

Programme Specification

1	Awarding body	University of London				
2	Teaching Institution	Birkbeck College				
3	Programme Title(s)	MA Renaissance Studies				
4	Programme Code(s)	TMARNSST_C				
5	UCAS code	N/A				
6	Home Department	English, Theatre and Creative Writing				
7	Exit Award(s)	PG Dip; PG Cert				
8	Duration of Study (number of years)	FT 1 year; PT 2 years				
9	Mode of Study	FT	X	PT	X	DL
10	Level of Award (FHEQ)	7				
11	Other teaching depts or institution	Department of History, Classics and Archaeology; History of Art Department; Department of Cultures and Languages.				
12	Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details	N/A				
13	QAA Benchmark Statement	N/A				

14	Programme Rationale & Aims
	<p>The course is designed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enable students to gain a broad grasp of Renaissance culture over a number of subject areas, but also to pursue more specialised interests in the period. • give students a thorough and systematic understanding of the social, political and religious background of the era, along with key intellectual and artistic thought of the period. • produce scholars who are alert to, and able to engage with, current debates about Renaissance culture, with a comprehensive understanding of the appropriate methodologies and techniques for study in the fields they specialise in – literary, historical or social. • produce students who are competent researchers and who can interpret and apply knowledge of the discipline in an original manner, and who are able to evaluate and critique the scholarship in the field. • introduce key academic skills of critical reading, academic writing, and academic research • promote critical reflection on learning by students. • develop an advanced level of group work skills as well as individual learning • develop excellent presentational skills, both oral and written
15	Entry Criteria
	BA degree lower second and above in a relevant subject area.

16	Learning Outcomes
	<p>Subject Specific:</p> <p>By the end of the course students should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. have a sophisticated awareness of and ability to engage to a high level in current critical debates about the renaissance 2. be able to demonstrate advanced knowledge of the historical context of their studies 3. be able to discuss the historical understanding of the term 'Renaissance' and recent re-evaluations of the idea 4. have a critical understanding of the role of class, gender and ethnicity in relation to Renaissance studies 5. have developed the bibliographical and (where appropriate) palaeographical skills necessary to work with texts of the early modern period <p>Intellectual:</p> <p>By the end of the course students should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. critically read and evaluate theoretical discourse 7. apply scholarly argument in their own writing 8. critically evaluate the methodologies of different disciplines in their approach to the Renaissance 9. engage with and communicate complex ideas to an audience of peers and teachers <p>Practical:</p> <p>By the end of the course students should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10 communicate clearly and coherently orally and in writing 11 use bibliographic and research skills, including IT skills, to carry out competent independent research 12 engage in group work in a critical yet supportive way 13 present their research creatively. <p>Personal and Social:</p> <p>By the end of the course students should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 14. have engaged in dialogue with a range of students from different disciplinary and ethnic backgrounds and bring the be able to apply knowledge of diversity to their studies 15. be able to give a self-critical and well-structured presentation of their research 16. have increased their listening skills and ability to learn from others, through practice in seminars, debate and presentations 17. be able to work independently in pursuing literary, historical and cultural criticism 18. have developed their group work skills to enable them to engage in scholarly debate
17	Learning, teaching and assessment methods
	<p>The programme is taught through a combination of lectures, seminars, individual and group tutorials, workshops, project work, group presentations and dissertation supervisions. This variety of form allows for a rounded education experience. Participation is encouraged by routine group or pair work in larger classes, and workshop formats, as well as in regular</p>

	<p>project presentations of their research results to their peers. The teaching and learning methods encourage personal development of students because essay work, the projects, and the dissertation as well as the wide choice of interdisciplinary options can be directed by students' own interests.</p> <p>There are sessions devoted to research skills and a series of summer dissertation workshops offer students the chance to reflect critically on the research and writing techniques appropriate to writing a large thesis. The interdisciplinary intake of the course allows, also, for the exchange of research skills among students trained in differing methodologies.</p>
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18	Programme Description
	<p>The Renaissance MA is an interdisciplinary course, broadly based, which explores a variety of aspects of Renaissance culture, particularly literature, art and architecture, and the social and intellectual histories of England, Italy and Spain. It is taught by staff principally from the English and Humanities department, but relies on contributions from the departments of History of Art; History, Classics and Archaeology; and Cultures and Languages, both on the core course and on option modules and dissertation supervisions. Both Full time and part-time patterns of study are available.</p>

19	Programme Structure			
Full Time programme – 1 year				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	ENHU070S7	The Renaissance: Concepts and Issues	30	Core
7		Option 1	30	Option
7		Option 2	30	Option
7		Option 3	30	Option
7	ENHU004D7	Dissertation MA Renaissance Studies	60	Core
7	AREN068Z7	Palaeography	0	Compulsory
7	AREN052Z7	Renaissance Witnesses	0	Compulsory
Part Time programme – 2 years				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	ENHU070S7	The Renaissance: Concepts and Issues	30	Core
7		Option 1	30	Option
7	AREN068Z7	Palaeography	0	Compulsory
7	AREN052Z7	Renaissance Witnesses	0	Compulsory
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7		Option 2	30	Option
7		Option 3	30	Option
7	ENHU004D7	Dissertation MA Renaissance Studies	60	Core

Status*

CORE – Module must be taken and passed by student; COMPULSORY – Module must be taken, mark can be reviewed at sub-exam board; OPTIONAL – Student can choose to take this module

20	Regulations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Admissions This programme adheres to the College Admissions Policy http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/documents/admissions-policy.pdf Credit Transfer Accredited Prior Learning will be considered in line with the College Policy on Accredited Prior Learning http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/documents/accreditation-prior-learning.pdf Programme Regulations This programme adheres to the College Common Awards Scheme http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/regulations Programme Specific Regulations (or not applicable) N/A
21	Student Attendance Framework – in brief <p>The full version of the 'Student Attendance Framework' is available http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/rules/Attendance-Framework.pdf .</p> <p>Principle Consistent and regular student attendance in class (or equivalent) promotes and affords student success. Inconsistent and irregular attendance is less likely to result in student success and is consistent with lower marks and degree classifications being achieved and awarded.</p> <p>Attendance expectation Birkbeck, University of London expects you to consistently attend all timetabled sessions, including lectures, seminars, group and individual tutorials, learning support sessions, workshops, laboratories, field trips, inductions and demonstrations.</p> <p>E-Registers All Birkbeck students are issued with student cards. Students are expected to take them to classes and to assessment venues and to present them to a member of staff if requested. This is for the purpose of identifying Birkbeck students.</p>
22	Student Support and Guidance <p>All Birkbeck students have access to a range of student support services, details can be found on our website here: http://www.bbk.ac.uk/student-services</p>
23	Methods of Enhancing Quality and Standards <p>The College has rigorous procedures in place for the monitoring and enhancing its educational provision. This includes regular monitoring of programmes drawing on feedback from various sources including external examiner's reports, student feedback,</p>

Year of entry: 2020/21

	student achievement and progression data. In addition, departments are reviewed every four to five years through the internal review process that includes external input. For more information please see the Academic Standards and Quality website http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/about-us/operations-and-quality .
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24	Programme Director	Dr Stephen Clucas
25	Start Date (<i>term/year</i>)	Prior to 2008/9
26	Date approved by TQEC	Prior to 2008/9
27	Date approved by Academic Board	Prior to 2008/9
28	Date(s) updated/amended	June 2019