

## Programme Specification

1	<b>Awarding body</b>	University of London				
2	<b>Teaching Institution</b>	<b>Birkbeck College</b>				
3	<b>Programme Title(s)</b>	<b>BA History and Archaeology</b>				
4	<b>Programme Code(s)</b>	UUBAHIAR_C (Full-time 3 years) UBAHIARC_C(Part-time 4 years)				
5	<b>UCAS code (if applicable)</b>	VV14				
6	<b>Home Department</b>	History Classics & Archaeology				
7	<b>Exit Award(s)</b>	BA				
8	<b>Duration of Study (number of years)</b>	3 years FT, 4 years PT				
9	<b>Mode of Study</b>	FT	<b>X</b>	PT	<b>X</b>	DL
10	<b>Level of Award (FHEQ)</b>	6				
11	<b>Other teaching depts or institution (or not applicable)</b>	N/A				
12	<b>Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details</b>	N/A				
13	<b><u>QAA Benchmark Statement (or not applicable)</u></b>	History, Archaeology				
14	<b>Programme Rationale &amp; Aims</b>	<p>The BA History and Archaeology degree, leading to the BA Honours Degree of the University of London, is a structured programme of taught courses, designed to develop historical understanding and critical skills. The combination of History and Archaeology teaches students how to use a range of evidence, including textual and material remains, to explore the lives of people in the past. Study of these two distinct but interrelated disciplines provides a rounded view of ancient and medieval societies. Teaching includes lectures, seminars, and an archaeological field school.</p> <p>The main aims are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. to enable students to develop and deepen their understanding of the conceptual and theoretical bases of the discipline, its methods of inquiry, its materials and common interpretations;</li> <li>2. to offer students the opportunity to develop and deepen their skills of critical evaluation and analysis; and</li> <li>3. to enable students to develop and extend their key skills as a foundation for personal development, employment or further academic study.</li> <li>4. (for the part-time programme) to enable mature students in full-time employment to undertake undergraduate study in History and Archaeology , in fulfilment of the mission of the College;</li> </ol>				

15	<b>Entry Criteria</b>
	<p>UCAS tariff points: 104-120; A-levels: BCC-BBB</p> <p>We welcome applicants without traditional entry qualifications as we base decisions on our own assessment of qualifications, knowledge and previous work experience. We may waive formal entry requirements based on judgement of academic potential.</p>
16	<b>Learning Outcomes</b>
	<p>Students completing the BA History &amp; Archaeology will have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. demonstrated an ability to apply critically the main theories, concepts and approaches used in the discipline to the analysis of historical and archaeological topics</li> <li>2. demonstrated knowledge and understanding of:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) a variety of social, political, cultural and intellectual changes within specific periods and areas of the past</li> <li>b) the nature of historical and archaeological sources, their problems and potentials in providing us with knowledge of the past</li> </ol> <p>and</p> <li>(c) the shape of particular fields of historiography and archaeological theory, including the factors which influence different interpretations of the past</li> </li></ol> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. successfully completed an independent research project, in the form of a supervised dissertation, ideally making use of primary source materials</li> <li>5. extended and developed their analytical, evaluative and critical capacities; and</li> <li>6. developed transferable skills, including the ability to take responsibility for their own learning, learning how to learn, making oral and written presentations, planning and producing written assignments in accord with basic scholarly standards, working independently, managing time effectively, and, where they have so chosen, using information technology.</li> </ol>
17	<b>Learning, teaching and assessment methods</b>
	<p>Lecturers provide an overview of issues relevant to the subject being studied. Seminars mix tutor-led instruction with group discussion, depending on the attainment level. They allow students to explore issues in depth and there is an expectation that all students will participate actively by reading recommended texts in advance and offering questions and viewpoints to the group. Where students work in areas related to their course, their experiences enrich discussion. Both lectures and seminars are used to develop subject knowledge and understanding, and to foster key analytical skills. The BA History and Archaeology degree has been designed to guide and support students towards the attainment of the skills necessary to independent learning: by the end of their studies,</p>

