

## Programme Specification

1	<b>Awarding body</b>	University of London				
2	<b>Teaching Institution</b>	<b>Birkbeck College</b>				
3	<b>Programme Title(s)</b>	<b>MSc Archaeological Practice (Economic and Social Research)</b>				
4	<b>Programme Code(s)</b>	TMSARCHP_C				
5	<b>UCAS code</b>	N/A				
6	<b>Home Department</b>	History, Classics and Archaeology				
7	<b>Exit Award(s)</b>	MSc [This is part of a 1+3 Doctoral Training Programme]				
8	<b>Duration of Study (number of years)</b>	1 year FT, 2 years PT				
9	<b>Mode of Study</b>	FT	x	PT	x	DL
10	<b>Level of Award (FHEQ)</b>	7				
11	<b>Other teaching depts or institution</b>	Politics				
12	<b>Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details</b>	N/A				
13	<a href="#"><u>QAA Benchmark Statement</u></a>	N/A				

14	<b>Programme Rationale &amp; Aims</b>
	<p><b>Rationale:</b> As part of the college's commitment to the ESRC DTP we need to offer all 1+3 ESRC-funded students training methods that meet the requirements of the ESRC's postgraduate research training guidelines. This programme builds on the existing provision of an MA in Archaeological Practice, to offer students with the advanced conceptual, theoretical and practical skills required for undertaking historical research at doctoral level, alongside the ESRC requirement of Intermediate Quantitative Methods.</p> <p>The proposed programme involves no new dedicated teaching, rather it draws upon existing modules in the School of Social Sciences, History and Philosophy (in History, Classics and Archaeology and in Politics). The existing complement of modules, both compulsory and optional, provide students with a range of conceptual models and methods for archaeological research from prehistory to the middle ages, and over considerable geographical breadth. The inclusion of the compulsory module in Quantitative Social Research prepares students with the statistical skills needed for Economic and Social Research at the Postgraduate level. (ESRC students are required to take Intermediate Quantitative Social Research SSPO133S7.)</p> <p><b>Aims:</b> To provide specific Level 7 training for students undertaking PhD research in archaeology with an emphasis on quantitative methods. We expect these to be mostly students who are supported by the ESRC DTP, however, it may be that self-funded students or students with other funding also see the intellectual benefits of the provision, and so this will be open to enrolment beyond the DTP.</p>

15	<b>Entry Criteria</b>
	Second-class honours degree in a humanities or social-sciences subject and references.
16	<b>Learning Outcomes</b>
	<p>[1-24 are identical to: MA Archaeological Practice]</p> <p>Successful candidates will be able to:</p> <p>Subject Specific</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. an awareness of contemporary archaeological practice</li> <li>2. an understanding of the range of skills and techniques required for archaeological prospection, excavation and post-excavation</li> <li>3. an understanding of the methodologies used in the analysis and interpretation of data</li> <li>4. to use archaeological material remains to form interpretations about past societies</li> <li>5. to use environmental data to form interpretations about past environs, flora and fauna and discuss their influence on past societies</li> <li>6. an appreciation of the philosophy and practice of experimental archaeology</li> <li>7. the ability to record and produce plans of standing buildings</li> <li>8. an ability to evaluate the presentation of individual sites and monuments</li> </ol> <p>Intellectual</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9. the ability to carry out effective evaluations of information, data, documentation, and material remains</li> <li>10. the use of critical reasoning</li> <li>11. the development of analytical skills</li> <li>12. the ability to synthesise different types and quantities of data and information</li> <li>13. the ability to tackle complex problems and select the appropriate evidence to solve them</li> </ol> <p>Practical</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>14. improved level of IT skills and computer literacy through experiences with databases, GIS, spreadsheets, word processing and internet</li> <li>15. ability to manipulate and assess large quantities of quantitative data</li> <li>16. to collect, process and present data</li> <li>17. to design and implement questionnaire-based survey</li> <li>18. to produce publication standard plans and illustrations</li> <li>19. to carry out documentary-based research</li> </ol> <p>Personal and Social</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>20. the ability to work successfully in teams</li> <li>21. the ability to work successfully on an independent basis</li> <li>22. to develop presentation skills</li> <li>23. to develop organisational skills</li> <li>24. to master time-management</li> </ol> <p>Additionally,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>25. The ability to evaluate and analyse quantitative data for social research at intermediate level.</li> </ol>

17	<b>Learning, teaching and assessment methods</b>
	<p>Teaching includes classroom lectures and seminars, as well as practical sessions in laboratories, museums, and in the field. Teaching also makes use of appropriate technologies including Moodle. In accordance with existing department guidelines, assessment of postgraduate Level 7 modules is entirely by submitted essay work; Quantitative Social Research is assessed by 50% coursework+50% exam; and by a dissertation of 15,000 words. Candidates must take the 'Themes and Concepts in Archaeology' course and dissertation, and take the compulsory module and optional modules in order to progress and to graduate. Students are permitted to retake a module if the performance in assessed coursework was inadequate in the first attempt. The final classification will be based upon all Level 7 modules, of which the dissertation is double weighted. All coursework is marked by the relevant module tutor and second marked by a member of the programme's teaching staff.</p>

18	<b>Programme Description</b>
	<p>The programme consists of four taught modules and a dissertation. All students take the compulsory module 'Themes and Concepts in Archaeology' in the first term of their degree and start the year-long compulsory module 'Intermediate Quantitative Social Research'. They then have a choice of a further two option modules (taken across two years for the part-time degree, or within one year for the full-time degree). There is also skills training in preparation for the dissertation in the first part of the summer term; students received one-to-one supervision for their dissertation research, and the dissertation is then submitted at the end of September in the year in which the degree is completed.</p> <p>Optional modules for the MSc Archaeological Practice may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Field school: Buried Humanities (SSHC352S7)</li> <li>• Frameworks for Archaeology: Curatorial Archaeology in England(SSHC255S7)</li> <li>• Archaeological Architecture (SSHC259S7)</li> <li>• Material Worlds (SSHC353S7)</li> <li>• The Edge of Empire: The Archaeology of Roman Frontiers (SSHC064S7)</li> <li>• The City of Rome: Ancient to Medieval (SSHC063S7)</li> </ul>

19	<b>Programme Structure</b>			
<b>Full Time programme</b>				
<b>Year 1</b>				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	SSHC247S7	Themes and Concepts in Archaeology	30	Compulsory
7	SSPO133S7	Intermediate Quantitative Social Research	30	Compulsory
7		(Option 1)	30	Optional
7		(Option 2)	30	Optional
7	SSHC027D7	Dissertation	60	Compulsory

Year of entry: 2022-23



<b>Part Time programme</b>				
<b>Year 1</b>				
<b>Level</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Status*</b>
7	SSHC247S7	Themes and Concepts in Archaeology	30	Compulsory
7	SSPO133S7	Intermediate Quantitative Social Research	30	Compulsory
7		(Option 1)	30	Optional
<b>Year 2</b>				
<b>Level</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Status*</b>
7		(Option 2)	30	Optional
7	SSHC027D7	Dissertation	60	Compulsory

**Status\***

*CORE – Module must be taken and passed by student*

*COMPULSORY – Module must be taken, mark can be reviewed at sub-exam board*

*OPTIONAL – Student can choose to take this module*

20	<b>Programme Director</b>	Caroline Goodson
21	<b>Start Date (term/year)</b>	Autumn 2017
22	<b>Date approved by TQEC</b>	December 2016 (Chair’s Action)
23	<b>Date approved by Academic Board</b>	Spring 2017
24	<b>Date(s) updated/amended</b>	February 2017