

Programme Specification
Date amended: 27/03/06



1. Programme Title(s) and UCAS code(s):

BSc [Level 3]

BSc Archaeology - F400; BSc Archaeology (European Union) - F401; BSc Archaeology (with a year in Canada, or Australia) - F402

2. Awarding body or institution:

University of Leicester

3. Typical entry requirements:

A-level BBC or equivalent, Mature students: approved access course.

4. Programme aims:

The programmes aim to:

- enable students to explore their interest in, and aptitudes for, a range of periods, themes and approaches in the study of past societies;
- equip students with the mental and practical skills to enable a progressive development of knowledge and understanding of archaeology;
- provide awareness of the broad range of scientific methods and techniques that are applied within archaeology;
- provide an awareness and understanding of the diverse theoretical and methodological approaches used by archaeologists, especially on the two sides of the divide between the 'hard' sciences and the social sciences;
- provide an appreciation of the need for, and value of, interdisciplinary approaches in tackling many archaeological problems;
- produce graduates who are well equipped to pursue further degrees in archaeology and cognate disciplines as well as career patterns which require high level skills of critical analysis, independent thought, practical ability and teamwork;
- stimulate intellectual development and develop powers of critical analysis, written communication and oral presentation skills;
- enable a spectrum of students to achieve their full potential;
- enable students to develop independent learning skills;
- In exchange degrees, to enable students to learn diverse approaches to the study of the past and to work with diverse material cultures and contexts;
- In exchange degrees, to broaden the cultural horizons of students and, where relevant, enhance their language skills.

5. Reference points used to inform the programme specification:

- QAA Benchmarking Statement
<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/cmntwork/benchmark/archaeology%5Ftextonly.html#1>
- QAA Subject Review
http://www.qaa.ac.uk/revreps/subj_level/q485_01_textonly.htm
- University Learning and Teaching Strategy
<http://www.le.ac.uk/teaching/pdf/strategy/lts2002.pdf>
- University of Leicester Academic Review Report
- External Examiner's Reports
- Graduate Survey
- First Destination Survey
<http://www.le.ac.uk/careers/archaeology.pdf>

6. Programme Outcomes:

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<i>(a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies</i>		
<i>(i) Mastery of an appropriate body of knowledge</i>		
Assess the development of past societies from prehistory to the present day Reflect on the scientific principles underlying the broad range of scientific methods and techniques used within archaeology	Lectures, Seminars, Private reading and study, Fieldwork, Fieldtrips Lectures, Seminars and Laboratory practical sessions	Module examinations and essays, Seminar papers, Project/fieldwork reports, Dissertation Module examinations and essays.
<i>(ii) Understanding and application of key concepts and techniques</i>		
Utilise the broader range of archaeological techniques and theoretical concepts	Lectures, Seminars, Private reading and study	Excavation reports, Coursework, Examinations, Project reports
Discuss the range of scientific techniques that are applied within archaeology	Lectures, Seminars, Private reading and study and Laboratory practical sessions.	Evaluation of excavation reports, Coursework, Examinations and practical assignments
Demonstrate research skills and the handling of data collections	Lectures, Seminars, practical sessions	Dissertation proposal and annotated bibliography, Dissertation
<i>(iii) Critical analysis of key issues</i>		
Awareness of the key debates and different theoretical approaches to the study of past societies	Lectures, Seminars, Private reading and study	Essays and examinations
Knowledge of some key areas of current research, and the ability to appraise this research critically	Lectures, Seminars, Private reading and study	Module examinations and essays, Final Year dissertation
<i>(iv) Clear and concise presentation of material</i>		
Demonstrate the importance of clear and concise written communication	Seminars, Coursework feedback (written and oral)	Coursework, Workbooks, Written examination
Demonstrate the importance of clear and concise oral communication	Seminar presentations	Oral and written feedback to students, Formal assessment
<i>(v) Critical appraisal of evidence with appropriate insight</i>		
Critical analysis of the diverse nature of primary sources, including the formation of the archaeological record, and experience of interrogating them	Lectures, Seminars, Private reading and study, Practical sessions	Excavation critique, Seminars and Module assessment
Ability to interpret scientific evidence convincingly in the broader archaeological context	Lectures, Seminars, Private reading and study, Laboratory practical sessions	Module assessments and dissertation
<i>(vi) Other discipline specific competencies</i>		
Utilise laboratory procedures and analyse scientific data	Laboratory based work	Coursework, Workbooks
Assess excavation procedures and results	Fieldwork	Coursework, Field reports

