



Programme Specification (Undergraduate)

FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2021/22

Date created: 18/12/2020

Last amended: 02/06/2021

Version no. 3

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

Certificate in Archaeology

Diploma in Archaeology

BA Archaeology (no UCAS code)

a) [HECOS Code](#)

HECOS Code	%
100299	100

b) UCAS Code (where required)

N/A

2. Awarding body or institution:

University of Leicester

3. a) Mode of study

Flexible/blended learning

b) Type of study

Distance learning

4. Registration periods:

Full Time:

The normal period of registration is 3 years full-time

The maximum period of registration is 5 years full-time

Part Time:

The normal period of registration is 6 years part-time

The maximum period of registration is 8 years part-time

5. Typical entry requirements

Certificate in Archaeology

There are no specified academic requirements for application at level 1; admission in these circumstances is at the discretion of the designated individual(s) who are authorized to make admissions decisions on behalf of the Director of Distance Learning or the Programme Director.

Diploma in Archaeology

For entry at level 2, applicants will normally have a Certificate in HE in Archaeology (120 credits in archaeology at Level 1) or equivalent APL (e.g. Associate degree in Anthropology in the USA), or a minimum of two years relevant professional experience.

BA in Archaeology

For entry at level 3, applicants will normally have a Diploma in HE in Archaeology (120 credits in archaeology at level 2).

All applicants must satisfy the University's English Language requirements as stipulated in the General Regulations for Taught Programmes in force for the academic year of entry to the programme.

Applications should be made directly to the University.

6. Accreditation of Prior Learning

Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL) may be recognised in accordance with the General Regulations for Taught Programmes in force for the academic year of entry to the programme. Module exemptions on the basis of APL will normally be granted on an 'ungraded' basis, meaning that students would be awarded a qualification on the basis of the average marks from modules completed at the University of Leicester.

Diploma in Archaeology

Direct entry to level 2 would be permitted where applicants would normally have a Certificate in HE in Archaeology (120 credits in archaeology at Level 1) or equivalent APL (e.g. Associate degree in Anthropology in the USA), or a minimum of two years' relevant professional experience.

BA in Archaeology

Direct entry to level 3 would be permitted where applicants would normally have a Diploma in HE in Archaeology or equivalent (120 credits in archaeology at level 2). Admission in these circumstances is at the discretion of the designated individual(s) who are authorized to make admissions decisions on behalf of the Director of Distance Learning or Programme Director

7. Programme aims

The programme aims to:

The Certificate in Archaeology aims to:

- provide a stimulating and challenging learning experience for a wide range of students from a variety of social, geographic and cultural backgrounds;
- provide a rigorous and coherent curriculum, drawing on the School's research and teaching strengths and expertise in delivering distance learning;
- enable students to demonstrate a variety of approaches to understanding the past through archaeological means;
- enable students to develop and demonstrate a range of transferable skills necessary for further study, career and life enhancement, and effective independent learning;
- enable students to develop personally in ways which will enrich their lives and facilitate their wider contributions to society.

The Diploma in Archaeology aims to:

- consolidate students' existing archaeological knowledge and inculcate a critical approach to the discipline;
- provide a rigorous and coherent curriculum, drawing on the School's research and teaching strengths and expertise in delivering distance learning;
- develop students' knowledge and understanding of the wide chronological and geographical range of the discipline;
- develop techniques and concepts towards understanding the past through archaeological approaches to the study of material culture;
- enable students to develop personally in ways which will enrich their lives and facilitate their wider contributions to society.

The BA in Archaeology aims to:

- provide a rigorous, coherent and attractive curriculum that draws on the research expertise and teaching strengths of the School of Archaeology and Ancient History,
- provide a stimulating and challenging learning experience for all students;
- develop students' knowledge and understanding of the full chronological and geographical range of their discipline;
- develop students' abilities to apply archaeological theories, techniques, and concepts to analyse and explain specific periods and themes in Archaeology;
- enable students to demonstrate a variety of approaches used by archaeologists to understand past societies;
- enable students to develop and demonstrate a range of skills necessary for the study of Archaeology;
- enable students to develop and demonstrate a range of transferable skills necessary for successful career development and a lifetime of effective independent learning.

