

**University of Bradford:
Undergraduate Programme specification**

**UNIVERSITY OF BRADFORD
Faculty of Life Sciences
School of Archaeological Sciences
Programme title: Archaeology**

Awarding and teaching institution:	University of Bradford
Final and interim awards:	BSc (Honours) [Framework for Higher Education Qualification Level 6] Diploma of Higher Education [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications Level 5] Certificate of Higher Education [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications Level 4]
Programme title:	Archaeology
Programme approved / accredited by:	Not applicable
Duration:	3 or 4 years full-time
UCAS code:	V400, V403
Subject benchmark statement:	Archaeology (2007)
FHEQ Levels	4, 5 and 6
Approved :	August 2014

Introduction

The BSc Archaeology is a professionally-focussed degree in archaeology with a strong fieldwork component and a focus on human osteology and/or the environment. It has a strong environmental dimension to equip students for employment in environmental/archaeological consultancies, field units, and local/central government sector positions.

Archaeology is fundamental to our understanding of how we evolved, how our communities developed, and how we study, preserve and interpret our past. At Bradford, our distinctive approach emphasises the integration of the natural and physical sciences in this enquiry in accordance with the University's mission, 'Making Knowledge Work'. A characteristic of Bradford's approach is the examination of human-environment interactions within a

chronological framework, which provides a time-depth perspective of contemporary concerns such as ecosystems, globalisation and sustainability. The programme of study will provide the student with a sound knowledge of current archaeological thinking on many cultures and regions whilst also providing an understanding of professional practice and how relevant techniques are used and integrated within commercial and research archaeology.

Archaeological Sciences has an excellent research profile, which supports our teaching in all areas. Throughout the programme, you will acquire skills that will be useful not only in Archaeology, but in whatever profession you choose to follow. These include project and time management, critical review and analytical thinking, presentational skills, computer and other applied IT skills and the management of data. These will be taught, practised and assessed. Over the last 6 years, more than 84% of our graduates had found employment within six months of completing their studies.

Fieldwork, which contributes to each of the awards, takes place during the summer vacation between stages one and two: recent field courses have taken place in Portugal, the Yorkshire Dales, Orkney and Slovenia. Staff research informs much of the curriculum, especially in stages 2 and 3 (70% of our 2014 REF submission was judged to be 'internationally excellent', including 34% which was judged to be 'world leading').

Three years or four years?

You may undertake a placement between stages two and three. Testimonials from Placement Providers are consistent in claiming that, from the real-world situations that they experience, Bradford Placement students are more employable than many other archaeological graduates. Placement students also consistently gain a higher classification in their degree award.

When you have completed the placement, you will have acquired the following:

- **Professional Skills**, according to the specific programme of training, including aerial survey; excavation/fieldwork; post-excavation; artefact conservation and finds management; artefact analysis, geophysical survey; Sites and Monument Record management; education, heritage and museum work.
- **Personal Transferable Skills**, including further development of communication, problem-solving, administrative and IT skills; time management; the ability to work independently; self-motivation; adaptability; team working.

Programme Aims

The programme is intended to:

- deliver a flexible programme of study in Archaeology, that reflects areas of staff expertise, for example in cultural archaeology, human osteoarchaeology and environmental archaeology;
- encourage the development of independent learning skills, by providing a supportive, structured environment;
- develop wide subject knowledge and understanding, and provide training in discipline skills to enable graduates to pursue further programmes of study or careers in archaeology or related practice;
- develop personal transferable skills to enable a significant proportion of graduates to pursue further programmes of study or careers in non-cognate fields;
- provide educational opportunities for mature and alternatively qualified students, as well as for school-leavers and traditionally qualified students.

