

Programme Specification

Maritime Archaeology (2019-20)

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.

Awarding Institution	University of Southampton
Teaching Institution	University of Southampton
Mode of Study	Full-time
Duration in years	1
Accreditation details	None
Final award	Master of Science (MSc)
Name of award	Maritime Archaeology
Interim Exit awards	Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education Postgraduate Diploma in Higher Education
FHEQ level of final award	Level 7
UCAS code	
Programme code	4189
QAA Subject Benchmark or other external reference	Master's Degree Characteristics 2016
Programme Lead	Julian Whitewright (rjw)

Programme Overview

Brief outline of the programme

The programme can be studied Part Time (4191).

Maritime archaeology explores the changing relationship people have had with the world's oceans and seas through the technologies of seafaring, histories of environmental change, the record from submerged landscapes and coastal sites. This dynamic subject incorporates elements of traditional archaeology, ethnography, maritime history and marine science. The MSc in Maritime Archaeology draws on the world leading expertise of the Centre for Maritime Archaeology to offer an unparalleled breadth and depth of content.

The course has been designed to allow rapid development of the diverse academic knowledge and practical skills required to work in this field; from cutting-edge methods for data acquisition and integration, through academic research and dissemination, to archaeological fieldwork. As such, this course speaks to all aspects of maritime archaeology, from those who wish to focus on field-based activities, both above and under water, through to laboratory or library based research.

Your contact hours will vary depending on your module/option choices. Full information about contact hours is provided in individual module profiles.

Learning and teaching

Given the diversity of material covered, the MSc maritime archaeology modules employ the full range of teaching and learning methods; from didactic lectures and computer laboratories, through discussion groups to field based practical instruction. This includes a mix of indoor and outdoor instruction, in classrooms, on boats and underwater. This range of learning and teaching methods has been adopted to ensure that graduates from the programme gain knowledge of the different conditions in which we work, as well as confidence in a variety of academic and professional settings.

Assessment

On this course you will be assessed by a variety of means, depending on the modules you choose to take. This includes: writing academic essays/articles, preparation of professional quality reports, research projects and portfolios, data-processing and interpretation, and an individual 20,000 word dissertation, as well as presentations to both academic and business orientated audiences. This diversity of assessment has been designed to provide you with the skills to operate both in the academic and commercial worlds.

Special Features of the programme

This programme draws on a range of innovative teaching techniques and practical instruction including:

- Instruction in inter-tidal and underwater survey
- Instruction in underwater excavation techniques
- Instruction in watercraft surveying and recording
- Field trips and practical experience in traditional watercraft

Please note: As a research-led University, we undertake a continuous review of our programmes to ensure quality enhancement and to manage our resources. As a result, this programme may be revised during a student's period of registration; however, any revision will be balanced against the requirement that the student should receive the educational service expected. Please read our [Disclaimer](#) to see why, when and how changes may be made to a student's programme.

Programmes and major changes to programmes are approved through the University's [programme validation process](#) which is described in the University's [Quality handbook](#).

Educational Aims of the Programme

This programme is designed to provide you with a thorough grounding in the aims, objectives, themes, theoretical framework, and methodologies adopted by maritime archaeologists as a component of broader archaeological thinking. Through a series of lectures, seminars, practical sessions, field trips, museum visits and fieldwork, you will be exposed to the breadth and depth of maritime archaeological enquiry. Maritime aspects of culture form a large component of archaeological interpretation and this programme will provide the necessary skills and knowledge to pursue further academic research or gain employment in an area of archaeology that has increasing relevance to commercial enterprise. Innovative features include the integration of practical instruction and on-site fieldwork in ways that introduce key skills in the optimum environment.

The aims of the programme are to:

- enable you to develop general and specific research skills, leading to individual development and the ability to apply theoretical frameworks and methodologies to an understanding of maritime archaeology;
- provide you with detailed knowledge of a range of past and current theoretical frameworks for the study of maritime archaeology, and an understanding of the major types of evidence available;
- facilitate the development of a broad range of general approaches to maritime archaeology, and provide you with the confidence to develop new approaches to its interpretation;
- stimulate discussion and critique of past, current and future conceptual approaches to maritime archaeology;
- prepare you for further research and/or professional archaeological practice.

