



Programme Specification (Postgraduate Taught) FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2024/25

Date created: 18/12/2020

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Version no. 1

1. Programme title(s) and code(s)

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

HECOS Code

HECOS Code	%
100298	100

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

Full-time

The normal period of registration for the MA is one year full-time.
The maximum period of registration for the MA is two years full-time.

Part-time

The normal period of registration for the Postgraduate Certificate is eight months part-time.
The maximum period of registration for the Postgraduate Certificate is sixteen months part-time.

The normal period of registration for the Postgraduate Diploma is sixteen months part-time.
The maximum period of registration for the Postgraduate Diploma is thirty-two months part-time.

The normal period of registration for the MA is two years part-time.
The maximum period of registration for the MA is four years part-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

- QAA Benchmarking Statement
- Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)
- UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- [University Education Strategy](#)
- [University Assessment Strategy](#) [Login required]
- University of Leicester Periodic Developmental Review Report
- External Examiners' reports (annual)
- United Nations Education for Sustainable Development Goals
- Student Destinations Data

9. Programme Outcomes

Unless otherwise stated, programme outcomes apply to all awards specified in 1. Programme title(s).

a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies

i) Knowledge

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
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

ii) Concepts

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
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

iii) Techniques

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
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

iv) Critical analysis

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
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

v) Presentation

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
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.

vi) Appraisal of evidence

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
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

i) Research skills

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
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,

ii) Communication skills

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
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

iii) Data presentation

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
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.

iv) Information technology

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Make critical use of digital resources for conducting academic research, assessing these resources for utility and reliability.	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.
Use the online resources provided by the School and the University to communicate with other students and tutors.	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.
Develop skills in key software suites (office tools; graphics; search tools).	Research supervision; independent research; forums and discussion groups using the VLE.	Use of digital resources to produce essays, other assignments (e.g. reports) and dissertation; activity on the relevant VLE sites and email lists.

v) Problem solving

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Independently approach questions relating to our historical or archaeological understanding of the classical Mediterranean.	Problem-oriented exercises; research supervision;); feedback and project supervision	Essays, assessed and self-assessed exercises, other assignments (e.g. reports), and dissertation.
Critically select and apply methods 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.
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.

vi) Working relationships

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
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

vii) Managing learning

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
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.

viii) Career management

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
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.

10.1 Progression Points

a) Course transfers

- i. The course transfers process (allowing students to transfer to other degree courses and change their intensity of study) is set out [here](#) on the University's web pages.
- ii. Students may transfer between Full-Time and Part-Time modes of study, subject to approval by the School. A student wishing to change their intensity of study must submit their application no later than the term before the intended transfer.

A transfer between Full-Time and Part-Time study:

- a. may not be implemented in the middle of a taught module.
- b. will only be granted at the half-way point in the taught element of the programme (i.e. when 60 credits of the Level have been completed) OR at the end of the taught element of the programme (i.e. when 120 credits of the Level have been completed).
- iii. There are some potential financial implications of transferring courses and/or moving between Full- and Part-Time modes of study, which students must consider and address before deciding to go ahead with a transfer application. Students are strongly recommended to contact both the DL Hub (DLstudy@le.ac.uk) and the [Welfare Office](#) to discuss any financial implications before initiating the transfer process.

10. 2 Intakes, Study Intensity and Order of Study

You may begin your programme in either October or February.

Modules are offered at three points in a year, i.e. October, February or June.

Full-Time students should usually study two modules per module start date, and part-time students should study one module per module start date.

	October Start	February Start
	Full time	Part time
October	1. AR7552 2. AR7553	AR7552
February	1. AR7528 2. AR7560	AR7553
June	AR7526	AR7528
October		AR7560

February		AR7526
June		AR7526

11. Indicators 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. Criteria for award and classification

This programme follows the standard scheme of taught postgraduate award and classification set out in [Senate Regulations](#) – see the version of *Senate Regulation 6 governing taught postgraduate programmes of study* relevant to year of entry.

13. Progression points

As defined in [Senate Regulations](#) - refer to the version of *Senate Regulation 6 governing taught postgraduate programmes of study* relevant to year of entry.

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/exit award where appropriate.

14. Rules relating to re-sits or re-submissions

As defined in [Senate Regulations](#) - refer to the version of *Senate Regulation 6 governing taught postgraduate programmes of study* relevant to year of entry.

15. External Examiners reports

The details of the External Examiner(s) for this programme and the most recent External Examiners' reports for this programme can be found at exampapers@Leicester [log-in required]

16. Additional features (e.g. timetable for admissions)

Admissions are in October and February.

Programme Specification (Postgraduate)

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Date created: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Last amended: [Click or tap to enter a date.](#) **Version no.** [Choose an item.](#)

Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

The University regularly reviews its programmes and modules to ensure that they reflect the current status of the discipline and offer the best learning experience to students. On occasion, it may be necessary to alter particular aspects of a course or module.

Masters/Postgraduate Diploma in the Classical Mediterranean by Distance Learning

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core taught	120 credits	n/a	n/a	n/a
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dissertation/project	60 credits	n/a	n/a	n/a

[Choose an item.](#) credits in total

Level 7/Year 1 **2024/25**

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Choose an item.	AR7552	Text and Material Culture	30 credits
Choose an item.	AR7553	Encountering the Classical World	30 credits
Choose an item.	AR7526	Dissertation*	60 credits
	AR7528	Classical Landscapes	30 credits

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
	AR7560	Households and domesticity in the Ancient World	30 credits

Notes

* Compulsory only for the degree of MA

- 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 Masters degree

Postgraduate Certificate in the Classical Mediterranean

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core taught	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Optional	60 credits	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dissertation/project	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Choose an item. credits in total

Level 7/Year 1 2024/25

Option modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Choose an item.	AR7552	Text and Material Culture	30 credits
Choose an item.	AR7553	Encountering the Classical World	30 credits
Choose an item.	AR7560	Households and Domesticity in the Ancient World	30 credits

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Choose an item.	AR7528	Classical Landscapes	30 credits
	AR7527	Mini-dissertation	30 credits

Notes

This is an indicative list of option modules and not definitive of what will be available. Option module choice is also subject to availability, timetabling, student number restrictions and, where appropriate, students having taken appropriate pre-requisite modules.

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 AR7560 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 taught postgraduate [module specification database](#) [Login required] (Note - modules are organized by year of delivery).