

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

This document describes the **Bachelor of Arts in Ancient History**. For Joint and Combined Honours Degree programmes with Philosophy, please also refer to the equivalent document for Philosophy. This specification is valid for new entrants from **September 2013**.

The aims of the programme are:

- to develop students knowledge of Ancient history;
- to introduce students to issues of methodology in relation to the study of Ancient history;
- to develop skills in research in Ancient history;
- to provide students with key skills, the ability to work independently and in a self-directed fashion; to devise and deliver a project; and an ability to set learning goals;
- to develop students' transferable skills in studying at degree level, communicating ideas and information, information retrieval, and presentation, both written and oral, and team-working;
- to develop the range of skills necessary to pursue a further degree in historical studies;
- to develop students' ability to derive information and ideas from fragmentary or imperfect sources.

The programme is delivered over three years of full-time study or six years of part-time study. On successful completion of the programme a student should have an understanding of the area of the BA at a level appropriate for a graduate qualification. Whilst being a self-contained degree in its own right, the programme provides suitable and recognised qualifications for entry to MA study in the same or closely related fields (notably Ancient History, History).

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This document provides a summary of the main features of the programme, and of the outcomes which a student might reasonably be expected to achieve if full advantage is taken of the learning opportunities provided. Further information is contained in the College prospectus, the College Regulations and in various handbooks issued to students upon arrival. Whilst Royal Holloway keeps all its information for prospective applicants and students under review, programmes and the availability of individual courses are necessarily subject to change at any time, and prospective applicants are therefore advised to seek confirmation of any factors which might affect their decision to follow a specific programme. In turn, Royal Holloway will inform applicants and students as soon as is practicable of any substantial changes which might affect their studies.

Learning outcomes

Teaching and learning in the programme are closely informed by the active research of staff. In general terms, the programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate the following learning outcomes:

Knowledge and understanding

- knowledge of a variety of critical approaches to Ancient History;
- a detailed understanding of the methodological questions and issues involved in studying Ancient history;
- a detailed understanding of Greek and Roman history;
- the acquisition of knowledge of scholarship in the chosen areas of the discipline to a level appropriate for a BA degree.

Skills and other attributes

- the ability to develop and complete an extended project at an advanced level; *
- an ability to self-direct in research and in the delivery of a project;*
- familiarity with and the capability of presenting work to recognised scholarly standards in a recognised scholarly format;*
- the ability to conduct historical research independently;
- the ability to articulate knowledge and the understanding of historical material, concepts and theories at an Honours level, demonstrating an understanding of historical methodologies appropriate to the field of study;
- the ability to use information resources, libraries, webs-sites, and original texts in translation, as appropriate to the field of study;
- time management and organisational skills including working to deadlines, prioritising tasks, organising work-time;*
- the ability to analyse and evaluate critically, reflect critically on one's own practices and methodologies, to take initiatives and responsibilities, and to innovate;*
- the ability to present work at an appropriate standard both orally and in writing.*

*transferable skills

Teaching, learning and assessment

Teaching and learning will be through a mix of formal lectures, seminar discussions and oral presentations, guided independent research, guided independent study, coursework essays, and a dissertation. The basic strategies are to nurture the interest and enthusiasm of the students for the field, to develop the students' critical and communication skills and to develop critical, research and creative skills. Assessment of knowledge and understanding is typically through written work. Formative feedback will be provided continuously through informal oral feedback in seminars and more formally through written feedback on essays. Full details of the assessments for individual course elements can be obtained from the [Department of Classics](#) and the [Department of History](#).

Details of the programme structure

The brief outline of the programme is enclosed; students can obtain further details from the Programme Handbook.

The programme is delivered over 12 course units taken over 3 years (or their part-time equivalent)

Bachelor of Arts Programme in Ancient History

FIRST YEAR

Students must take:

- CL1570 Studying Classical Antiquity (0.5 unit)
- CL1575 Ancient History: Methods and Approaches (0.5 unit)
- CL1550 Greek History and the City State (0.5 unit)
- CL1560 Key Themes in Roman History(0.5 unit)

In addition, students must take either:

One language option (1.0 unit) and introductory half units (as defined in the Departmental handbook) to the value of 1.0 unit

Or:

Introductory half units to the value of 2.0 units.

There is no provision in the first year to take units outside of the Department.

