

Module Details	
Module Title	Understanding Artefacts
Module Code	ARC5026-B
Academic Year	2020/1
Credits	20
School	School of Archaeological and Forensic Sciences
Subject Area	Archaeological Sciences
FHEQ Level	FHEQ Level 5
Pre-requisites	N/A
Co-requisites	N/A

Contact Hours	
Type	Hours
Online Lecture (Asynchronous)	12
Practical Classes or Workshops	24
Online Seminar (Synchronous)	12
Directed Study	160

Availability	
Occurrence	Location / Period
BDA	University of Bradford / Semester 1

Module Aims
<p>To provide an understanding of the potential of artefacts for addressing fundamental questions in archaeology. To allow students to identify, select and differentiate between different methods of recording and illustrating (for example line drawing versus 3D scanning) different types of artefact. To allow students to select and use post-excavation strategies for recording, conservation and long-term of storage of artefacts. To provide students with the experience to interpret basic summary data concerning artefacts, which may include typologies, post-excavation assemblage reports, and scientific analytical data. To provide the theoretical framework and practical experience for working with assemblages of artefacts in order to answer broader archaeological questions, such as issues of production, consumption, trade and exchange, and identity.</p>

Outline Syllabus

The module will discuss approaches to the post-excavation research of artefacts, which may include identification and recording; artefact handling; artefact classification; artefact condition and survival; putting together an assessment report; differing approaches to illustrating artefacts, including drawing, photography and 3D scanning; theoretical approaches to the production and consumption of artefacts; conservation and curation post-excavation; approaches to the use of scientific analysis of artefacts; practical scientific analysis of artefacts; and the interpretation of scientific data from the analysis of artefacts; and the investigation of theoretical concepts such as identify, prestige and iconography through discussion and interpretation of evidence from artefacts.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy

Lectures, workshops, laboratory practicals, and supervised time in workshops/studios.

The portfolio will consolidate the learning and the students' understanding will be measured by set tasks and reflective commentary from aspects across broader areas of the module, while the coursework critique will assess depth of knowledge and understanding within specific areas of the module.

The supplementary assessment will address the broad range of module content through the formulation of appropriate essay titles.

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 seminars; research and prepare for assessments; revise material from formal taught sessions; and undertake specific elements of reading as directed.

Online lectures and seminars initially planned, may be brought on campus depending on conditions.

Mode of Assessment

Type	Method	Description	Length	Weighting
Summative	Coursework	Portfolio of advanced set tasks including recording, illustration and presentation of assemblage data (1600 words)	N/A	60%
Summative	Coursework	Critique of an artefact report, incorporating a critique of an artefact report ...(2400 words)	N/A	40%

Reading List

To access the reading list for this module, please visit <https://bradford.rl.talis.com/index.html>

Please note:

This module descriptor has been published in advance of the academic year to which it applies. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate at the time of publication, but minor changes may occur given the interval between publishing and commencement of teaching. Upon commencement of the module, students will receive a handbook with further detail about the module and any changes will be discussed and/or communicated at this point.