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

   MA in the Classical Mediterranean
   Postgraduate Diploma in the Classical Mediterranean
   Postgraduate Certificate in the Classical Mediterranean

2. **Awarding body or institution:**

   University of Leicester

3. a) **Mode of study: Full -time**

   b) **Type of study: Distance learning**

4. **Registration periods:**

   The normal period of registration is one year full-time years part-time.
   The maximum period of registration is two years full -time.

5. **Typical entry requirements:**

   An upper second class (2:1) Honours degree (or its equivalent) in Archaeology, Classics/Classical Studies, History or a cognate subject. Individual cases where the applicant has extensive relevant professional experience (5 years or more) will be considered on their merits, by the Course Director. Where candidates have a less-relevant degree or degrees it may be possible to attain entry following successful completion of specified conversion modules to an appropriate standard, by prior agreement with the Course Director. Where English is not the first language of the candidate, the successful applicant must have IELTS 6.5 with 5.5 in each component or an equivalent test

6. **Accreditation of Prior Learning:**

   We do not accept APL on this programme.

7. **Programme aims:**

   The programme aims to:
   - develop an approach to the study of the Classical Mediterranean that takes a critical perspective to the long history of the investigation of its textual and material remains
   - develop an approach to the Classical world that engages with current debates and cutting edge theoretical approaches in ancient history and classical archaeology;
   - provide students with a high level of competence in the cultures of the classical Mediterranean, by exploring chosen specialist subjects;
   - develop students' methodological expertise in critical use of source materials;
   - enable students to reflect critically on the economic, social, political, cultural, artistic and religious developments and interaction between the various regions and powers of the Mediterranean region in classical antiquity;
   - develop students' ability to conduct independent research ;
   - build students' awareness of the potential of interdisciplinary research;
   - promote thoughtful and ethical research practices;
   - enhance the career prospects of students, whether in archaeology, ancient history or other professions or research, especially through equipping them with essential transferable skills (written and oral communication, team-working, numeracy, IT);
   - equip students with the skills they will need to advance to research degrees.

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

- The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (FHEQ)
- QAA Benchmarking statement for Archaeology
  http://www.qaa.ac.uk/Publications/InformationAndGuidance/Documents/Archaeology.pdf
  (please note that this primarily refers to undergraduate provision. It is particularly noticeable that the programme proposed here though covers in great depth and detail the issues raised particularly under theme 2 of that report, namely, the social and historical context of archaeology).
- University of Leicester Learning Strategy
  http://www2.le.ac.uk/offices/sas2/quality/learnteach
- University of Leicester Employability Strategy
- University of Leicester Periodic Developmental Review Reports (March 2014)
- Graduate Survey
- External Examiners' reports
- Annual Developmental Review of the School of Archaeology & Ancient History

9. **Programme Outcomes:**

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
(a) Subject and Professional skills		
Knowledge		
Core knowledge of theoretical issues, evidence bases and key methods, techniques and resources relevant to the study of the classical Mediterranean	Module workbooks and other course resources; directed reading; independent project and research work. analysis of professional experience	Essays, assessed and self-assessed exercises, other assignments (e.g. reports), and dissertation. Group work, seminars
Concepts		
Theories and methods of analysis and interpretation of data relevant to the archaeology and history of classical antiquity and its reception in later periods; critical awareness of ethical and professional dimensions to archaeological and academic practice	Module workbooks and other course resources; directed reading; independent project and research work. DL also: analysis of professional experience	Essays, assessed and self-assessed exercises, other assignments (e.g. reports), and dissertation. Group work, seminars
Techniques		
Analytical and writing skills enabling critical interpretations of specific periods; practical skills relating to the analysis of texts, inscriptions, landscapes, buildings and material culture	Module workbooks and other course resources; directed reading; independent project and research work. analysis of professional experience	Essays, assessed and self-assessed exercises, , other assignments (e.g. reports), and dissertation. Group work, seminars
Critical analysis		
Independent applications of concepts and techniques in a rigorous but self-reflexive manner. Critical reviews of published material, and critical appraisal of existing material and bodies of thematic data	Independent project and research work; analysis of professional experience; directed reading; feedback and supervision	Dissertation, essays, assignments, , and dissertation

