

## Programme Specification

### BA Archaeology and Anthropology

For students entering Part 1 in September 2023

UCAS Code: VL46

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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 Archaeology and Anthropology with Study Year Abroad - 4 years (UCAS Code: VL48) BA Archaeology and Anthropology with Professional Placement - 4 years (UCAS Code: VL47)
Accreditation	N/A

### Programme information and content

Programme information and content: The BA Archaeology & Anthropology programme aims to provide you with a rich understanding of the human condition, focusing on behaviours and societies in both the past and the present. A central focus of the degree is the contemporary global challenges associated with population growth and development, climatic change and climate justice, and the need for sustainable living. You will be able to study both past and present perspectives on these issues, and engage with a wide range of material culture, biological evidence, theoretical perspectives, and real world problems. The degree will support you in developing your academic and transferable skills, in preparation for a range of career choices.

The Programme explores the human experience from the biological evolution of our earliest ancestors, to contemporary development issues in a range of human societies from across the globe. You will have the opportunity to develop professional skills and experiences, through the Archaeology Field School and a range of practical and data-led modules, supported by our excellent teaching collections. The programme's strengths lie in the combination of two disciplines, and humanities- and sciences-led methodologies, in order to understand the human experience, and the global challenges we all face, from past and present perspectives. You will expand the range, depth and sophistication of your knowledge and skills within the structured progression of the programme through Parts 1, 2 and 3.

Part 1:

Introduces you to the methods, practice and theories of both disciplines, alongside an overview of human social and biological development and contemporary global challenges.

Part 2:	Enhances your understanding of both disciplines, explored through thematic and period/place-specific modules that integrate humanity's past and present. It encourages you to engage with primary archaeological and anthropological data (e.g. material evidence) and develop your practical skills (e.g. through participation in the Archaeology Field School and/or practical/data-led modules).
Placement/Study abroad year:	A professional placement year, if undertaken, provides the opportunity for you to apply your academic knowledge, increase your awareness of potential career paths, and obtain the professional experience and transferable skills required by graduate employers. It also helps to provide focus in the final year of your academic study. A study abroad year provides the opportunity for students to broaden both their academic and cultural awareness, and is especially relevant to many of the degree's anthropological themes.
Part 3:	Gives you the opportunity to increase your specialisation through the wide range of specialist subjects on offer, and especially through your original research project (Dissertation) which can explore Archaeological and/or Anthropological issues.

### 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
AR1FOR	Forensic Anthropology and the Archaeology of Death	20	4
AR1MET	Archaeology today: methods and practice	20	4
AR1RAT	Revolutions and Transitions: The Human Journey from 6 Million Years Ago to the Present Day	20	4
AR1SOC	Contemporary world cultures: an introduction to social anthropology	20	4
GV1CIG	Contemporary Issues in Human Geography	20	4

Your remaining credits (20) will be made up of optional modules in the Departments of Archaeology, Geography or elsewhere in the University.

#### Part 2 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
AR2F20	Professional Practice	10	5
AR2SCF2	Changing the Face of the Earth: Past, Present and Future Sustainability	20	5
AR2TAH	Archaeology and heritage: past, present and future	20	5

GV2DIP	Geographies of Development, Identity and Place	20	5
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You need to also choose a minimum of 20 credits from a list of 'Period Options' in Archaeology, focusing on specific time periods or regions. Your remaining credits will be made up of optional modules in Archaeology and Geography. 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 professional placement year/study abroad year will take 120 credits in either professional placement and/or study abroad modules. If taken, the professional placement year or a study abroad year is undertaken between Part 2 and Part 3 of the programme. In such cases students will transfer to a 4-year programme. The study abroad year should not normally be shorter than nine months full-time. The professional placement year should be 40 weeks (minimum). If you take a professional placement year or study abroad year, Part 3 as described below may be subject to variation.

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

**Part 3 Modules:**

Module	Name	Credits	Level
AR3D1	Dissertation	40	6

Your dissertation can explore archaeological and/or anthropological topics and themes.

You need to also choose an additional 80 credits worth of optional modules in Archaeology and Geography. 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 (optional) you will be expected to be equipped with suitable

outdoor clothing, footwear and some camping gear. If you wish to attend a Part 2 Geography field class (optional) you will be required to make a contribution to costs for your food and board of approximately £300. Depending on your module choices, you may choose a non-compulsory Part 3 Geography field class (optional), which will require a financial contribution of approximately £750. 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**

#### **Placement opportunities**

You will have 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 have the opportunity to undertake study abroad 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 opportunity. If you undertake study abroad, 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 be approximately 550 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) obtain an overall average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 1; and
- (ii) obtain a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to at least 100 credits taken in Part 1.

In order to progress from Part 1 to Part 2, a student must achieve a threshold performance.

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.

#### Part 2

To gain a threshold performance at Part 2, a student shall normally be required to:

- (i) obtain a weighted average of 40% over 120 credits taken at Part 2;

and

- (ii) obtain marks of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to at least 80 credits;
- (iii) obtain marks of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to at least 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.

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 (at Part 2) and obtain a pass in the professional placement year/study abroad year. Students who fail the professional placement year/study abroad year transfer to the 3 year version of the programme.

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.

Classification:

Bachelors' degrees

The University's honours classification scheme is based on the following:

<b>Mark</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>
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/work placement 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 Archaeology and Anthropology for students entering Part 1 in session 2023/24  
17 June 2022

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