

Programme Specification

Ancient History and Philosophy (with a Year Abroad) (2021-22)

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	4
Accreditation details	None
Final award	Bachelor of Arts with Honours (BA (Hons))
Name of award	Ancient History and Philosophy (with a Year Abroad)
Interim Exit awards	Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE) Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE)
FHEQ level of final award	Level 6
UCAS code	V1V5
Programme code	6974
QAA Subject Benchmark or other external reference	Classics And Ancient History (Including Byzantine Studies And Modern Greek) 2007, History 2007, Philosophy 2007
Programme Lead	Maria Hayward

Programme Overview

Brief outline of the programme

This BA programme will enable you to pursue your interests in Ancient History and Philosophy in depth. You will have the opportunity to study and research to a high level, equipping yourself with specialist knowledge in your chosen areas of study. Studying Ancient History and Philosophy at Southampton offers you the opportunity to learn in an engaging, supportive and highly successful research environment. Southampton's Faculty of Humanities contains leading experts in a wide range of fields related to the ancient world and its reception (History, Archaeology, ancient and modern languages and literatures, philosophy and film). From ancient Egypt to Minoan civilisation, from the conquests of Alexander the Great to the Roman empire, from Roman Britain to the ancient Americas and the Middle East, from ancient philosophy and the biblical world to the rise of Islam, studying Ancient History at Southampton affords you the chance to study topics about which you are already passionate, or to try something entirely new. Whatever you choose, Ancient History and Philosophy at Southampton will enable

you to gain invaluable skills and study topics about which both you and staff are passionate. The study of ancient languages is optional, but you are strongly encouraged to make the most of the opportunities on offer at Southampton to study Latin and Ancient Greek.

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

Students at Southampton learn in a variety of ways. Lectures introduce students to the outline of a topic and the debates within it. Small-group seminars offer students the chance to interact with academics and other students in collaborative discussions. Such discussions can help inform and shape the ways in which students then go about writing their essays. Feedback on performance is given through formal and informal one-to-one discussions and through oral and written feedback after submission of a piece of work. Students also get the opportunity to work together collaboratively and to undertake substantial pieces of individual research, most notably with the part Three dissertation in Ancient History or Philosophy.

Assessment

The multidisciplinary team offering Ancient History and Philosophy uses a range of assessment methods to ensure that students are able to demonstrate they have achieved intended learning outcomes. The most common means of assessment is an essay. Essays offer students the opportunity to demonstrate their use of skills in research and analysis to make their own arguments. Longer pieces of writing, allowing for a greater development of argument, become more common as an undergraduate progresses through his or her studies, and these allow students to formulate their own lines of historical and philosophical enquiry. Because source analysis (textual and material) is so fundamental to the understanding of the ancient world, we put a strong emphasis on developing skills in analysing primary sources through a variety of commentary exercises and take-away gobbet examinations (e.g. in Part One compulsory modules). Although they account for less than 50% of the overall degree mark, exams are also taken, in order to assess students' ability to formulate clear, focused and engaging pieces of writing in test conditions. Individual and group oral presentations feature in some modules, including the compulsory Part One Introduction to the Ancient World module, and compulsory Part Two Appearance and Reality module. Language modules will focus primarily on assessing skills in reading ancient sources and applying those skills to source analysis.

Special Features of the programme

Students on the Year Abroad programme will spend Part Three of their programme at one of the Faculty's partner universities and will continue with Part Four of the curriculum upon return to Southampton in their fourth year. Students who choose to spend a semester abroad will do so in their second year and will continue their Part Two curriculum at the partner university, Part Three of the programme will be completed at Southampton.

Students can choose to study in Europe or beyond. A comprehensive list of department, Faculty and university-wide exchange partners can be found here: <https://www.southampton.ac.uk/uni-life/exchanges/exchange-partners.page>

The interdisciplinary nature of Ancient History means that a range of further special features are available to you. Depending on the optional modules you choose, you can gain experience of archaeological fieldwork, fieldtrips and take part in study tours.