	<p>students should be able to read critically, prioritise evidence, and present arguments coherently in written and oral forms.</p> <p>Teaching, learning and assessment are regularly reviewed in the light of student feedback, student achievement, external examiners’ reports and peer monitoring. Students frequently consult staff outside formal teaching hours, often by e-mail. Teaching is supported by comprehensive written guidance designed to support independent learning. A detailed coursebook for each course gives contact details of course tutors, describes intended learning outcomes, and includes a course outline, schedule, recommendations for weekly reading, and essential information about course organisation and assessment. Further materials are distributed in class, and guidelines on dissertations, revision and exam techniques are provided to students during the year.</p> <p><i>Assessment Methods:</i> A mixture of essays, reports, book reviews, and other written work and unseen written examinations across the taught modules.. Essays enable students to read around a particular facet of a subject in depth; examinations provide an opportunity to test students’ grasp of a wide range of material within a reasonably short assessment procedure. All students must demonstrate basic proficiency in both examinations and coursework.</p> <p>Provision is made for students with learning difficulties, health issues, or disabilities that may affect their ability to complete coursework and examinations. The Department works closely with the Disability Office to enable all students to participate fully in our courses.</p>
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18	<p><b>Programme Description</b></p> <p>The BA History and Archaeology programme consists of eleven modules. Students are required to undertake 20 days of fieldwork, usually delivered in part via our Fieldwork modules.</p> <p>The Compulsory Modules: There are three compulsory skills modules, one at level 4, one at level 5, and one at level 6.. They aim to provide students with the essential tools for undertaking historical study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approaching the past (level 4): the module introduces students to the different methodologies in relation to the past, it provides basic training in study skills, and familiarity with assessment methods,. This is taught in year 1 for FT and PT students</li> <li>• Exploring the past (level 5): provides an overview of the conceptual framework of historiographical discussion, and asks students to consolidate their learning on substantive modules by reflecting on specific historiographical issues. This is taught in year 2 for FT students and normally in year 3 for PT students.</li> <li>• Dissertation (level 6) . This is a 60 credit module (double-weighted) The dissertation is completed in the final year of study. It aims to demonstrate that the student is capable of independent study. Students develop their own dissertation topics and</li> </ul>
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	<p>carry out their own research, in collaboration with a supervisor. Students must normally obtain a pass in the dissertation in order to graduate.</p> <p>There is also one compulsory fieldwork module:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thames Through Time (level 4)</li> </ul> <p>And a compulsory introductory module:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discovering Archaeology: From Field to Finds Room (level 4): a compulsory introductory module, assessed by exam and coursework.</li> </ul> <p>Option modules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Level 4 modules (1st year modules) These introduce students to , broad time periods, a wide range of geographical areas, and essential themes. They are taught by a mixture of lecture and seminar. Full time students usually take one level 4 optional module. Part-time students usually take one optional Level 4 module in their second year. The modules are assessed by a combination of exams, essays, book reports, and source analysis.</li> <li>• Level 5 modules (2nd year modules). These are more focussed modules, taught predominantly via seminar. They develop in greater depth the themes established at level 4 modules. Full time students will usually take two of these modules in their second year. PT students will take one of these modules in year 2 and one further in year 3. Level 5 modules are assessed by essays and examination.</li> <li>• Level 6 modules (3rd year modules). These are highly focussed modules, which rely particularly on the analysis of primary source materials. FT students will take two of these modules in their 3rd year of study. PT students will take one module in year 3 and one further module in year</li> </ul> <p>These modules are assessed by essays and examination.</p> <p>There are a large variety of modules on offer within the degree, and for further information see the department's website: <a href="http://www.bbk.ac.uk/history">http://www.bbk.ac.uk/history</a></p>
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19	<b>Programme Structure</b>			
<b>Full Time programme</b>				
<b>Year 1</b>				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
4	HICL200S4	Approaching the Past	30	Compulsory
4	SSHC406S4	Discovering Archaeology: From Field to Finds Room	30	Compulsory
4	SSHC525S4	The Thames through Time: Birkbeck/MOLA Field School	30	Compulsory
4		Option	30	Option

