

Programme Specification

1	Awarding body	University of London				
2	Teaching Institution	Birkbeck College				
3	Programme Title(s)	MSc Archaeological Practice (Economic and Social Research)				
4	Programme Code(s)	TMSARCHP_C				
5	UCAS code (if applicable)	N/A				
6	Home Department	History, Classics and Archaeology				
7	Exit Award(s)	MSc [This is part of a 1+3 Doctoral Training Programme]				
8	Duration of Study (number of years)	1 year FT, 2 years PT				
9	Mode of Study	FT	x	PT	x	DL
10	Level of Award (FHEQ)	7				
11	Other teaching depts or institution (or not applicable)	Politics				
12	Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details (or not applicable)	N/A				
13	<u>QAA Benchmark Statement</u>	N/A				
14	Programme Rationale & Aims					
	<p>Rationale: As part of the college's commitment to the ESRC DTP we need to offer all 1+3 ESRC-funded students training methods that meet the requirements of the ESRC's postgraduate research training guidelines. This programme builds on the existing provision of an MA in Archaeological Practice, to offer students with the advanced conceptual, theoretical and practical skills required for undertaking historical research at doctoral level, alongside the ESRC requirement of Intermediate Quantitative Methods.</p> <p>The proposed programme involves no new dedicated teaching, rather it draws upon existing modules in the School of Social Sciences, History and Philosophy (in History, Classics and Archaeology and in Politics). The existing complement of modules, both compulsory and optional, provide students with a range of conceptual models and methods for archaeological research from prehistory to the middle ages, and over considerable geographical breadth. The inclusion of the compulsory module in Quantitative Social Research prepares students with the statistical skills needed for Economic and Social Research at the Postgraduate level. (ESRC students are required to take Intermediate Quantitative Social Research SSPO133S7.)</p> <p>Aims: To provide specific Level 7 training for students undertaking PhD research in archaeology with an emphasis on quantitative methods. We expect these to be mostly students who are supported by the ESRC DTP, however, it may be that self-funded students or students with other funding also see the intellectual benefits of the provision, and so this will be open to enrolment beyond the DTP.</p>					

15	Entry Criteria
	Second-class honours degree in a humanities or social-sciences subject and references.
16	Learning Outcomes
	<p>[1-24 are identical to: MA Archaeological Practice]</p> <p>Successful candidates will be able to:</p> <p>Subject Specific</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. an awareness of contemporary archaeological practice 2. an understanding of the range of skills and techniques required for archaeological prospection, excavation and post-excavation 3. an understanding of the methodologies used in the analysis and interpretation of data 4. to use archaeological material remains to form interpretations about past societies 5. to use environmental data to form interpretations about past environs, flora and fauna and discuss their influence on past societies 6. an appreciation of the philosophy and practice of experimental archaeology 7. the ability to record and produce plans of standing buildings 8. an ability to evaluate the presentation of individual sites and monuments <p>Intellectual</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. the ability to carry out effective evaluations of information, data, documentation, and material remains 10. the use of critical reasoning 11. the development of analytical skills 12. the ability to synthesise different types and quantities of data and information 13. the ability to tackle complex problems and select the appropriate evidence to solve them <p>Practical</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 14. improved level of IT skills and computer literacy through experiences with databases, GIS, spreadsheets, word processing and internet 15. ability to manipulate and assess large quantities of quantitative data 16. to collect, process and present data 17. to design and implement questionnaire-based survey 18. to produce publication standard plans and illustrations 19. to carry out documentary-based research <p>Personal and Social</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 20. the ability to work successfully in teams 21. the ability to work successfully on an independent basis 22. to develop presentation skills 23. to develop organisational skills 24. to master time-management <p>Additionally,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 25. The ability to evaluate and analyse quantitative data for social research at intermediate level.