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 Learning Strategy](#)
- [University Assessment Strategy](#)
- 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) Mastery of an appropriate body of knowledge

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate mastery of an appropriate body of archaeological knowledge	DL course materials; practical field and laboratory classes; directed reading; independent research; resource-based learning; assignment feedback; academic support from tutors; electronic discussion groups; peer-group support and interaction	Module assignments including essays, critiques, written reports, writing tasks, problem-based exercises, field reports, portfolios of practical work, contributions to discussions, self-assessed exercises, participation in fieldwork teams, fieldschool seminars, participation in laboratory activities, laboratory reports, dissertation.

ii) Understanding and application of key concepts and techniques

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate understanding of the variety and complexities of archaeological evidence, analytical techniques and interpretation	DL course materials; practical field and laboratory classes; directed reading; independent research; resource-based learning; assignment feedback; academic support from tutors; electronic discussion groups; peer-group support and interaction	Module assignments including essays, critiques, written reports, writing tasks, problem-based exercises, field reports, portfolios of practical work, contributions to discussions, self-assessed exercises, participation in fieldwork teams, fieldschool seminars, participation in laboratory activities, laboratory reports, dissertation
Demonstrate a variety of approaches to understanding, constructing and interpreting the past	DL course materials; practical field and laboratory classes; directed reading; independent research; resource-based learning; assignment feedback; academic support from tutors; electronic discussion groups; peer-group support and interaction	Module assignments including essays, critiques, written reports, writing tasks, problem-based exercises, field reports, portfolios of practical work, contributions to discussions, self-assessed exercises, participation in fieldwork teams, fieldschool seminars, participation in laboratory activities, laboratory reports, dissertation

iii) Critical analysis of key issues

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Compare and analyse appropriate archaeological themes by period, place, material or cultural category	DL course materials especially AR1551, AR1552, AR1553, AR1554, AR1555, AR1556, AR 1558, AR2552, AR2553, AR2554, AR2555, AR2556, AR3550, AR3551, AR3552, AR3553; practical field classes; directed reading; independent research; resource-based learning; assignment feedback	Module assignments including essays, critiques, writing tasks, problem-based exercises, contributions to discussions and self-assessed exercises
Analyse historical processes over a variety of temporal and spatial scales	DL course materials especially AR1552, AR1553, AR1554, AR1555, AR1556, , AR1558, AR2551, AR2552, AR2553, AR2555, AR3550, AR3552, AR3553; directed reading; independent research; resource-based learning; assignment feedback	Module assignments including essays, critiques, writing tasks, problem-based exercises, contributions to discussions and self-assessed exercises
Reflect critically on the nature of archaeology; on its place in the contemporary world; and its relationship to cognate disciplines and methods	DL course materials especially AR1551, AR2551, AR2554, AR2556, AR3550, AR3552, AR3553; directed reading; independent research; resource-based learning; assignment feedback	Module assignments including essays, critiques, writing tasks, problem-based exercises, contributions to discussions and self-assessed exercises

iv) Clear and concise presentation of material

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Present archaeological materials and historical argument in a variety of written and graphical formats	DL course materials including the fieldschool and laboratory-based course; directed reading; independent research; resource-based learning; assignment feedback	Module assignments including essays, critiques and writing tasks, fieldwork portfolio, Archaeological Practice portfolio and laboratory reports, self-assessed exercises, dissertation

v) Critical appraisal of evidence with appropriate insight

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Develop and sustain arguments, formulating appropriate questions, and identifying and evaluating appropriate techniques and approaches	DL course materials and especially AR1552, AR1553, AR1554, AR1555, AR1556, , AR1558, AR2551, AR2554, AR2556, AR3550, AR3551 AR3552, AR3553; directed reading; independent research; resource-based learning; assignment feedback	Module assignments including essays, critiques, writing tasks, problem-based exercises, contributions to discussions and self-assessed exercises, dissertation
Read, analyse and critically evaluate a range of source materials	DL course materials especially AR1551, AR1552, AR1553, AR1554, AR1555, AR1556, , AR1558AR2550, AR2551, AR2554, AR2556, AR3550, AR3551, AR3552, AR3553; directed reading; independent research; resource-based learning; assignment feedback	Module assignments including essays, critiques, fieldwork and practical portfolios, problem-based exercises, contributions to discussions and self-assessed exercises; participation in fieldwork teams and fieldschool seminars, participation in laboratory based activities and discussions, dissertation

