

**1. Programme Title(s):**

MA in the Country House  
Postgraduate Diploma in the Country House  
Postgraduate Certificate in the Country House

**2. Awarding body or institution:**

University of Leicester

**3. a) Mode of study**

Full-Time or Part-time

**b) Type of study**

Distance Learning

**4. Registration periods:****Part-time:**

Postgraduate Certificate in the Country House  
The minimum registration period for the PG Cert is 8 months  
The normal period of registration for the PGCert is up to 2 years  
The maximum period of registration for the PGCert is 2 years

Postgraduate Diploma in the Country House  
The minimum registration period for the PG Dip is 16 months  
The normal period of registration for the PGDip is up to 2 years  
The maximum period of registration for the PGDip is 4 years

MA in the Country House  
The minimum registration for a part time MA is 2 years, for a full time MA is 1 year.  
The normal period of registration for the MA is 2 years  
The maximum period of registration for the MA is 4 years

**5. Typical entry requirements:**

A first degree in a relevant subject, including but not limited to History of Art, History, English Literature, Archaeology, Cultural Studies.

**6. Accreditation of Prior Learning:**

Students who have taken relevant modules on the campus-based MA in the Country House programme may be permitted to transfer credits into the Distance Learning MA programme. Students so transferring credits will not be permitted subsequently to take DL modules closely resembling those already taken as part of the campus-based course.

**7. Programme aims:**

*For the Postgraduate Certificate and Postgraduate Diploma the aims are to provide:*

- an understanding of the social, cultural and economic history of the Country House from the sixteenth century to the present day;
- a detailed knowledge of some major features associated with the Country House or its architecture and the secondary literature on the subject;

- and an understanding of the complex and changing place of the Country House in its local, regional and national environments.

*For the MA in the Country House the aims are as above plus:*

- to equip students with the knowledge and skills to design, plan and undertake an independent research project leading to the writing of a dissertation on an aspect of the Country House.

## 8. Reference points used to inform the programme specification:

QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications

University of Leicester Learning and Teaching Strategy

QAA Benchmark statement for History of Art and Film

## 9. Programme Outcomes:

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<b>(a) Subject and Professional skills</b>		
<b>Knowledge</b>		
Advanced knowledge of the social, cultural and economic history of the Country House	Study Guides, including case studies, exercises and further reading. Discussion boards. Private study	<i>Essays (all students)</i> <i>Dissertation (MA students only)</i>
<b>Concepts</b>		
Advanced understanding of the different historical and theoretical approaches to the study of the Country House's architecture, furniture and gardens	Study Guides, including case studies, exercises and further reading. Discussion boards. Private study	<i>Relevant module essays (all students)</i> <i>Dissertation (MA only)</i>
<b>Techniques</b>		
Knowledge of conservation policies and strategies	Study Guides, including case studies, exercises and further reading. Discussion boards. Private study	<i>Essays (all students)</i> <i>Dissertation (MA only)</i>
<b>Critical analysis</b>		
Mastery of art-historical and cultural analysis of texts (e.g. paintings, novels, films)	Study Guides, including case studies, exercises and further reading. Discussion boards. Private study	<i>Essays (all students - assessed)</i> <i>Dissertation (MA only - assessed)</i> <i>Participation in discussion threads (all students – un-assessed)</i>
<b>Presentation</b>		
Mastery of written presentation in a scholarly form appropriate for postgraduate study in the Arts and Humanities	Study Guides, including case studies, exercises and further reading. Private study.	<i>Essays (all students)</i> <i>Dissertation (MA only)</i>
<b>Appraisal of evidence</b>		
Ability to analyse historical artefacts, including visual and literary texts; ability to analyse the strengths and weaknesses of different kinds of historical source materials.	Study Guides, including case studies, exercises and further reading. Private study	<i>Essays (all students)</i> <i>Dissertation (MA only)</i> <i>Participation in discussion threads (all students)</i>

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<b>(b) Transferable skills</b>		
<b>Research skills</b>		
Ability to find and analyse both primary and secondary sources; ability to pursue independent research in the field; ability to construct a research proposal including identification of research question(s) and methodological apparatus (MA students only).	Study Guides, including case studies, exercises and further reading. Private study	<i>Dissertation (MA only)</i>
<b>Communication skills</b>		
Ability to communicate ideas and information in a manner appropriate for postgraduate study in Arts and Humanities; ability to present both a concise overview of a subject, and a more detailed examination of specific areas; ability to devise a critical framework/structure for the dissemination of information and the presentation of argument and evidence.	Study Guides, including case studies, exercises and further reading. Private study	<i>Essays (all students)</i> <i>Dissertation (MA only)</i> <i>Participation in discussion threads (all students)</i>
<b>Data presentation</b>		
Ability to present work clearly and observing appropriate scholarly conventions; ability to summarise complex theoretical arguments clearly and concisely; ability to analyse evidence and arguments in a critical and lucid manner.	Study Guides, including case studies, exercises and further reading. Private study	<i>Essays (all students)</i> <i>Dissertation (MA only)</i>
<b>Working relationships</b>		
<b>Managing learning</b>		
Ability to organise private study time and to devise a personal development plan; ability to manage a research project.	Study Guides, including case studies, exercises and further reading. Private study	<i>Essays (all students)</i> <i>Dissertation (MA only)</i>
<b>Career management</b>		
Ability to plan learning strategy and further personal goals.	Private study	<i>Successful completion of the programme</i>

