

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	<u>QAA Benchmark Statement</u>	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	<p>Learning Outcomes</p>
	<p>Subject Specific: 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: 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: 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: 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	<p>Learning, teaching and assessment methods</p>
	<p>The programme is taught through a combination of lectures, seminars, individual and group tutorials, workshops, project work, group presentations and dissertation supervisors. 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	<p>Programme Description</p> <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>
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19	<p>Programme Structure</p> <p>Full Time programme – 1 year</p> <p>Year 1</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Level</th> <th>Module Code</th> <th>Module Title</th> <th>Credits</th> <th>Status*</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>ENHU070S7</td> <td>The Renaissance: Concepts and Issues</td> <td>30</td> <td>Core</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td></td> <td>Option 1</td> <td>30</td> <td>Option</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td></td> <td>Option 2</td> <td>30</td> <td>Option</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td></td> <td>Option 3</td> <td>30</td> <td>Option</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>ENHU004D7</td> <td>Dissertation MA Renaissance Studies</td> <td>60</td> <td>Core</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>AREN068Z7</td> <td>Palaeography</td> <td>0</td> <td>Compulsory</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>AREN052Z7</td> <td>Renaissance Witnesses</td> <td>0</td> <td>Compulsory</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Part Time programme – 2 years</p> <p>Year 1</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Level</th> <th>Module Code</th> <th>Module Title</th> <th>Credits</th> <th>Status*</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>ENHU070S7</td> <td>The Renaissance: Concepts and Issues</td> <td>30</td> <td>Core</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td></td> <td>Option 1</td> <td>30</td> <td>Option</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>AREN068Z7</td> <td>Palaeography</td> <td>0</td> <td>Compulsory</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>AREN052Z7</td> <td>Renaissance Witnesses</td> <td>0</td> <td>Compulsory</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Year 2</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Level</th> <th>Module Code</th> <th>Module Title</th> <th>Credits</th> <th>Status*</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>7</td> <td></td> <td>Option 2</td> <td>30</td> <td>Option</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td></td> <td>Option 3</td> <td>30</td> <td>Option</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>ENHU004D7</td> <td>Dissertation MA Renaissance Studies</td> <td>60</td> <td>Core</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	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	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	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
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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

Year of entry: 2021/22



²⁰	Programme Director	Dr Stephen Clucas
²¹	Start Date (<i>term/year</i>)	Prior to 2008/9
²²	Date approved by TQEC	Prior to 2008/9
²³	Date approved by Academic Board	Prior to 2008/9
²⁴	Date(s) updated/amended	June 2019