SECOND YEAR

Students must take:

- HS2004: The Rise and Fall of the Roman Republic (Group 1) (0.5 unit)
- HS2005: Rome and its Empire from Augustus to Commodus (Group 1) (0.5 unit)
- CL2352 Greek History to 322BC I (0.5 unit)
- CL23XX Greek History to 322BC II(0.5 unit)
- CL2355 Greek Historiography (0.5 unit)

CL2369 Historiography of the Roman World (0.5 unit)

Plus courses to the value of 1.0 unit, which may include a unit taken from outside the Department.

THIRD YEAR

Student must take:

CL3200 Dissertation in Ancient History full unit (tied to Year 3 Ancient History unit) (1.0 unit)

Year 3 Ancient History designated option (1.0 unit)

Year 3 Ancient History designated option (1.0 unit)

Plus courses to the value of 1.0 unit, which may include a unit taken out of the Department

Bachelor of Arts Programme in Ancient History and Philosophy

The specification covers the equivalent of two course units per year. The generic teaching and learning aims and outcomes apply equally to this programme. For Philosophy elements, please view the Philosophy provision within the Department of Politics and International Relations

FIRST YEAR

Student must take:

CL1575: Ancient History: Methods and Approaches (0.5 unit)

CL1550: Greek History and the City State (0.5 unit)

CL 1560: Key Themes in Roman History (0.5 unit)

One option from Classics year one introductory units (0.5 unit)

SECOND YEAR

Students must take at least four from:

HS2004: The Rise and Fall of the Roman Republic (Group 1) (0.5 unit)

HS2005: Rome and its Empire from Augustus to Commodus (Group 1) (0.5 unit)

CL2352 Greek History to 322BC I (0.5 unit)

CL23XX Greek History to 322BC II (0.5 unit)

CL2355 Greek Historiography (0.5 unit)

CL2369 Historiography of the Roman World (0.5 unit)

THIRD YEAR

- **EITHER** Two Year 3 courses (taught courses only, 2 units) designated as Ancient History
- **OR** One Year 3 course designated as Ancient History with a dissertation (two units)

By the end of this programme a student must have completed 4.0 units of Ancient History, with at least 2.0 units at level 3.

Bachelor of Arts Programme in Ancient History with Philosophy

The specification covers the equivalent of three course units per year. The generic teaching and learning aims and outcomes apply equally to this programme. For Philosophy elements, please view the Philosophy provision within the Department of Politics and International Relations.

FIRST YEAR

Students must take:

CL1575: Ancient History: Methods and Approaches (0.5 unit)

CL1550: Greek History and the City State (0.5 unit)

CL 1560: Key Themes in Roman History (0.5 unit)

CL1570 Studying Classical Antiquity (0.5 unit)

In addition, students must take either:

One language option (1.0 unit)

Or:

Introductory half units to the value of 1.0 units.

SECOND YEAR

Students must take at least four courses from:

- HS2004: The Rise and Fall of the Roman Republic (Group 1) (0.5 unit)
- HS2005: Rome and its Empire from Augustus to Commodus (Group 1) (0.5 unit)
- CL2352 Greek History to 322BC I (0.5 unit)
- CL23XX Greek History to 322BC II (0.5 unit)
- CL2355 Greek Historiography (0.5 unit)
- CL2369 Historiography of the Roman World (0.5 unit)

Plus Classics courses to the value of 1.0 unit. This course may be substituted by a course from outside the programme, with approval.

THIRD YEAR

Students must take one Year 3 course designated as Ancient History with a dissertation in Ancient History (2.0 units) and one further unit (1.0 unit). This further unit may be substituted by a course from outside the programme, with approval.

By the end of this programme a student must have completed at least 5.0 units of Ancient History, with at least 2.0 units at level 3.

Please note that not all courses run each year. A full list of courses including optional courses for the current academic year can be obtained from the Department.

Classics Year 3 Ancient History Courses (indicative list)

- CL3188: City of Rome
- CL3189: Hadrian's Wall
- CL3194: Archaeology of Athens and Attica
- CL3197: The Cities of Classical Greece
- CL3461: Tacitus: The Making of History
- CL3351 Alexander the Great
- CL3353: Greek Law and Lawcourts
- CL3357 The Roman Army
- CL3361 The City from Augustus to Charlemagne: The Rise and Fall of Civilisation
- CL3367 Religion and the Ancient Greeks
- CL3460: Culture and Identity from Nero to Hadrian

Progression and award requirements

The progression and award requirements are essentially the same across all Honours Degree programmes at Royal Holloway. Students must pass units to the value of at least three units on each stage of the programme. On some programmes there may be a requirement to pass specific courses in order to progress to the next stage or to qualify for a particular degree title (see programme structure above). Students are considered for the award and classified on the basis of a weighted average. This is calculated from marks gained in courses taken in stages two and three, and gives twice the weighting to marks gained in stage three. In order to qualify for the award, students must gain a weighted average of at least 35%.