17	Learning, teaching and assessment methods
	<p>Teaching includes classroom lectures and seminars, as well as practical sessions in laboratories, museums, and in the field. Teaching also makes use of appropriate technologies including Moodle. In accordance with existing department guidelines, assessment of postgraduate Level 7 modules is entirely by submitted essay work; Quantitative Social Research is assessed by 50% coursework+50% exam; and by a dissertation of 15,000 words. Candidates must take the 'Themes and Concepts in Archaeology' course and dissertation, and take the compulsory module and optional modules in order to progress and to graduate. Students are permitted to retake a module if the performance in assessed coursework was inadequate in the first attempt. The final classification will be based upon all Level 7 modules, of which the dissertation is double weighted. All coursework is marked by the relevant module tutor and second marked by a member of the programme's teaching staff.</p>

18	Programme Description
	<p>The programme consists of four taught modules and a dissertation. All students take the compulsory module 'Themes and Concepts in Archaeology' in the first term of their degree and start the year-long compulsory module 'Intermediate Quantitative Social Research. They then have a choice of a further two option modules (taken across two years for the part-time degree, or within one year for the full-time degree). There is also skills training in preparation for the dissertation in the first part of the summer term; students received one-to-one supervision for their dissertation research, and the dissertation is then submitted at the end of September in the year in which the degree is completed.</p> <p>Optional modules for the MSc Archaeological Practice may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field school: Buried Humanities (SSHC352S7) • Frameworks for Archaeology: Curatorial Archaeology in England(SSHC255S7) • Archaeological Architecture (SSHC259S7) • Material Worlds (SSHC353S7) • The Edge of Empire: The Archaeology of Roman Frontiers (SSHC064S7) • The City of Rome: Ancient to Medieval (SSHC063S7)

19	Programme Structure			
Full Time programme				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	SSHC247S7	Themes and Concepts in Archaeology	30	Compulsory
7	SSPO133S7	Intermediate Quantitative Social Research	30	Compulsory
7		(Option 1)	30	Optional
7		(Option 2)	30	Optional
7	SSHC027D7	Dissertation	60	Compulsory

Part Time programme				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	SSHC247S7	Themes and Concepts in Archaeology	30	Compulsory
7	SSPO133S7	Intermediate Quantitative Social Research	30	Compulsory
7		(Option 1)	30	Optional
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7		(Option 2)	30	Optional
7	SSHC027D7	Dissertation	60	Compulsory

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/mybirkbeck/services/rules/Admissions%20Policy.pdf/view • If the programme has additional information re: Admissions please state here: This programme is principally intended for students who are on the ESRC Doctoral Training Programme, 1+3 track, for whom there is an additional application for Admission. • Credit Transfer Accredited Prior Learning will be considered in line with the College Policy on Accredited Prior Learning http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/rules/AccreditedPriorLearning.pdf • Programme Regulations This programme adheres to the College Common Awards Scheme http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/rules/casregs.pdf • 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,</p>

	<p>workshops, laboratories, field trips, inductions and demonstrations.</p> <p>Additionally, for the Department of History, Classics and Archaeology, from 2016–17, there is an attendance requirement for all our modules. In order to pass a module you will now need to attend at least 60% of the classes. If you fail to attend 60% of the classes and you do not have a valid claim for mitigating circumstances, you will fail the module, even if you pass the assessment element for the module (exams or essays or both).</p> <p>Students should notify tutors in advance of any religious observances which will conflict with teaching sessions. Recognised religious holidays will not count as absences, but students MUST notify tutors in advance.</p> <p>E-Registers</p> <p>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>
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22	Student Support and Guidance
	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/mybirkbeck/services/facilities

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, student achievement and progression data. In addition, departments are reviewed every four to five years through the internal review process that includes external input.</p> <p>For more information please see the Academic Standards and Quality website http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/about-us/operations-and-quality .</p>

24	Programme Director	Caroline Goodson
25	Start Date (<i>term/year</i>)	Autumn 2017
26	Date approved by TQEC	December 2016 (Chair's Action)
27	Date approved by Academic Board	Spring 2017
28	Date(s) updated/amended	February 2017