Programme Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and Understanding

On successful completion of this programme you will have knowledge and understanding of:

- A1. the professional context of maritime archaeology
- A2. the specific subject areas appropriate to your studies and to your chosen study foci within the area of maritime archaeology
- A3. research methodologies and skills appropriate to and valuable within maritime archaeology
- A4. current and past debates relating to maritime archaeology and the potential developments and issues of the future
- A5. the ways in which a variety of archaeological research and professional practice goals have been approached using archaeological techniques
- A6. the role of maritime archaeology within wider archaeological debates, practice and research

Teaching and Learning Methods

A variety of teaching and learning methods are employed throughout the modules on this programme to cater for different learning styles.

- Lectures will be used to deliver theoretical aspects of maritime archaeological research and practice
- Seminars will be used to explore specific issues and concepts relevant to each student
- Field trips will introduce you to real world case studies and collections
- Fieldwork will allow you to develop data gathering skills and related data processing
- Dissertation supervision will provide small group/individual tutorial contact.

Assessment Methods

Your knowledge and understanding will be assessed through written work, project work, reports and formal oral presentations. At each stage of assessment, feedback will be provided to identify your progress and additional areas to consider, develop and concentrate upon.

Throughout the programme you will have the opportunity to undertake a variety of written and oral assignments (examples from maritime archaeology modules are detailed below), as well as other formative exercises such as the preparation of a website or conference poster. Written assignments will vary from research proposals or short essays to longer research papers and finally a dissertation based on an original research project. Oral assignments will include a formal presentation of the research proposal for your dissertation topic.

Assessment Type:

Research essay
Short answer/commentary/analysis
Oral Presentation
Report
3D model & interpretation
Watercraft Survey processing
Underwater survey processing
Artefact recording
Survey planning document
Research Project Design
Dissertation

Subject Specific Intellectual and Research Skills

On successful completion of this programme you will be able to:

- B1. Critique and present your own evaluation of key issues relating to the field of maritime archaeology
- B2. Apply appropriate theoretical frameworks to inform an appreciation of relevant debates,
- B3. Integrate the results from your own archaeological fieldwork along with those from others to answer specific questions
- B4. Theorise, plan and develop creative solutions to archaeological problems through the application of the maritime skills and theoretical frameworks that you will have acquired, in order to evaluate broader social interpretations

Teaching and Learning Methods

Activities are designed to enhance your intellectual and research skills and include tutor-led and student-led lectures, seminars, tutorials, the design and execution of group projects (both desk-based and in the field), oral presentations and the design of your dissertation project.

Assessment Methods

The assessments within the programme modules are designed to enable you to work across a broad range of maritime archaeological methods. These include traditional research-led essays and oral presentations, but they also include subject-specific assessments such as watercraft recording, inter-tidal survey and reporting, 3D modelling and analysis of maritime heritage management techniques. You will also have to produce a research project design leading into the planning and writing of your dissertation project.

Transferable and Generic Skills

On successful completion of this programme you will be able to:

- C1. Evaluate evidence both on paper and in the field
- C2. Communicate effectively with colleagues and clients from a variety of professions
- C3. Work effectively both alone and as part of a team to meet deadlines
- C4. Apply and develop key skills in critical thinking, reflection and verbal communication during the module, and subsequently through preparation of the written assignments, information handling, critical analysis and written communication
- C5. Research a given topic in depth and the present the results of that research to a nominated audience

Subject Specific Practical Skills

On successful completion of this programme you will be able to:

- D1. Understand the processes of survey, excavation and recording of archaeological material in underwater, foreshore and terrestrial contexts
- D2. Identify maritime archaeological material and write reports to publication standard
- D3. Handle, photograph and illustrate maritime artefacts
- D4. Analyse and interpret maritime archaeological data

Programme Structure

The programme structure table is below:

Information about pre and co-requisites is included in individual module profiles.

Where optional modules have been specified, the following is an indicative list of available optional modules, which are subject to change each academic year. Please note in some instances modules have limited spaces available.

Part I

Programme details:

The programme can be taken either full-time over 1 year, or part-time over 2 years. It consists of 180 Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT) points, equivalent to 90 ECTS. These are made up from 120 CATS from taught modules and 60 CATS from a research dissertation. If you satisfactorily complete the taught elements of the programme you will be eligible for the award of a Postgraduate Diploma.

Part I Compulsory

Where students can demonstrate equivalent previous knowledge, compulsory modules may be substituted for equivalent credit value by agreement with the course coordinator.

