission to the Independent Project module is at the discretion of the programme director.

Under certain circumstances, up to 20 credits may be chosen from modules available elsewhere in the University, subject to approval by 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**

Depending on your module combination, you may be asked to contribute to the costs of non-compulsory fieldtrips and museum visits (c. £50/year). If you wish to participate in the Archaeology Field School you will be expected to be equipped with suitable outdoor clothing, footwear and some camping gear. There are no compulsory textbooks, but you may expect

to want to spend around £75/year on books. Discounted second hand copies may be available.

Costs are indicative, but will vary according to module choice and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations. The estimates were calculated in 2022.

### **Placement opportunities**

You will 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.

#### **Study Abroad:**

You may be provided with the opportunity to undertake a Study Abroad placement during your Programme. This is subject to you meeting academic conditions detailed in the Programme Handbook, including obtaining the relevant permissions from your School, and the availability of a suitable Study Abroad placement. If you undertake a Study Abroad placement, further arrangements will be discussed and agreed with you.

### **Teaching and learning delivery:**

You will be taught through a combination of lectures, seminars, practicals, fieldtrips and laboratory based sessions.

The contact hours for your Programme will approximately 600 hours, depending upon your module combination; information about contact hours for individual modules can be located in the relevant module description.

### **Accreditation details**

N/A

### **Assessment**

The programme will be assessed through a combination of written examinations, written coursework (including an independent research dissertation), oral presentations, practical tests, and fieldwork.

### **Progression**

The University-wide rules relating to 'threshold performance' as follows

Part 1

- (i) achieve an overall average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 1; and
- (ii) achieve a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to not less than 100 credits 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 each of the compulsory modules in Ancient History (CL1GH and CL1RH);

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.

In order to progress from Part 2 to Part 3, students must achieve a threshold performance. To gain a threshold performance at Part 2, a student shall normally be required to achieve:

- (i) a weighted average of 40% over 120 credits taken at Part 2;
- (ii) marks of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to not less than 80 credits; and
- (iii) marks of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to not less than 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.

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.

In order to progress from Part 2 to Part 3 in the **3 year programme**, a student must achieve a threshold performance.

In order to progress from Part 2 to Part 3 in the **4 year programme**, a student must achieve a threshold performance and obtain a pass in the professional/workplacement or study abroad year. Students who fail the professional/placement year transfer to the non-placement year version of the programme.

### **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:

Three-year programmes:

Part 2 one-third  
Part 3 two-thirds

*Four year programmes, including professional/workplacement or study abroad:*

Part 2: one-third

Placement/Study Abroad 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 Ancient History and Archaeology for students entering Part 1 in session 2023/24

19 May 2022

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