vi) Other discipline specific competencies

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate awareness of the range and justify the use of appropriate methods to answer archaeological questions	DL course materials especially AR2550, AR2554, AR3551; directed reading; independent research; resource-based learning; assignment feedback	Module assignments including essays, critiques, fieldwork portfolio, problem-based exercises; dissertation

b) Transferable skills

i) Oral communication

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate clarity, fluency and coherence in oral expression	*Largely inappropriate for DL courses; however seminars, activities and discussion associated with AR2550 and AR3551 are relevant	Contributions to fieldwork seminars and discussions and to laboratory discussions

ii) Written communication

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Develop and explain archaeological arguments and presentation of data in a variety of textual and graphical formats	DL course materials especially AR2550, AR2554, AR2556, and AR3551 for graphical representation; directed reading; independent research; resource-based learning; assignment feedback	Module assignments including essays, critiques, fieldwork portfolio, problem-based exercises, self-assessed exercises, dissertation

iii) Information technology

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Apply IT to support archaeological research, interpretation, analysis and presentation, including bibliographic research and data production	DL course materials especially within AR2550, AR2554 and AR3551 for graphical representation; computer practical classes within the AR3551 residential week, independent research; resource-based learning; use of BlackBoard for course materials and formative assessments	Module assignments, fieldwork portfolio, Archaeological Practice portfolio, problem-based exercises, self-assessed exercises, use of discussion lists and associated resources, dissertation

iv) Numeracy

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate analysis of archaeological data using statistical and graphical techniques	DL course materials especially AR2550, AR2554 and AR3551; computing and statistics practical classes within the AR3551 residential week; independent research; resource-based learning	Module assignments, fieldwork and Archaeological Practice portfolios, problem-based exercises, self-assessed exercises, dissertation

v) Team working

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Be able to work collaboratively and recognise the necessity of working with others in archaeology	AR2550; collaboration in laboratory work within AR3551; DL course materials	Fieldwork and Archaeological Practice portfolios, module assignments, discussion lists, contributions to online discussions, fieldwork seminars and laboratory discussions

vi) Problem solving

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Address archaeological issues and problems at a variety of scales using a range of techniques and sources	DL course materials; practical participation in fieldwork (AR2550) and laboratory work (AR3551); independent research; resource-based learning	Module assignments, fieldwork and Archaeological Practice portfolios, problem-based exercises, self-assessed exercises, dissertation

vii) Information handling

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Gather and deploy evidence and data from a range of sources to find, retrieve, select and present information in a variety of formats	DL course materials; practical participation in fieldwork (AR2550) and laboratory-based work (AR3551); independent research; resource-based learning	Module assignments, fieldwork and Archaeological Practice portfolios, problem-based exercises, self-assessed exercises, discussion lists and contributions to online discussions, dissertation

viii) Skills for lifelong learning

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate self-management of learning	Distance-learning materials and associated assignments and exercises; independent research; assignment feedback	All of the above
Demonstrate intellectual independence through the appropriate selection, analysis, interpretation and evaluation of evidence	DL course materials; directed reading; independent research; resource-based learning; assignment feedback	Module assignments, dissertation
Reflect upon learning and achievements and plan for educational, personal and career development	Distance learning materials, discussion lists, personal development planning programme	Module, dissertation, course and self-evaluation

10. Progression points

This programme follows the standard Scheme of Progression set out in [Senate Regulations](#) – see the version of Senate Regulation 5 governing undergraduate programmes relevant to the year of entry.

Level 1 students are required to successfully complete 120 credits at level 1 (i.e. with a mark of 40% or higher) within the maximum period of registration.

Level 2 students are required to successfully complete 120 credits at level 2 (i.e. with a mark of 40% or greater).

Level 3 students are required to successfully complete 120 credits at level 3 (i.e. with a mark of 40% or greater).

