

BSc (Hons) Archaeology Programme Specification

Academic Year:	2020/21
Degree Awarding Body:	University of Bradford
Partner(s), delivery organisation or support provider (if appropriate):	
Final and interim award(s):	BSc (Honours) [Framework for Higher Education Qualification Level 6] BSc [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) 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 accredited by (if appropriate):	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists/University Archaeology UK
Programme duration:	3 or 4 years full-time
UCAS code:	V400, V403
QAA Subject benchmark statement(s):	Archaeology (2007)
Date last confirmed and/or minor modification approved by Faculty Board	October 2020

Please note: This programme specification 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 changes may occur given the interval between publishing and commencement of teaching. Any change which impacts the terms and conditions of an applicant's offer will be communicated to them. Upon commencement of the programme, students will receive further detail about their course and any minor changes will be discussed and/or communicated at this point.

Introduction

The BSc Archaeology is a professionally-focused degree in archaeology with a strong fieldwork component and a focus on cultural archaeology, archaeological science and professional archaeology. It has a strong professional dimension to equip students for employment in 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 the investigation of archaeology 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 students 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. Transferable skills equip graduates for employment in many sectors.

Fieldwork, which contributes to the award, takes place during the summer vacation between stages one and two, and (as an option) in the summer before the final year: recent field courses have taken place in Portugal, the Yorkshire Dales, Orkney and Slovenia.

The staff in the School of Archaeological and Forensic Sciences have an excellent research profile, which supports our teaching in all areas. Throughout the programme, students will acquire skills that will be useful not only in Archaeology, but in whatever profession they 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 or further study within six months of completing their studies. 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').

When students have completed the placement, they will have acquired the following:

- **Professional Skills**, according to the specific options chosen, 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, environmental archaeology and archaeological science;
- 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;
- provide students with the opportunity to enhance their learning and professional awareness by applying their knowledge and understanding in employment through a sandwich placement year, or to study abroad (4 year programme).

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 that relate to past societies from a range of geographical contexts and chronological periods
- LO2 Recognise and appropriately handle a range of archaeological artefacts and materials
- LO3 Describe stratigraphic sequences and archaeological evidence
- LO4 Understand the relevance of scientific techniques in archaeology
- LO5 Apply basic field archaeology methods and interpretation
- LO6 Manage time and learning effectively both independently and when working as part of a group

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

- LO7 Assess theories that relate to past societies from a range of geographical contexts and chronological periods
- LO8 Demonstrate practical archaeology skills
- LO9 Review archaeology in its broader cultural and legislative frameworks
- LO10 Assess scientific techniques and theories relevant to archaeology

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

- LO11 Critically evaluate theories that relate to past societies from a range of geographical contexts and chronological periods
- LO12 Critically evaluate scientific techniques and theories relevant to archaeology
- LO13 Critically evaluate the processes involved in the creation and dissemination of archaeological knowledge

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

LO14 Present written and oral reports in a professional manner

LO15 Design and complete a substantial work of independent research

Curriculum

Stage 1

FHEQ Level	Module Title	Type	Credits	Study Period	Module Code
4	Scientific Frameworks	Core	20	1	ARC4013-B
4	Themes in World Archaeology	Core	20	1	ARC4015-B
4	British Archaeology	Core	20	1	ARC4020-B
4	Introduction to Archaeological Methods	Core	20	2	ARC4018-B
4	Biological Anthropology: From Human Evolution to Forensic Anthropology	Core	20	2	ARC4021-B
4	Field Recording Skills	Core	20	2	ARC4022-B

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

FHEQ Level	Module Title	Type	Credits	Study Period	Module Code
5	Archaeological Fieldwork	Core	20	Vacation	ARC5024-B
5	Interpreting the Past	Core	20	1	ARC5025-B
5	Understanding Artefacts	Option	20	1	ARC5026-B
5	Prehistoric Societies	Option	20	1	ARC5027-B
5	Heritage Management with GIS	Core	20	2	ARC5016-B
5	Celts, Anglo-Saxons and Vikings	Option	20	2	ARC5028-B
5	Bioarchaeology: Humans, Plants and Animals	Option	20	2	ARC5029-B
5	Elective	Option	20	1 or 2	

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.