All first year students on single joint or combined honours programmes offered all or in part by departments or schools in the Faculty of Arts & Social Science are required to pass a Moodle-based writing skills quiz in order to progress into the second year of study. The pass mark for the test is 60%. Certificates of Distinction are awarded to students who achieve at least 80% in the quiz. Students may attempt the quiz as often as they wish with no penalties or capping. Students who meet the requirements for progression as stipulated in the [College's Undergraduate Regulations](#) (Section: Conditions for progression to the next stage) but fail to pass the Moodle-based quiz will not be permitted to progress into their second year of academic study at the College.

Student support and guidance

- Personal Advisers: All students are allocated a personal advisor. Joint Honours will be given a personal advisor in Classics and in the other Department, in this case, History. The personal adviser will advise on all matters connected with your academic work or will support you in pastoral of issues. Where the Personal Adviser is unable to help directly, students may discuss issues with the Senior Faculty

Administrator, who will be able to refer students to an appropriate source of help. Students are required to see their advisor when they arrive at the beginning of the academic and in the Spring term when course choices are made.

- Staff are available and accessible through dedicated office hours system or by appointment (by e-mail).
- Representation on the Student-Staff Committee. The Classics Department runs a large number of programmes with provision that overlaps between programmes. Representation on the committee is by year group and gender, with representation for mature students.
- Detailed student handbook and course resources. Students will have access to a detailed student handbook, up-dated regularly on the web. Course resources are available through Moodle.
- The Classics Department has a common-room (FW35), used by students for informal meetings, socialising between classes, and as a work space.
- Extensive supporting materials and learning resources are held in College libraries and the Computer Centre supports access to internet and IT provision.
- College Careers Service and Departmental Careers Service liaison officer: The College has a dedicated careers service with liaison into Classics and History. An academic member of staff in each Department liaises with the career service and supports the running of events.
- Access to all College and University support services, including Student Counselling Service, Health Centre and the Educational Support Office for students with special needs.

Admission requirements

The Department's standard conditional offer is available on the [Course Finder](#) web page. However, the Department also has considerable flexibility in its admissions and offers policy and strongly encourages applications from non-standard applicants. Students whose first language is not English may also be asked for a qualification in English Language at an appropriate level. It may also be helpful to contact the [Admissions Office](#) for specific guidance on the entrance requirements for particular programmes.

Further learning and career opportunities

Graduates from Classics programmes have successfully progressed into a wide range of professions which include journalism, publishing and the media, advertising and marketing, the creative industry, the public sector, and teaching. A RHUL degree can be the precursor to embarking on research, ultimately leading to a PhD. For more details on further learning and career opportunities please refer to the [Careers Service](#).

Indicators of quality and standards

Royal Holloway's position as one of the UK's leading research-intensive institutions was confirmed by the results of the most recent Research Assessment Exercise (RAE 2008) conducted by the Higher Education Funding Council (HEFCE). The new scoring system for the RAE 2008 measures research quality in four categories, with the top score of 4* indicating quality that is world-leading and of the highest standards in terms of originality, significance and rigour. 60% of the College's research profile is rated as world-leading or internationally excellent outperforming the national average of 50%. The College is ranked 16th in the UK for research of 4* standard and 18th for 3* and 4* research. 35% of the Classics Department's research profile is of 3* and 4* standard.

List of programmes with details of awards, teaching arrangements and accreditation

The programme is taught entirely by staff at Royal Holloway, University of London, and leads to an award of the University of London. Programmes in Classics are not subject to accreditation by a professional body. The Banner programme code is given in parentheses.

Single Honours Degree programmes in Ancient History

BA Ancient History (V110)

Joint Honours Degree programmes with Ancient History as an equal component

BA Ancient History and Philosophy (VV15)

Combined Honours Degree programmes with Ancient History as a major component

BA Ancient History with Philosophy (V1V5)