Programme Learning Outcomes

To be eligible for the award of Certificate of Higher Education at FHEQ level 4, students will be able to:

- LO1. Describe theories of human biocultural evolution
- LO2. Discuss archaeological theory and practice; the archaeology of the British Isles, the scientific principles underlying archaeology, landscape development and the formation and nature of the archaeological record
- LO3. Discuss archaeological field monuments, principles and methods of environmental archaeology; concepts of archaeological chronology and scientific dating techniques
- LO4. Recognise and appropriately handle archaeological artefacts and materials
- LO5. Describe stratigraphic sequences and archaeological evidence
- LO6. Apply a variety of scientific techniques to archaeological materials
- LO7. Apply practical field surveying and present survey data

Additionally, to be eligible for the award of Diploma of Higher Education at FHEQ level 5, students will be able to:

- LO8. Review the administrative legislative and financial context of modern archaeology
- LO9. Assess sampling strategies and excavation and recording techniques
- LO10. Appraise the scientific principles underlying archaeology
- LO11. Assess archaeological artefacts, materials and production technology
- LO12. Review the management of archaeological projects
- LO13. Assess professional practice in archaeology
- LO14. Assess artefactual evidence
- LO15. Prepare a professional curriculum vitae

Additionally, to be eligible for the award of Honours Degree of Bachelor at FHEQ level 6, students will be able to:

- LO16. Evaluate growth, decline and sustainability of different human societies within different environmental contexts
- LO17. Employ excavation and recording techniques
- LO18. Identify and interpret environmental evidence
- LO19. Formulate a research design;
- LO20. Distinguish between metaphysical concepts and epistemological concerns
- LO21. Employ skills in critical thinking and data evaluation, basic numerical and statistical techniques; independent learning and research, and team working;
- LO22. Evaluate scientific concepts;
- LO23. Employ IT and computer assisted learning skills; written and oral communication skills; time management skills; analytical, numerical and problem solving skills;
- LO24. Present within a conference format;
- LO25. Design and complete a substantial work of independent study

Curriculum

Stage 1

Module Code	Module Title	Type	Credits	Level	Study period
ARC4002-B	Archaeology of the British Isles	Core	20	4	1
ARC4018-B	Introduction to Archaeological Methods	Core	20	4	1
ARC4003-B	Human Evolution	Core	20	4	1
ARC4013-B	Scientific Frameworks	Core	20	4	2
ARC4010-B	Field Recording Methods	Core	20	4	2
ARC4015-B	Themes in World Archaeology	Core	20	4	2

Stage 1 introduces the major strands of the degree programme. The first major strand is fieldwork (Introduction to Archaeological methods; Field Recording Methods), which prepares the ground for fieldwork at stage 2. This includes introductions to techniques of field survey and archaeological geophysics. A second key strand is scientific archaeology (Scientific Frameworks) including human osteoarchaeology (Human Evolution) which introduces concepts and handling of osteoarchaeological material to be developed in stage 2. The final key strand is archaeological/environmental management (Themes in World Archaeology; Archaeology of the British Isles), preparing the way for Heritage Management with GIS, Bioarchaeology and the period specific modules Britain and Ireland in the Neolithic and Bronze Age and Celts Greeks and Romans in stage 2. Human Evolution, Archaeology of the British Isles and Themes in World Archaeology together give broad coverage of the deep human past from the earliest times to relatively modern periods. Introduction to Archaeological Methods, together with Scientific Frameworks provide grounding in the range of approaches to the study of archaeological material and introduce the distinctive 'Bradford brand' which blends the perspectives of the sciences and the humanities in the study of the human past.

In stage 1 you will develop knowledge and understanding of archaeological principles, and laboratory skills. By the end of stage 1 you will be able to appreciate the breadth and range of the discipline, will have gained a broad understanding of the principles of archaeological theory and practice, an understanding of key themes and topics in world archaeology, an appreciation of the use of scientific methods in archaeology, and will have acquired experience of archaeological fieldwork through guided group-work in the field.

At the end of stage 1, students will be eligible to exit with the award of Certificate of Higher Education if they have successfully completed at least 120 credits and achieved the award learning outcomes.