(b) Transferable skills		
(i) Oral communication		
General presentation skills; growing confidence in public speaking; ability to formulate and present convincing arguments to staff and peer groups	Seminars	Seminar presentations
(ii) Written communication		
Basic grammar and syntax, Well-structured written arguments	Seminars	Written assignments
To produce written material of an appropriate style for different target audiences and different objectives	Preparation of written assignments	Written coursework, Workbooks for practical courses
(iii) Information technology		
Basic word-processing and database skills, ability to access information on CWIS and WWW, storage and retrieval of information	Lectures, Practical sessions	Insistence on word-processed coursework, Use of CWIS and WWW
(iv) Numeracy		
Appropriate use of numerical manipulation in collecting and handling archaeological data	Lectures, Seminars, Practical sessions, Fieldwork	Fieldwork reports, Project workbooks, Dissertation
(v) Team working		
Ability to work in a team environment	Seminars, Fieldwork, Group work	Field course report, Group presentations
(vi) Problem solving		
Capacity to address complex problems of evidence and interpretation critically and carefully	Seminars, Practical sessions, Fieldwork	Module assessment, Mini-project, Dissertation
(vii) Information handling		
Information retrieval	Library and electronic sources	Written assignments
(viii) Skills for lifelong learning		
Time management	Setting strict deadlines for submission of coursework, attendance at lectures and seminars	Penalties for late submission
Independent learning skills	Private study	Bibliographies, reading programmes
Flexibility in core IT skills and their application to new situations	Lectures, Practical sessions	Module assessment, Dissertation Module assessment, Workbooks for practical courses

7. Special features:

Synergy of research and teaching
Group problem solving
Student-centred learning
Laboratory analysis and fieldwork

8. Indications of programme quality

QAA Subject Review

http://www.qaa.ac.uk/revreps/subj_level/q485_01_textonly.htm

External Examiner's reports

Appendix 1: Outline of Programme Structure

BSc Archaeology (see Appendix 2)

FIRST YEAR MODULES

Semester 1

Core Modules

AR1004 Introduction to World Archaeology BC	20 credits
AR1007 Archaeology: The Essentials	10 credits
AR1009 Practical Aims and Methods	10 credits
Supplementary Subject	20 credits

Semester 2

Core Modules

AR1005 Introduction to World Archaeology AD	20 credits
AR1008 Using Archaeological Evidence	10 credits
AR1010 Archaeological Research	20 credits
AR1011 Fieldschool	10 credits

Total 120 credits

SECOND YEAR MODULES (from 2006-7)

Semester 1

Core Modules

AR2008 Environmental Archaeology	20 credits
AR2036 Professional Skills	20 credits
1 option chosen from AR2032–2035	20 credits

Semester 2

Core Modules

AR2029 Theory and Archaeology	20 credits
AR2031 Artefact Analysis	20 credits
1 option chosen from AR2032–2035	20 credits

Total 120 credits

THIRD YEAR MODULES

Semester 1

Core Modules

AR3044 Fieldwork Placement	10 credits
AR3059 Dissertation	10 credits
Two modules from AR3001-58: Archaeology options	20, 20 crs

Semester 2

Core Modules

AR3060 Dissertation	20 credits
Two modules from AR3001-58: Archaeology options	20, 20 crs

Total 120 credits

BSc Archaeology (European Union)

FIRST YEAR MODULES

Semester 1

Core Modules

AR1004 Introduction to World Archaeology BC	20 credits
AR1007 Archaeology: The Essentials	10 credits
AR1009 Practical Aims and Methods	10 credits
Supplementary Subject	20 credits

Semester 2

Core Modules

AR1005 Introduction to World Archaeology AD	20 credits
AR1008 Using Archaeological Evidence	10 credits
AR1010 Archaeological Research	20 credits
AR1011 Fieldschool	10 credits

Total 120 credits

SECOND YEAR MODULES

In this year students are required, where taking an exchange with Spain or Italy, to replace 2 x 20 credits of AR modules (one per semester – normally AR2029 plus one other) with relevant language modules. Choices are negotiated with exchanges co-ordinator, personal tutor and student. For Holland, Denmark, Sweden, where available, students must pursue language classes with the Language Services Unit; these do not replace options in AR.