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Presentation		
Presentation of data analysis, critical reviews and project results to a professional standard; ability to organise, structure and write research and other material appropriately and with clarity and coherence.	Module workbooks and other course resources; feedback and supervision; self-directed reading; independent project and research work. analysis of professional experience	Essays, assessed and self-assessed exercises, other assignments (e.g. reports), and dissertation.
Appraisal of evidence		
Ability to engage in project design; and to appraise, synthesise and prepare for publication a variety of complex archaeological and historical material, taking into account the associated conceptual issues. Ability to assess the relevance and weighting of potential evidence, methods, techniques and ideas, and mount and sustain an independent level of inquiry at an advanced level	Module workbooks and other course resources; feedback and project supervision; self-directed reading; independent project and research work	Essays, assessed and self-assessed exercises, , other assignments (e.g. reports), and dissertation.
(b) Transferable skills		
Research skills		
Ability to plan archaeologically- and historically-derived or based projects, and locate, extract, produce and analyse relevant evidence; conduct significant background research and literature surveys; organise and marshal evidence, report on findings, analyse complex ideas and competing viewpoints and construct sophisticated critical arguments.	Project supervision. assignment feedback, directed reading, course and University resources	Assignments, exercises, dissertation,
Communication skills		
Respond with focus and clarity to written or oral questions; write clearly and concisely; make effective use of graphical and statistical summaries, where appropriate. Produce properly structured, clear, advanced discussion papers, reports or dissertations.	Module workbooks and other course resources; feedback and project supervision; independent project and research work	Essays, assessed and self-assessed exercises, other assignments (e.g. reports), and dissertation. Group work, discussions and seminars within field-based module
Data presentation		
Organise and present information gathered through research clearly and effectively including using appropriate IT resources.	Independent research. Course and University resources including materials delivered through the Student Learning Centre.	Essays, assessed and self-assessed exercises, , other assignments (e.g. reports), and dissertation.

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Information technology		
Make critical use of digital resources for conducting academic research, assessing these resources for utility and reliability. Use the online resources provided by the School and the University to communicate with other students and tutors. Develop skills in key software suites (office tools; graphics; search tools).	research supervision; independent research; forums and discussion groups using Blackboard	Use of digital resources to produce essays, other assignments (e.g. reports) and dissertation; activity on the relevant Blackboard sites and email lists.
Problem solving		
Independently approach questions relating to our historical or archaeological understanding of the classical Mediterranean. Critically select and apply methods for addressing research questions. Critically select and analyse primary material for addressing research questions.	Problem-oriented exercises; research supervision;); feedback and project supervision	Essays, assessed and self-assessed exercises, other assignments (e.g. reports), and dissertation.
Working relationships		
Know how to draw appropriately on specialist knowledge; ability to contribute to and comment upon ideas	Problem-oriented exercises; research supervision; feedback and project supervision and/or field-based module practical sessions; analysis of professional experience	Contribution to discussion lists and to dissertation proposal discussions,. Group work, discussions and seminars within field-based module
Managing learning		
Demonstrate independence and time management and organizational skills. Identify a feasible research project; establish a realistic research time-table, reflecting on and 'writing up' results, including developing specialised analytical skills.	Formal guidance on seminar presentations; course workbook and other course and University resources; coursework schedules and expectations; peer pressure and discussion; assignment feedback and dissertation supervision.	meeting coursework deadlines for assignments, exercises and dissertation; demonstrating progress in assignments throughout the course.
Career management		
Ability to demonstrate the above transferable skills; independent research skills appropriate for progress to doctoral research	Tutorial discussion and advice; career advice resources provided by the University and the School	Award of the degree; discussion of career prospects and future plans with Programme Coordinator, Postgraduate Tutor and other academic mentors in the School; use and completion of University-supplied resources and courses

10. Special features:

This MA is highly distinctive, focusing as it does on the integration of Archaeology and Ancient History. It is suitable for students with a background in classics, ancient history, classical

archaeology, or archaeology. This postgraduate programme differs dramatically from traditional Master's level programmes in Classical Archaeology, or in Ancient History in that it offers a fully integrated approach to both classical texts and material culture. It also offers a stronger theoretical framework than many comparable degrees. This programme provides students with sophisticated conceptual tools to address BOTH archaeological and written source materials, and the issues they generate.