In cases where a student has failed to meet a requirement to progress he or she will be required to withdraw from the course.

a) Course transfers

The course transfers process is set out [here](#) on the University's web pages.

11. Criteria for award and classification

This programme follows the standard scheme of undergraduate award and classification set out in [Senate Regulations](#) – see the version of *Senate Regulation 5 governing undergraduate programmes* relevant to the year of entry.

12. Special features

12.1 Fieldschool

The Fieldschool module at Level 2 (AR2560) is a compulsory, practical field work module.

Students may participate in the Fieldschool organised by the School of Archaeology and Ancient

History, which entails travelling to Leicestershire. If students choose this option, the Fieldschool module must be taken in the June-August module block of year 2 for full-time students or of year 3 or 4 for part-time students.

Alternatively, students may arrange their own fieldwork experience (AR2550), provided this is approved in advance by the designated member of staff in the School of Archaeology and Ancient History. The School may also recognize suitable accredited fieldschools elsewhere. In the case of self-arranged fieldwork, there is no restriction on the module block in which AR2550 should be taken.

12.2 Archaeological Practice

The Archaeological Practice module at Level 3 (AR3551) is a compulsory module which entails compulsory attendance on the University of Leicester's main campus at a week of laboratory based activity. This laboratory week typically takes place in May and September each year and the resultant project report forms the bulk of the module activity. AR3551, therefore, must be taken in the June- or October module block of year 3 for full-time students or of year 5 or 6 for part-time students.

12.3 Field experience

Normally students are required to undertake a total of six weeks of fieldwork or equivalent experience during the programme. As well as attending the compulsory Fieldschool AR2550/or 2560 (see 11.1 above) for at least one week, they must accumulate at least a further five weeks' experience. The compulsory Archaeological Practice module AR3551 (1 week) is counted towards the total. The balance will be made up by non-assessed non-credit-bearing field experience (or equivalent approved experience such as museum work), which must be recorded by the student and verified by the Programme Director or his/her nominee; it may include additional weeks at the Leicestershire version of Fieldschool AR2560.

12.4 Transfer between mode of study

Students may transfer between mode of study with the prior agreement of the Programme Director or his/her nominee. In such cases, the normal and maximum periods of registration will be calculated accordingly. Given recent changes to Student Number Controls (SNCs) for the whole School, Home/EU full time distance learning students transferring to campus based study will impact on SNCs. Therefore, A-level or equivalent results plus the fee status of these students wishing to transfer must be taken into account, and it is likely that until further notice, only students not impacting on the School SNCs will be permitted to transfer.

12.5 Associate students and 'for-interest' modules

Associate students may register for single Level 1 modules on a 'for-interest' basis. Associate students will be required to undertake all assessments associated with their chosen modules. Successful completion of the module at 40% or above will entitle an associate student to a Certificate of Achievement. Associate students will not be permitted to study more than two modules (40 credits) on this basis. Students who wish to undertake further study after this will be required to register for a qualification leading to award in accordance with the General Regulations governing the accreditation of prior learning.

It is also possible for students to take Associate modules at Level 2 if they can demonstrate that they have 120 credits in Archaeology at Level 1 or a suitable equivalent

13. Indications of programme quality

The student learning experience is enhanced by a commitment to synergy between research and teaching. The School of Archaeology and Ancient History was ranked unambiguously in the

top ten amongst UK archaeology departments in the 2014 Research Assessment Exercise. In the NSS returns for 2015 we scored 95% overall, and a maximum 100% for staff enthusiasm.

Graduates of this degree programme take postgraduate taught courses and pursue research degrees at Leicester and many other universities. Many take master's courses at Leicester or elsewhere; many have entered teaching or archaeological careers; and many enter graduate employment soon after graduation.

14. External Examiner(s) 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]

Programme Specification (Undergraduate)

FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2021/22

Date created: 18/12/2020

Last amended: 02/06/2021

Version no. 3

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.