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
ARCH6119	Applied Maritime Archaeology	7.5	Compulsory

Part I Core

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
ARCH6064	Archaeology Masters Dissertation	30	Core
ARCH6414	Maritime Aspects of Culture	7.5	Core

Part I Optional

Students may consider taking a 'free elective' from another subject area within the University as an option in both S1 and S2 - they should contact the Programme Convenor if they wish to take a non-Archaeology module.

Your programme of study may also include up to 30 CATS drawn from level 6 (undergraduate year 3) modules that have not previously been studied.

In order to be awarded the degree of MSc, you must select at least 45 ECTS (90 CATS) in scientific modules. This may include a dissertation, or professional placement on a scientific topic. In addition to the modules listed above, scientific modules are available in Archaeology Year 3 options, and in related modules taught outside of archaeology, for example GeoArchaeology. If you do not achieve the correct number of scientific credits, you will instead be awarded the degree of MA.

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
ARCH6127	Analysis of archaeological faunal remains	7.5	Optional
ARCH6122	Ancient Mediterranean Seafaring	7.5	Optional
ARCH6126	Bioarchaeology of Human Remains	7.5	Optional
ARCH6121	Contexts for Human Origins Research	7.5	Optional
ARCH6128	Cultural Heritage within Environmental Impact Assessment	7.5	Optional
SOES6061	Marine Geoarchaeology	7.5	Optional

ARCH6120	Maritime Museums and Heritage Management	7.5	Optional
ARCH6417	Materials, Technology and Social Life	7.5	Optional
ARCH6419	Nautical Archaeology	7.5	Optional
ARCH6420	Palaeopathology in Context	7.5	Optional
ARCH6413	Professional Placement in the Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Sector	7.5	Optional
ARCH6412	Professional Practice	7.5	Optional
ARCH6411	The Analysis of Palaeolithic Stone Tool Assemblages	7.5	Optional
ARCH6418	Themes in Osteoarchaeology	7.5	Optional

Progression Requirements

The programme follows the University's regulations for *Progression, Determination and Classification of Results : Undergraduate and Integrated Masters Programmes* and *Progression, Determination and Classification of Results: Postgraduate Master's Programmes* as set out in the University Calendar: <http://www.calendar.soton.ac.uk/sectionIV/sectIV-index.html>

Support for student learning

There are facilities and services to support your learning some of which are accessible to students across the University and some of which will be geared more particularly to students in your particular Faculty or discipline area.

The University provides:

- library resources, including e-books, on-line journals and databases, which are comprehensive and up-to-date; together with assistance from Library staff to enable you to make the best use of these resources
- high speed access to online electronic learning resources on the Internet from dedicated PC Workstations onsite and from your own devices; laptops, smartphones and tablet PCs via the Eduroam wireless network. There is a wide range of application software available from the Student Public Workstations.
- computer accounts which will connect you to a number of learning technologies for example, the Blackboard virtual learning environment (which facilitates online learning and access to specific learning resources)
- standard ICT tools such as Email, secure filestore and calendars.
- access to key information through the MySouthampton Student Mobile Portal which delivers timetables, Module information, Locations, Tutor details, Library account, bus timetables etc. while you are on the move.
- IT support through a comprehensive website, telephone and online ticketed support and a dedicated helpdesk in the Hartley Library.
- Enabling Services offering support services and resources via a triage model to access crisis management, mental health support and counselling. Support includes daily Drop In at Highfield campus at 13.00 – 15.00 (Monday, Wednesday and Friday out of term-time) or via on-line chat on weekdays from 14.00 – 16.00. Arrangements can also be made for meetings via Skype.
- assessment and support (including specialist IT support) facilities if you have a disability, long term health problem or Specific Learning Difficulty (e.g. dyslexia).
- the Student Services Centre (SSC) to assist you with a range of general enquiries including financial matters, accommodation, exams, graduation, student visas, ID cards
- Career and Employability services, advising on job search, applications, interviews, paid work, volunteering and internship opportunities and getting the most out of your extra-curricular activities alongside your degree programme when writing your CV
- Other support that includes health services (GPs), chaplaincy (for all faiths) and 'out of hours' support for students in Halls and in the local community, (18.00-08.00)
- A Centre for Language Study, providing assistance in the development of English language and study skills for non-native speakers.