#### 10.Special features:

Each module provides course materials in the form of a Study Guide and a Blackboard site. Study guides provide 'tutorials in print', outlines of research questions, guides to further reading and self-assessment exercises. Blackboard is used for additional information (e.g. news of seminars,

public lectures, new publications). Blackboard will also be used for tutor-moderated discussion boards on each week's study topic.

The structure allows students to study on a module-by-module basis and therefore develop from a PG certificate (60 credits) to a PG Diploma (120 credits) to a full MA (180 credits) at their own pace and according to their own learning needs, interests and individual circumstances.

#### **11. Indications of programme quality:**

The DL programme has been designed to parallel much of the structure and content of the existing campus based programme. It has most of the same learning outcomes as the campus programme. The core module is close to that on the CB programme but the other three do not overlap, but complement, the options on that programme.

It has received positive feedback from the external examiner: 'The distance-learning [MA], with its meticulous handbook, provides a well-supported introduction to many aspects of, and approaches to, country house history, with plenty of opportunity for students to develop their own interests. I like the way students are required to engage with country houses in their area, and that certain themes, e.g. servants, were developed at different points in the module.'

#### **12. Scheme of Assessment**

This programme follows the University's Regulations governing Taught Postgraduate Students (part of the [General Regulations for Taught Programmes](#))

#### **13. Progression points**

As defined in the University's Regulations governing Taught Postgraduate Students (part of the [General Regulations for Taught Programmes](#))

In cases where a student has failed to meet a requirement to progress he or she will be required to withdraw from the course and a recommendation will be made to the Board of Examiners for an intermediate award where appropriate.

#### **14. Rules relating to re-sits or re-submissions:**

As defined in the University's Regulations governing Taught Postgraduate Students (part of the [General Regulations for Taught Programmes](#))

#### **15. Additional information [e.g. timetable for admissions]**

The full Masters Degree (MA) takes two years of part-time study, but it is possible to study for a shorter Postgraduate Diploma (PGDip) or Postgraduate Certificate (PGCert) instead. All three variants start with the mandatory module on 'The Country House in Art, Literature and History' which can also be taken as a stand-alone short course for interest and/or continuing professional development.

Currently there are no 'optional modules': one takes all four available modules in a prescribed sequence, then the dissertation module. Modules are not split by level. For the PGDip, you take all four modules other than the dissertation module: you do not write a dissertation. For PGCert you take the mandatory first module and one other.

## Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

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### M.A. in the Country House: Art, History and Literature

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Period	Module Code	Module Title	Credits
Feb – May	HA7510	The Country House in Art, Literature & History	30
Jun – Sep	HA7508	Country-House Architecture in Eighteenth-Century Britain	30
Oct – Jan	HA7503	The Country House and its Landscapes	30
Feb – May	HA7509	Furnishing the Country House in Eighteenth-Century Britain	30
Jun - Jan	HA7500	Research Methods and Dissertation	<b>60</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>			<b>180</b>

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### Postgraduate Diploma in the Country House: Art, History and Literature

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Period	Module Code	Module Title	Credits
Feb – May	HA7510	The Country House in Art, Literature & History	30
Jun – Sep	HA7508	Country-House Architecture in Eighteenth-Century Britain	30
Oct – Jan	HA7503	The Country House and its Landscapes	30
Feb – May	HA7509	Furnishing the Country House in Eighteenth-Century Britain	30
<b>Total Credits</b>			<b>120</b>

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### PG Cert in the Country House: Art, History and Literature

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Period	Module Code	Module Title	Credits
Feb – May	HA7510	The Country House in Art, Literature & History	30
<i>Plus one module from:</i>			
Jun – Sep	HA7508	Country-House Architecture in Eighteenth-Century Britain	30
Oct – Jan	HA7503	The Country House and its Landscapes	30
Feb – May	HA7509	Furnishing the Country House in Eighteenth-Century Britain	30
<b>Total Credits</b>			<b>60</b>

## Appendix 2: Module Specifications

See module specification database <http://www.le.ac.uk/sas/courses/documentation>