Semester 1

Core Modules

AR2008 Environmental Archaeology	20 credits
AR2036 Professional Skills	20 credits
1 option chosen from AR2032–2035	20 credits

Semester 2

Core Modules

AR2029 Theory and Archaeology	20 credits
AR2031 Artefact Analysis	20 credits
1 option chosen from AR2032–2035	20 credits

Total 120 credits

THIRD YEAR MODULES – Exchange Year

In this year students join the partner university in the European Union. Current partner institutions are: Aarhus Universitet (Denmark); Gotland University College, Visby (Sweden); Università degli Studi di Bologna (Italy); Università degli Studi di Pisa (Italy); Rijksuniversiteit Groningen (Netherlands); and Universitat de Valencia (Spain). An equivalent range of courses to 120 Leicester credits is approved and followed and assessed by the host department. This normally includes a language module. Students may take AR3044 in the summer prior to the exchange or in the summer preceding their fourth year at Leicester.

Total 120 credits

FOURTH YEAR MODULES

Semester 1

Core Modules

AR3044 Fieldwork Placement	10 credits
AR3059 Dissertation	10 credits
Two modules from AR3001-58: Archaeology options	20, 20 crs

Semester 2

Core Modules

AR3060 Dissertation	20 credits
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Two modules from AR3001-58: Archaeology options

20, 20 crs

Total 120 credits

BSc Archaeology (with a year in Canada)

FIRST YEAR MODULES

Semester 1

Core Modules

AR1004 Introduction to World Archaeology BC	20 credits
AR1007 Archaeology: The Essentials	10 credits
AR1009 Practical Aims and Methods	10 credits
Supplementary Subject	20 credits

Semester 2

Core Modules

AR1005 Introduction to World Archaeology AD	20 credits
AR1008 Using Archaeological Evidence	10 credits
AR1010 Archaeological Research	20 credits
AR1011 Fieldschool	10 credits

Total 120 credits

SECOND YEAR MODULES (from 2006-7)

Semester 1

Core Modules

AR2008 Environmental Archaeology	20 credits
AR2036 Professional Skills	20 credits
1 option chosen from AR2032–2035	20 credits

Semester 2

Core Modules

AR2029 Theory and Archaeology	20 credits
AR2031 Artefact Analysis	20 credits
1 option chosen from AR2032–2035	20 credits

Total 120 credits

THIRD YEAR MODULES – Exchange Year

In this year students join the partner university at Calgary; an equivalent range of courses to 120 Leicester credits is approved and followed and assessed by the host department. Students may take AR3044 prior to the exchange or in the summer preceding the fourth year at Leicester.

Total 120 credits

FOURTH YEAR MODULES

Semester 1

Core Modules

AR3044 Fieldwork Placement	10 credits
AR3059 Dissertation	10 credits
Two modules from AR3001-58: Archaeology options	20, 20 crs

Semester 2

Core Modules

AR3060 Dissertation	20 credits
Two modules from AR3001-58: Archaeology options	20, 20 crs

Total 120 credits

BSc Archaeology (with a year in Australia)

FIRST YEAR MODULES

Semester 1

Core Modules

AR1004 Introduction to World Archaeology BC	20 credits
AR1007 Archaeology: The Essentials	10 credits
AR1009 Practical Aims and Methods	10 credits
Supplementary Subject	20 credits

Semester 2

Core Modules

AR1005 Introduction to World Archaeology AD	20 credits
AR1008 Using Archaeological Evidence	10 credits
AR1010 Archaeological Research	20 credits
AR1011 Fieldschool	10 credits

Total 120 credits

SECOND YEAR MODULES (from 2006-7)

Semester 1

Core Modules

AR2008 Environmental Archaeology	20 credits
AR2036 Professional Skills	20 credits
1 option chosen from AR2032–2035	20 credits

Semester 2

Core Modules

AR2029 Theory and Archaeology	20 credits
AR2031 Artefact Analysis	20 credits
1 option chosen from AR2032–2035	20 credits

Total 120 credits

THIRD YEAR MODULES – Exchange Year

In this year students join the partner university at Flinders, but commence this only after the close of Semester One of the final year at Leicester. An equivalent range of courses to 120 Leicester credits is approved and followed and assessed by the host department. Students may take AR3044 prior to the exchange or in the summer preceding the fourth year at Leicester.

Total 120 credits

FOURTH YEAR MODULES

Semester 1

Core Modules

AR3044 Fieldwork Placement	10 credits
AR3059 Dissertation	10 credits
Two modules from AR3001-58: Archaeology options	20, 20 crs

Semester 2

Core Modules

AR3060 Dissertation	20 credits
Two modules from AR3001-58: Archaeology options	20, 20 crs

Total 120 credits