The Students' Union provides

- an academic student representation system, consisting of Course Representatives, Academic Presidents, Faculty Officers and the Vice-President Education; SUSU provides training and support for all these representatives, whose role is to represent students' views to the University.
- opportunities for extracurricular activities and volunteering

- an Advice Centre offering free and confidential advice including support if you need to make an academic appeal
- Support for student peer-to-peer groups, such as Nightline.

- Underwater recording and excavation equipment
- Relevant computer software and datasets
- Specialist archaeological laboratories and reference collections
- An academic advisor and dissertation supervisor (please see details in the postgraduate handbook)

Methods for evaluating the quality of teaching and learning

You will have the opportunity to have your say on the quality of the programme in the following ways:

- Completing student evaluation questionnaires for each module of the programme
- Acting as a student representative on various committees, e.g. Staff: Student Liaison Committees, Faculty Programmes Committee OR providing comments to your student representative to feed back on your behalf.
- Serving as a student representative on Faculty Scrutiny Groups for programme validation
- Taking part in programme validation meetings by joining a panel of students to meet with the Faculty Scrutiny Group
- National Student Survey

The ways in which the quality of your programme is checked, both inside and outside the University, are:

- Regular module and programme reports which are monitored by the Faculty
- Programme validation, normally every five years.
- External examiners, who produce an annual report
- A national Research Assessment Exercise (our research activity contributes directly to the quality of your learning experience)
- Higher Education Review by the Quality Assurance Agency

Further details on the University's quality assurance processes are given in the [Quality Handbook](#).

Career Opportunities

Graduates from this programme will be suited to work in a wide range of careers. Specifically they will be well suited to maritime archaeological posts in academic, commercial/cultural resource management, heritage, tourism and NGO sectors. More broadly the skills and knowledge developed are appropriate to work in offshore industries, the media and business settings.

External Examiner(s) for the programme

Name: Dr James Cole - University of Brighton

Name: Dr Michael W Scott - London School of Economics and Political Science

Name: Dr Robert Hosfield - University of Reading

Students must not contact External Examiner(s) directly, and external examiners have been advised to refer any such communications back to the University. Students should raise any general queries about the assessment and examination process for the programme with their Course Representative, for consideration through Staff: Student Liaison Committee in the first instance, and Student representatives on Staff: Student Liaison Committees will have the opportunity to consider external examiners' reports as part of the University's quality assurance process.

External examiners do not have a direct role in determining results for individual students, and students wishing to discuss their own performance in assessment should contact their Personal Academic Tutor in the first instance.

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information can be found in the programme handbook.

Appendix 1:

Students are responsible for meeting the cost of essential textbooks, and of producing such essays, assignments, laboratory reports and dissertations as are required to fulfil the academic requirements for each programme of study. In addition to this, students registered for this programme also have to pay for:

Additional Costs

Type	Details
Materials	Materials (such as laboratory materials, textbooks, drawing paper, computer disks)
Clothing	Clothing (such as protective clothing, lab coats, specific shoes and trousers)
Field Trips	<p>During your degree you are likely to go on a number of fieldtrips, and to take part in fieldwork. The exact number and nature of these trips will depend on your module and fieldwork choices.</p> <p>However, wherever and whatever you do you are likely to need access to; waterproofs, sturdy shoes or boots, sun hat and a small rucksack. For some sites you may be asked to have steel toed boots.</p> <p>For those qualified to do so, you may become involved in diving projects. In these circumstances you would normally be required to bring/hire your own mask, fins, snorkel, knife, exposure suit and dive watch (and if possible, dive computer).</p>
Work experience and Placements	Work experience and placements (including accommodation costs near the placement, additional insurance costs)
Printing and Photocopying Costs	<p>Where possible, coursework such as essays; projects; dissertations is likely to be submitted on line. However, there are some items where it is not possible to submit on line and students will be asked to provide a printed copy.</p> <p>A list of the University printing costs can be found here: http://www.southampton.ac.uk/isolutions/students/printing/</p>
Travel Costs for placements	Travel costs for placements, field trips and to and from the University and various campus locations (including travel insurance)
Books and Stationery equipment	Books and stationery equipment (such as lab equipment, field equipment, art equipment, recording equipment, excavation equipment, approved calculators)

In some cases you'll be able to choose modules (which may have different costs associated with that module) which will change the overall cost of a programme to you. Details of such costs will be listed in the Module Profile. Please also ensure you read the section on additional costs in the University's Fees, Charges and Expenses Regulations in the University Calendar available at www.calendar.soton.ac.uk.