BA Archaeology (no UCAS code)

Certificate in Archaeology (Year One modules only)

Diploma in Archaeology (Year One and Two modules only)

Level 4/Year 1 2021/22

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	20 credits	n/a	n/a
Optional	100 credits	n/a	n/a

120 credits in total

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Year long	AR1551	Aims and Methods in Archaeology	20 credits

Notes

N/A

Option modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Year long	AR1552	Early Prehistory	20 credits
Year long	AR1553	Later Prehistory	20 credits
Year long	AR1554	Classical Archaeology	20 credits
Year long	AR1555	Medieval Archaeology	20 credits
Year long	AR1556	Post-medieval Archaeology	20 credits
Year long	AR1558	The Archaeology of Egypt, Nubia and the Middle Nile	20 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.

Level 5/Year 2 2022/23

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	60 credits	n/a	n/a
Optional	60 credits	n/a	n/a

120 credits in total

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Year long	AR2551	Archaeological Theory	20 credits
Year long	AR2554	Interpreting Archaeological Evidence: Material Culture and Environment	20 credits
Year long	AR2550	Fieldschool (Self-organised)**	20 credits

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Year long	AR2560	Fieldschool (University of Leicester)*	20 credits

Notes

*Students take either AR2550 OR AR2560.

**AR2550 may only be taken with prior approval of the Fieldwork Director. This is the self-organised fieldschool for students who cannot attend the School's own programme of fieldwork

Option modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Year long	AR2552	The Rise of States in the Old World	20 credits
Year long	AR2553	The Mediterranean in the Medieval World	20 credits
Year long	AR2555	Being Human: Evolution and Prehistory	20 credits
Year long	AR2556	Archaeology of the Roman World	20 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.

* AR2550 may only be taken with prior approval of the Department. This is the self-organised fieldschool for students who cannot attend the School's own programme of fieldwork.

Level 6/Year 3 2023/24

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	120 credits	n/a	n/a
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a

120 credits in total

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Year long	AR3552	Archaeology of Urbanism	20 credits
Year long	AR3553	Archaeology, Religion and Belief	20 credits
Year long	AR3550	Households and Families in the Past	20 credits
Year long	AR3551	Archaeological Practice*	20 credits
Year long	AR3554	Dissertation	40 credits

Notes

* This module includes a compulsory week-long intensive laboratory course at the University. This module can be taken in May or September. Students will need to consult with the Department to ensure a place in either month

Updates to the programme

Academic year affected	Module Code(s)	Update
2021/22		

Appendix 2: Module specifications

See undergraduate [module specification database](#) (Note - modules are organized by year of delivery).

Appendix 3: Skills matrix

Programme Specification Appendix 2	
Skills Matrix: Level 3 BA Archaeology (DL)	
Date amended: June 2019	
Programme Learning Outcomes	
	AR3550 Households and Families in the Past
	AR3551 Practical Archaeology
	AR3552 Archaeology of Urbanism
	AR3553 Archaeology of Ritual and Belief
	AR3554 Dissertation
	AR2550 /2560 Fieldschool
	AR2551 Archaeological Theory
	AR2552 The Rise of States in the Old World
	AR2553 The Mediterranean in the Medieval World
	AR2554 Interpreting Archaeological Evidence
	AR2555 Being Human
	AR2556 Archaeology of the Roman World
	AR1551 Aims and Methods in Archaeology
	AR1552 Early Prehistory
	AR1553 Later Prehistory
	AR1554 Classical Archaeology
	AR1555 Medieval Archaeology
	AR 1556 Historical (Post Medieval and Industrial) Archaeology
	AR1558 The Archaeology of Egypt, Nubia and the Middle Nile
(a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies	

(vi) Other discipline specific competencies																					
	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
(b) Transferable skills																					
(i) Oral communication																					
		x					x														
(ii) Written communication																					
	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
(iii) Information technology																					
		x			(x)																
discussion lists and BlackBoard delivery	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
(iv) Numeracy																					
		x			(x)		x		(x)	(x)	x	(x)	(x)		x					(x)	
(v) Team working																					
		x			(x)		x														
(vi) Problem solving																					
		x			x		x		(x)	(x)	x	(x)	x		x	(x)					
(vii) Information handling																					
		x			x		x		x	x	x	x	x		x						
(viii) Skills for lifelong learning																					
	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Please note that (x) represents skills which may apply to the module concerned depending on assignment and topic choice																					