Stage 2

Module Code	Module Title	Type	Credits	Level	Study period
ARC5001-B	Archaeology Field Course	Core	20	5	Vacation
ARC5018-B	Artefact and Post-Excavation Studies	Core	20	5	3
ARC5019-B	Theoretical Archaeology	Core	20	5	3
ARC5002-B	Britain and Ireland in the Neolithic and Bronze Age 4000-1000BC	Option ¹	20	5	3
ARC5016-B	Heritage Management with GIS	Option	20	5	4
ARC5008-B	Celts, Greeks & Romans: the Iron Age in Europe	Option ¹	20	5	4
ARC5011-B	Bioarchaeology	Option	20	5	4
	Elective	Option	20	5	

¹ students must take at least one of these options

Stage 2 develops the fieldwork strand (Archaeology Field Course) and archaeological management strand (Heritage Management with GIS). The human and animal osteoarchaeology strand is developed through Bioarchaeology. Coverage of aspects of archaeological theory and method (Theoretical Archaeology) fulfil the major benchmarking requirements in those areas, while the core module Artefact and Post-excavation Studies offers further depth in areas of archaeological practice such as the tasks involved in bringing an archaeological project to publication. Cultural modules (one of Celts, Greeks & Romans, Britain and Ireland in the Neolithic and Early Bronze Age) enable you to focus on the application of archaeological perspectives to well-defined chrono-geographical blocks.

By the end of stage 2 you will be able to critically discuss current themes, issues and approaches in archaeology and will have gained a critical appreciation of issues in heritage management and professional practice (preparing you for the optional Placement Year). You will have developed skills in archaeological fieldwork as well as a range of transferable skills (e.g. in data gathering and evaluation, CV preparation, group-work).

At the end of stage 2, students will be eligible to exit with the award of Diploma of Higher Education if they have successfully completed at least 240 credits and achieved the award learning outcomes.

Placement or Study Abroad

Module Code	Module Title	Type		Level	Study period
ARC5013-Z	Placement	Placement		5	Between stages 2 and 3
ARC5014-Z	Study Abroad			5	Between stages 2 and 3

Students registered on the 4 year course and who successfully progress to stage 3 at the stage 2 board of examiners will be eligible to take the placement year. Students who progress to stage 3 but have a referral in one or more modules will not normally be able to go on Placement, particularly if that referral requires attendance. In such cases students on the 4 year course should discuss options with the Placement Tutor.

Stage 3

Module Code	Module Title	Type	Credits	Level	Study period
ARC6007-B	Advanced Archaeology Field Skills	Option	20	6	Vac
ARC6004-D	Individual Project	Core	40	6	5/6
ARC6006-B	The Viking Settlement of the North Atlantic	Option ¹	20	6	5
ARC6002-B	Human Osteoarchaeology	Option ²	20	6	5
ARC6009-B	Hunter Gatherers: Present and Past	Option ¹	20	6	6
ARC6023-B	Chronology, Diet & Identity	Option	20	6	6
	Elective	Option	20	5 or 6	

1 - Students must take at least one of these options

2 - Bioarchaeology (stage 2) is a pre-requisite for this module

Stage 3 develops the fieldwork and archaeological/environmental management strands (Reconstructing Past Environments) and provides the opportunity for students to develop and refine their analytical skills in a major piece of guided research (Individual Project). The human osteoarchaeology strand culminates in the module Human Osteoarchaeology, while Reconstructing Past Environments also provides an option for students who do not wish to deal with human bones to enhance their skills in landscape investigation. Other modules are all presented as options, allowing students to select from a range of cultural/thematic/methodological modules as best suits their own perceived needs as they acquire greater confidence and understanding of their personal aspirations and career plans.

By the end of stage 3 you will be able to critically evaluate research in your field, understand and participate in heritage management exercises geared to the world of employment in the heritage sector, and further refine your understandings of archaeological evidence from a range of time-periods and regions. You will have developed a range of transferable skills (especially in critical thinking, presentation and team-work).

Students will be eligible for the award of Honours Degree of Bachelor if they have successfully completed at least 360 credits and achieved the award learning outcomes.

If you have not met the credit requirements for an Honours degree but have achieved the regulatory credit requirements for the award of an Ordinary degree and have met learning outcomes 1-24 you are eligible for the award of an Ordinary degree.

The Curriculum meets the requirements of the subject benchmark statement for Archaeology published by the QAAHE.

The curriculum may change, subject to the University's programme approval, monitoring and review procedures.

Placement and/or Study Abroad

This programme provides the option for students to undertake a work placement or period of study abroad between Stages 2 and 3. Students wishing to take this option will be registered for the 4 year programme.