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

The aims of the programme are to:

- Provide you with an understanding of the central theoretical and methodological issues involved in the study of Ancient History and the ancient world;
- Develop your knowledge and understanding of selected periods and geographies of the ancient world, and of themes within these periods and areas;
- Enhance your ability to reflect on the nature of Ancient History and the study of the ancient world: how it has developed over time and in a range of different contexts, and its place in modern culture;
- Develop your capacity to undertake independent research into aspects of the study of the ancient world, using appropriate sources and methodologies;
- Provide you with an understanding of the main views, arguments and positions of major philosophers in the Western tradition.
- Introduce you to some of the central theories, problems and arguments concerning topics within core areas of general philosophy (for example, meaning, mind, value, truth, knowledge, existence).
- Introduce you to the philosophical study of particular areas of human practice and inquiry (for example, science, mathematics, religion, art, and politics).
- Enable you to engage with issues and ideas at the cutting-edge of contemporary philosophical research.
- Enable you to develop your skills in written and oral communication, the use of primary source material, critical thinking, independent learning, teamwork, and problem-solving;
- Provide an opportunity for you, should you wish, to enrich your studies by undertaking modules from other disciplines through the Curriculum Innovation Programme;
- Help you develop the skills and training to enable you to undertake substantial pieces of independent research, particularly the dissertations produced in your final part;
- Provide training that will help you develop the skills and abilities required for further study and/or your future career path.
- Provide opportunities for you to develop proficiency in reading Ancient Greek and Latin, and to apply these to your work on sources for Ancient History.

Programme Learning Outcomes

Having successfully completed this programme you will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:

Knowledge and Understanding

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

- A1. the different ways in which the human past can be approached and constructed by scholars of the ancient world;
- A2. the different ways in which images and interpretations of the human past are produced and consumed within our own and other societies;
- A3. the relationship between historical sources, evidence, argument and interpretation;
- A4. patterns of diversity in selected areas of Ancient History;
- A5. a number of chronological periods and geographical areas of the ancient world;
- A6. research design, evaluation and application.
- A7. the views and arguments advanced and explored in the work of key thinkers within Western Philosophy, and the relevance of those views, arguments and positions to contemporary philosophy.
- A8. the wide range of techniques of reasoning philosophers employ in analysing, exploring and evaluating ideas and arguments.

- A9. the defining problems of the main areas of philosophy and of the interconnections between them as well as of the prominent attempts to resolve those problems.
- A10. the philosophical issues concerning particular areas of human practice and inquiry, such as science, mathematics, religion, art and politics.
- A11. ideas at the forefront of current philosophical thinking and scholarship.

Teaching and Learning Methods

- Lectures, and lecture elements, will be used where required to provide you with a broad orientation to issues, debates and themes;
- Tutor-led seminars will be used through the programme to facilitate in-depth discussion of key developments, themes and debates;
- Student-led seminars will feature progressively in the programme, and particularly in your final part, as students develop greater knowledge and authority and the mutual confidence that allows you to learn from one another;
- Group activities, such as group presentations and essays, will allow you to develop and share knowledge and understanding with your peers outside a seminar room setting;
- Study visits and field-trips take place on many History modules throughout the programme, in order to deepen your understanding of the past and its representation through engagements with landscapes, buildings, exhibits and other material forms of evidence;
- Office hours and individual tutorials offer you the opportunity to develop your knowledge and understanding through one-to-one discussions with module tutors;
- Independent study is embedded in all stages of the programme, culminating in the final-part dissertation, encouraging you to develop your own specialized expertise.

Assessment Methods

- Short commentary exercises are used to assess and provide early feedback on your comprehension of primary sources, the views and arguments of key philosophers, and/or key conceptual terms;
- Individual essays are used throughout the programme to assess your knowledge and understanding of key events in History, approaches, themes and debates.
- A documentary commentary ('gobbet') section of the exam for Ancient History second-part 15 credit options assesses your ability to evaluate primary sources and helps prepare you for the longer gobbet exam at part3;
- A documentary commentary ('gobbet') exam in the Ancient History third-part 'special subject' assesses your comprehension of historical context, particularly the circumstances in which such documents were produced and read or consumed;
- Reading Histories in part Four assists you in developing your final year dissertation through a review of a scholarly text, a research presentation and an essay;
- The final-part dissertation assesses your attainment of an authoritative grasp of a research topic in either Ancient History or Philosophy.
- Unseen examinations are used throughout the three parts of your programme to test your understanding of key historical and philosophical questions and your grasp of the evidence and arguments bearing on them.

