

The Age of Migration and Viking Expansion

Module Code:	ARC7051-B
Academic Year:	2019-20
Credit Rating:	20
School:	School of Archaeological and Forensic Sciences
Subject Area:	Archaeology
FHEQ Level:	FHEQ Level 7 (Masters)

Pre-requisites:

Co-requisites:

Contact Hours

Type	Hours
Lectures	34
Seminar	12
Directed Study	154

Availability Periods

Occurrence	Location/Period
BDA	University of Bradford / Semester 2 (Feb - May)

Module Aims

In this module the Masters student will explore migration and settlement in the later prehistoric and Early Medieval periods. Themes explored include the nature of cultural identity and ethnicity, the changing nature of society, subsistence patterns, adaptation and change, the nature and impact of diasporas in non-literate periods, population assimilation/replacement and conflict, sustainability and resilience. The module will address the development and impact of Norse culture, the impact of settlement within established populated areas such as the Northern Isles versus those free from human modification such as Iceland and Greenland and will examine key issues such as migration, sustainability and resilience.

Outline Syllabus

The aims are to introduce the Masters student to issues surrounding Post Roman Northwest Europe and the Viking expansion into the North Atlantic and the Scandinavian abandonment of Greenland by the end of the fifteenth century. This time frame provides the student with an example of social development from chiefdom societies to medieval states. Issues such as the theory, causes and affects of migration, the recognition of cultural attributes (identity, social structures, cosmology and death, material culture, architectural traditions and maritime innovations) of the Scandinavian home world, the conflict between Scandinavian migrants and indigenous peoples, the adaptation to new lands, economic exploitation and intensification, resilience and the response to climatic and environmental change will form the basis of the student learning experience.

Module Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module, students will be able to...

- 1 Critically review methods of classifying cultural traits and change and analyse factors affecting migration, the choice of site location and the human adaptation to new landscapes and to climatic and environmental change economic and settlement continuity. This will provide the student with knowledge to understand themes such as cultural and individual identity, agricultural intensification, marginality, site viability, sustainability and resilience.
- 2 Interpret the archaeology of identity and critically analyse competing hypotheses, theoretical positions and methodologies of migration, island biogeography, subsistence strategies, trade and contact.
- 3 Investigate, analyse and synthesise novel ideas within an area at the forefront of knowledge and understanding in a discipline.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy

Lectures, seminars/tutorials, essay writing meeting and meetings to discuss essay results and feedback. During Directed Study hours students are expected to undertake reading to consolidate and expand on the content of formal taught sessions; research and prepare for assessments; revise material from formal taught sessions; and undertake specific elements of reading as directed.

Mode of Assessment

Type	Method	Description	Length	Weighting	Final Assess'
Summative	Coursework	Essay	0-1500 words	40%	No
Summative	Coursework	Essay	0-3000 words	60%	Yes

Legacy Code (if applicable)

Reading List

To view Reading List, please go to [rebus:list](#).