The importance of understanding the different traditions and disciplines involved in study of the Classical world is emphasised throughout the programme, including the continued importance of the Classical World throughout subsequent periods.

11. **Indications of programme quality:**

External examiners' reports on the quality of the programme have been uniformly supportive, albeit not without constructive comments and suggestions that have actively informed its ongoing development and review.

The following comments are taken directly from the external examiner's reports:

"The high quality of teaching shone through the materials submitted – the feedback was also very helpful."

"The course materials were laid out in an exemplary manner. The content of the MA/PG Dip/PG Cert Classical Mediterranean was wide ranging, engaged with current research issues and prepared the students well for their assignments."

"The assessments struck me as well designed, and appropriate for modules at postgraduate level – they aimed to introduce students to the disciplines of PG work, developed their critical awareness and tested their abilities to research and develop an argument."

"I would once again emphasise the success of this Masters course, the high achievement of the best candidates and the dedication and skill of those teaching it"

12. **Scheme of Assessment**
    As defined in Senate Regulation 6: Regulations governing taught postgraduate programmes of study.

13. **Progression points**
    As defined in Senate Regulation 6 Regulations governing taught postgraduate programmes of study.

14. **Rules relating to re-sits or re-submissions:**
    As defined in Senate Regulation 6 Regulations governing taught postgraduate programmes of study.

15. **External Examiners**
    The details of the External Examiner(s) for this programme and the most recent External Examiners' reports can be found here

16. **Additional information** [e.g. timetable for admissions]
    Admissions are in October, February and June (distance-learning).

Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

As described below, structures are similar for the MA whatever the mode of delivery. Postgraduate Certificates (whether as an initial registration or final qualification) will be more popular for distance-learning students.

a. MA/PGDip in the Classical Mediterranean by Distance Learning

Curriculum: All candidates must take the modules AR7552 and AR7553, two options from the list below, and a 60-credit dissertation. Alternatively, with prior approval from the Course Director, candidates may take a 90-credit dissertation plus three modules – two core and one option. The 120-credit Diploma comprises the four modules, but omits the dissertation.

	Module Code	Module Title	Credit Rating
Compulsory	AR7552	Text and Material Culture	30
	AR7553	Encountering the Classical World:	30
	AR7526	Dissertation*	60
or			
	AR7529	Dissertation*	90
Optional	AR7528	Classical Landscapes	30
	AH7560	Households and domesticity in the Ancient World	30
	AR7566	Study Tour [limited places; subject to availability]	30

Compulsory only for the degree of M.A.

Qualifications Awarded:

i.   Candidates who accumulate 120 credits from the taught modules and satisfy the examiners in each of the modules will be awarded a Postgraduate Diploma.
ii. Candidates who accumulate 180 credits satisfy the examiners in each of the modules and submit a satisfactory dissertation/project will be awarded a Master's degree.

b.   Postgraduate Certificate in the Classical Mediterranean by Distance Learning

Period of registration: One year.

Curriculum: Candidates take two of the following modules:

Module code	Module title	Credit rating
AR7552	Text and Material Culture	30
AR7553	Encountering the Classical World	30
AH7560	Households and Domesticity in the Ancient World	30
AR7528	Classical Landscapes	30
AR7527*	Mini-Dissertation	30

Qualifications Awarded:

i.   Candidates who have completed two taught modules are awarded a Postgraduate Certificate in Classical Mediterranean Studies.
ii. Candidates who complete AR7552 and a related short dissertation AR7527 are awarded a Postgraduate Certificate in Classical Traditions.

iii.   Candidates who complete AR7553 and a related short dissertation AR7527 are awarded a Postgraduate Certificate in the Classical Past.

iv.   Candidates who complete AH7560 and a related short dissertation AR7527 are awarded a Postgraduate Certificate in Ancient Households.

v.   Candidates who complete AR7528 and a related short dissertation AR7527 are awarded a Postgraduate Certificate in Classical Landscapes.

Appendix 2: Module Specifications

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