Subject Specific Intellectual and Research Skills

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

- B1. articulate and reflect on a body of knowledge about the ancient world;
- B2. interrogate and contextualise a variety of forms of evidence about the ancient world;
- B3. grasp and apply terminology and method used in the study of the ancient world;
- B4. evaluate scholarly controversies and formulate your own independent views with respect to them;

- B5. structure a historical or archaeological argument with appropriate evidential support;
- B6. interpret complex philosophical texts, including historical texts from a variety of traditions.
- B7. identify, evaluate and analyse philosophical problems, positions and arguments.
- B8. present and debate philosophical ideas, orally and in writing, in an open-minded, clear and rigorous way.
- B9. define and use appropriately the technical terminology employed in the areas of philosophy you study.
- B10. formulate your own views with respect to various philosophical issues and defend those views with arguments.

Teaching and Learning Methods

- Lectures during the three parts of your programme will provide you with instructive examples of how to deploy the above skills.
- Individual study – for class preparation, assessed work and exam revision – will foster an understanding of how scholars from different disciplines think and write about the ancient world or about philosophical issues.
- Seminars will provide you with an environment in which to discuss and debate your ideas and those of others;
- A compulsory 1st part course in reason and argument, will introduce you to the formal and informal techniques philosophers use in presenting and assessing arguments.
- You will have the opportunity through work on field trips or more practical sessions to investigate ancient spaces and landscapes, as well as to handle relevant artefacts;
- You will have the opportunity to take part in study and fieldtrips to sites in Britain and/or the Mediterranean world.
- Office hours and individual tutorials offer an occasion to discuss questions of methods, resources, structure and argument one-to-one with your tutors.

Assessment Methods

- Short commentaries are used to assess your ability to interrogate and contextualize evidence about the ancient world and to interpret complex philosophical texts;
- Essays are used throughout the curriculum to assess your ability to interpret and engage critically with historical or philosophical texts, to interrogate and contextualise evidence, construct and develop arguments, and to show your command of the terminology used in the study of ancient history and philosophy.
- Presentations allow us to assess and provide feedback on your ability to express verbally philosophical ideas and positions, including your own.
- Reading Histories in part four assists you in developing your own research project and building your confidence in the conceptual framework that will shape your final year dissertation through a review of a scholarly text, a research presentation and an essay;
- The final-part dissertation tests your ability to develop a sustained line of argument of your own and examine historical issues or philosophical ideas in considerable depth and detail.
- and deliver a major project of individual research, informed by historiographical and, where relevant, theoretical debates, rooted in sound methodology and argued from the primary evidence;
- Unseen examinations are used throughout the curriculum to assess your ability to articulate and reflect upon a body of historical knowledge, critically discuss historiographical debates and structure a historical argument in sympathy with the evidence.

Transferable and Generic Skills

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

- C1. communicate ideas and arguments in a variety of written formats;
- C2. communicate ideas and arguments orally and in the context of formal presentations;

- C3. identify, select and draw upon a wide variety of useful and relevant materials in the development of a research project;
- C4. manage individual and group research projects to timely completion;
- C5. demonstrate interpersonal skills whilst working with others in the investigation of problems, and in the presentation of arguments and evidence;
- C6. demonstrate self-confidence and self-awareness both in collaborative activities and independent study;
- C7. identify and constructively reflect upon your own intellectual strengths and weaknesses.

Teaching and Learning Methods

- At all stages of the curriculum, your skills in written communication will be enhanced through formal and informal feedback on written assessments, with specific lectures on essay writing built into the first-part 'Introduction to the Ancient World' and 'Ancient History: Sources and Controversies' modules;
- Your skills in oral communication will be developed through seminar discussions and assessed and non-assessed individual and group presentations throughout the curriculum.
- In tutorial meetings and office-hours, and through feedback, tutors will provide guidance about methods of research and project management;
- Seminar discussions throughout the curriculum will provide an opportunity for you to enhance your interpersonal skills
- Through one-to-one meetings with tutors and personal academic tutors, you will be encouraged to reflect upon your intellectual strengths and weaknesses.

Assessment Methods

- All forms of written assessment – commentaries, essays, exams and dissertations – will test your skills in written communication;
- Your skills in oral communication will be assessed in group and individual presentations;
- Your ability to design and investigate a discrete research project, and manage it to completion, will be tested in 2,000 word first- and second-part essays (with some variation of assessment and word-length in some modules, appropriate to the topic), in 3,000 and 4,000 word final- part essays, and the final-part dissertation;

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.