For further information about study abroad opportunities please refer to <http://www.bradford.ac.uk/international/erasmus-and-international-exchanges/>

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies

The teaching and learning strategy takes into consideration the learning outcomes, progression through the levels of study, the nature of the subject

and the student intake, and the need for you to take greater responsibility for your own learning as you progress through the programme. Stage 1 is introductory introducing you to human evolution (LO1) and the development of archaeology as a discipline (LO2-3). Practical modules such as Introduction to Archaeological Methods and Field Recording Methods allow you to handle real archaeological materials and explore methods of field survey and the principles of stratigraphy (LO3-5, 7). Through Scientific Frameworks, you are also introduced to the main scientific techniques used in modern archaeology (LO 6)

Stage 2 develops your critical thinking and offers an element of optionality. The Field Course is allocated by a CV and letter of application and allows first-hand experience of excavation and recording, enabling you to make your own decisions under supervision (LO9, 10, 12, 13, 15). Artefact and Post-Excavation Studies logically follows the excavation stage and demonstrates the processes needed to bring a project to publication (LO 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14). This involves decision making based on cost efficiency and the assessment of the importance of the archaeological record. Theoretical Archaeology follows Archaeology of the British Isles in examining the legal and financial context of the discipline (LO 8). Other optional modules complement the core modules examining ethical issues (Bioarchaeology) and the chronological background of British Prehistory.

Stage 3 develops your critical thinking further and allows greater self-learning through the Individual Project (LO 16-25) thus building on all the knowledge acquired in stage 2). Human Osteoarchaeology builds on Human Evolution (stage 1) and Bioarchaeology (stage 2) to permit the detailed study of human remains (LO17) and the chronological theme is developed further in Hunter Gatherers and/or Viking Settlement.

The assessment strategy is designed to similarly support the learning outcomes of the programme and each specific module. A wide range of formative and summative assessment methods are used, including essays, portfolios, worksheets, critiques, laboratory reports, group-work, poster (in the placement year), oral presentations, research designs, reflective journals and examinations.

Assessment Regulations

This Programme conforms to the standard University Regulations which are available at the following link:

<http://www.bradford.ac.uk/aqpo/ordinances-and-regulations/>

Admission Requirements

The University welcomes applications from all potential students regardless of their previous academic experience; offers are made following detailed consideration of each individual application. Most important in the decision

to offer a place is our assessment of a candidate's potential to benefit from their studies and of their ability to succeed on this particular programme. Entrance requirements for each programme will vary but consideration of your application will be based on a combination of your formal academic qualifications and other relevant experience.

If you have prior certificated learning or professional experience which may be equivalent to parts of this programme, the University has procedures to evaluate this learning in order to provide you with exemptions from specified modules contained within the curriculum. Please talk to us if you do not fit the standard pattern of entry qualifications.

The University of Bradford has always welcomed applications from disabled students, and these will be considered on the same academic grounds as are applied to all applicants. If you have some form of disability you may wish to contact the programme leader before you apply to discuss how your needs can be accommodated.

A typical offer to someone seeking entry through the UCAS main scheme would be 112 UCAS points (BBC). There are no specific subject requirements at A level, as many subjects form a good foundation for archaeology. We require GCSE English at grade C / level 4 (equivalents accepted). Applications are welcome from mature students (those over 21 years of age on entry) and from candidates with non-standard qualifications, for example BTEC Extended Diploma (typical offer DMM), Scottish Higher or Irish Leaving Certificate, International Baccalaureate or Access to Higher Education Diploma (typical offer 112 points with at least 45 level 3 credits at Merit)) or, lacking academic qualifications, having significant relevant experience. Up to 40 students are admitted to Stage 1 each year.

In addition, students whose first language is not English must have a Minimum IELTS of level 6.0 or the equivalent.

Recognition of Prior Learning

If applicants have prior certificated learning or professional experience which may be equivalent to parts of this programme, the University has procedures to evaluate and recognise this learning in order to provide applicants with exemptions from specified modules or parts of the programme.

Minor Modification Schedule

Version Number	Brief description of Modification	Date of Approval (Faculty Board)
1		
2	Post APR revisions	

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The contents of this programme specification may change, subject to the University's regulations and programme approval, monitoring and review procedures.