<b>Year 2</b>				
<b>Level</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>*Status</b>
5	SSHC407S5	Exploring the Past	30	Compulsory
5		Option	30	Option
5		Option	30	Option
5		Option	30	Option
<b>Year 3</b>				
6	SSHC408D6	Writing the Past: Dissertation	60	Compulsory
6		Option	30	Option
6		Option	30	Option
<b>Part Time programme</b>				
<b>Year 1</b>				
<b>Level</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Status*</b>
4	HICL200S4	Approaching the Past	30	Compulsory
4	SSHC406S4	Discovering Archaeology: From Field to Finds Room	30	Compulsory
4	SSHC525S4	The Thames through Time: Birkbeck/MOLA Field School	30	Compulsory
<b>Year 2</b>				
<b>Level</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Status*</b>
4		Option	30	Option
5		Option	30	Option
5		Option	30	Option
<b>Year 3</b>				
5	SSHC407S5	Exploring the Past	30	Compulsory
5		Option	30	Option
6		Option	30	Option
<b>Year 4</b>				
6	SSHC408D6	Writing the Past: Dissertation	60	Compulsory
6		Option	30	Option
<b>Indicative optional modules at level 4</b>				
4	SSHC404S4	The Ancient World	30	Option
4	SSHC405S4	The Archaeology of Greece and Rome	30	Option
4	SSHC412S4	The Contemporary World	30	Option
4	SSHC413S4	The Early Modern World, 1500-1800:Reformations and Revolutions	30	Option
4	SSHC409S4	The Medieval World: From Constantine to the Khans	30	Option
4	SSHC411S4	The Modern World	30	Option
<b>Indicative optional modules at level 5</b>				
5	SSHC487S5	Archaeology of the Everyday		
5	SSHC435S5	Beginnings: the Archaeology of Prehistory	30	Option

5	SSHC499S5	Crossing Borders: Passports, Bodies and the State, 1600 to Today	30	Option
5	SSHC209S5	London 1600-2000: people and power in the making of a global city	30	Option
5	SSHC514S5	The Archaeology of a Greek Sanctuary	30	Option
5	SSHC505S5	Empires: Conquest and Decolonisation, from 1700 to Brexit	30	Option
5	SSHC509S5	Italy and the World: Conflict and the Incomplete Nation, 1815-present	30	Option
5	SSHC410S5	Journeys to the Underworld in classical Literature and culture	30	Option
5	SSHC506S5	The Renaissance in Italy and Europe: From the Black Death to the Reformations (c.1350-1600)	30	Option
<b>Indicative optional modules at level 6</b>				
6	SSHC515S6	A sense of space: travellers and maps in the pre-modern world	30	Option
6	SSHC517S6	Archaeological Landscapes	30	Option
6	SSHC501S6	Blood and Faith: Violence, Religion and Heresy in Medieval and Early Modern Europe	30	Option
6	SSHC350S6	Crime, Poverty and Popular Protest in England, 1500-1800		Option
6	SSHC362S6	The Archaeology of Human Evolution	30	Option
6	HICL184S6	The Athenian empire	30	Option
6	HICL203S6	The Empire of Letters: Correspondence in the Roman World		Option
6	HICL197S6	Intimate Britain: Family, Society and Culture 1832-1918		Option
6	HICL086S6	Later Medieval and Early Modern London: Community Politics and Religion	30	Option
6	SSHC512S6	Medicine and Power in Modern Africa	30	Option
6	SSHC393S6	The Colonial Gaze: Western Perceptions of Asia, Africa and the Middle East, 1600-1960	30	Option
6	HICL147S6	The Third Reich		Option
6	SSHC539S6	The Archaeology of Early Medieval Britain	30	Option
6	SSHC540S6	Stories in Stuff: the medieval and early modern worlds in 20 texts and objects	30	Option

**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*

24	<b>Programme Director</b>	Dr Casper Meyer
25	<b>Start Date</b> ( <i>term/year</i> )	September 1996
26	<b>Date approved by TQEC</b>	Spring 1996
27	<b>Date approved by Academic Board</b>	Summer 1996
28	<b>Date(s) updated/amended</b>	22 February 2021