Stage 3

FHEQ Level	Module Title	Type	Credits	Study Period	Module Code
6	Advanced Archaeological Fieldwork	Option	20	Vacation	ARC6028-B
6	Dissertation	Core	40	1 and 2	ARC6025-D
6	Bones, Bodies and Burials	Option	20	1	ARC6030-B
6	Landscapes, Climate and Society	Option	20	1	ARC6032-B

FHEQ Level	Module Title	Type	Credits	Study Period	Module Code
6	Current Research in Archaeological Sciences	Option	20	2	ARC6029-B
6	Archaeology in Contemporary Society	Core	20	2	ARC6031-B
6	Elective	Option	20	1 or 2	

Students will be eligible to exit with the award of Ordinary Degree of Bachelor if they have successfully completed 120 credits at level 4, 120 credits at level 5 and 60 credits at level 6 and achieved the award learning outcomes.

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.

Placement or Study Abroad (4-year programme)

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.

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

FHEQ Level	Module Title	Type	Study Period	Module Code
5	Placement	Option	Between stages 2 & 3	ARC5013-Z
5	Study Abroad Experience	Option	Between stages 2 & 3	ARC5014-Z

On successful completion of ARC5013-Z, students will be eligible for the award of University Diploma in Professional Studies.

On successful completion of ARC5014-Z, students will be eligible for the award of University Diploma in Professional Studies (International).

For further information about study abroad opportunities please refer to <https://www.brad.ac.uk/study/abroad/>

Learning and Teaching Strategy

The learning and teaching 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 students to take greater responsibility for their own learning as they progress through the programme.

Stage 1 is introductory introducing the student to a range of archaeological periods, regions and materials (LO1-2) and the development of archaeology as a discipline (LO3-5). Practical modules such as Introduction to Archaeological Methods and Field Recording Skills allow the student to handle real archaeological materials and

explore methods of field survey and the principles of stratigraphy (LO3-6). Through Scientific Frameworks, the student is also introduced to the main scientific techniques used in modern archaeology (LO4).

Stage 2 develops students' critical thinking and offers an element of optionality. Participation in Archaeological Fieldwork is allocated by a CV and letter of application and allows first-hand experience of excavation and recording, enabling students to make their own decisions under supervision (LO8,10). Understanding Artefacts logically follows the excavation stage and demonstrates the processes needed to understand archaeological artefacts and how they inform wider archaeological debates (LO8,10). Heritage Management with GIS follows British Archaeology in examining the legal and financial context of the discipline (LO9). Other optional modules complement the core modules examining ethical and scientific issues (Bioarchaeology: Humans, Plants and Animals) (LO10) and cultural archaeology from the Palaeolithic to the Viking period (Prehistoric Societies; Celts, Anglo-Saxons and Vikings; LO7).

Stage 3 develops the students' critical thinking further and allows greater self-learning through the Dissertation (LO11-15) thus building on all the knowledge acquired in stage 2. Bones, Bodies and Burials builds on Biological Anthropology: From Human Evolution to Forensic Anthropology (stage 1) and Bioarchaeology: Humans, Plants and Animals and Interpreting Archaeology (stage 2) to permit the detailed study of human remains in their cultural context.

Assessment Strategy

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. The research design and dissertation develops students' ability to undertake independent research and plan this research effectively.

Assessment Regulations

This Programme conforms to the standard University Undergraduate Assessment Regulations which are available online at: www.bradford.ac.uk/regulations

Admission Requirements

We take into consideration a number of factors when assessing your application. It's not just about your grades; we take the time to understand your personal circumstances and make decisions based on your potential to thrive at university and beyond. Entrance requirements for each programme will vary but consideration of each student's application will be based on a combination of formal academic qualifications and other relevant experience.

The UCAS tariff published at <https://www.brad.ac.uk/courses/ug/archaeology-bsc/> provides admission information relevant to the current recruitment cycle and therefore may be different to when this document was originally published.

A typical offer to someone seeking entry through the UCAS main scheme would be 112 UCAS points (BBC) (old tariff: 280 points). 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), or equivalent. 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.

In addition, students whose first language is not English must have a Minimum IELTS of level 6.0, with no sub-test less than 5.0, 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)
2	Change in Stage 1 delivery pattern for 2020/21	October 2020
3	Specification made accessible	October 2020