Please note that this programme is being taught out and part 1 and 2 of the programme are not being taught in 2020/21.

Part III

Students will spend the year abroad in a country where the chosen language is spoken, either as:

- studying on a University course
- on an approved work placement

During the year abroad students are required to complete a Year Abroad Report (HUMA3013). This is assessed on a pass/fail basis.

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
HUMA3013	Year Abroad Report Module for Humanities Students	0	Compulsory

Part IV

Please note that this is an indicative list of modules for part 4. Part 4 will run for the first time in 2019-20 and the modules will be updated accordingly.

You will need to choose either

HIST3210- Ancient History Dissertation. 15 ECTS (30 CATS)

or

PHIL3013 Dissertation in Philosophy. 15 ECTS (30 CATS)

Part IV Compulsory

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
HIST3210	Ancient History Dissertation	15	Compulsory
PHIL3013	Philosophy Dissertation	15	Compulsory
LANG3011	Seeing and being seen: Study Abroad re-entry	0	Compulsory

Part IV Optional

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
HIST3256	A Short History of the Ancient City	7.5	Optional
HIST3255	A Short History of the Ethics of War	7.5	Optional
PHIL3035	Action, Reason and Ethics	7.5	Optional
PHIL3050	Advanced Aesthetics: Aesthetic Creativity	7.5	Optional
GREE9014	Ancient Greek Language Stage 2A	7.5	Optional
GREE9015	Ancient Greek Language Stage 2B	7.5	Optional
ARCH3034	Archaeology of Seafaring	7.5	Optional

PHIL3055	Classical Indian Philosophy	7.5	Optional
HIST3227	Emperor Julian and the Last Pagans of Rome Part 1, Julian: hero and apostate	15	Optional
HIST3228	Emperor Julian and the Last Pagans of Rome Part 2, Julian: hero and apostate	15	Optional
FILM3018	Framing the Past: Stardom, History and Heritage in the Cinema	7.5	Optional
PHIL3041	Happiness and Wellbeing	7.5	Optional
PHIL3009	Heidegger	7.5	Optional
HUMA2013	How the Arts Work: a practical introduction to cultural economics	7.5	Optional
HUMA3009	Humanities Undergraduate Ambassador Scheme Yr 3	7.5	Optional
ARCH3011	Iron Age Societies	7.5	Optional
HIST3247	Islands and Empires in the Ancient Aegean, Part 1: Ruling the Waves	15	Optional
HIST3248	Islands and Empires in the Ancient Aegean, Part 2: Island Societies	15	Optional
ARCH3043	Later Anglo-Saxon England	7.5	Optional
LAT19007	Latin Language Stage 2A	7.5	Optional
LAT19008	Latin Language Stage 2B	7.5	Optional
ARCH3028	Living with the Romans: Urbanism in the Roman Empire	7.5	Optional
ARCH3039	More than Pyramids & Pharaohs? Ancient Egypt in Context	7.5	Optional
PHIL3007	Nietzsche	7.5	Optional
PHIL3051	Other Minds	7.5	Optional

PHIL3054	Philosophical Logic	7.5	Optional
PHIL3034	Philosophy of Sex	7.5	Optional
ARCH3017	Presenting the past: Museums and Heritage	7.5	Optional
PHIL3049	Puzzles and Paradoxes	7.5	Optional
HIST3242	Reading Histories	7.5	Optional
ARCH3014	Seeing beneath the soil: geophysical survey for archaeology	7.5	Optional
ARCH3046	Specialist Research Topic in Archaeology	7.5	Optional
ARCH3045	The Archaeology and Anthropology of Adornment	7.5	Optional
PHIL3037	Wittgenstein's Later Philosophy	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*](#) Any exemptions or variations to the University regulations, approved by AQSC are located in [*section VI of the University Calendar*](#).

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.

Associated with your programme you will be able to access:

- personal academic tutors, made up from amongst the staff in History, who are able to offer advice on work, careers and other important matters, or connect you with trained professionals who can do likewise;
- open office hours, whereby all staff make themselves available for those seeking advice about their course, essays, and so on;
- talks and training on topics such as essay writing, preparing for your dissertation, and so on.

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, School Programmes Committee OR providing comments to your student representative to feedback 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.

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

Career Opportunities

Studying Ancient History and Philosophy at Southampton will help you to acquire the critical thinking and communication skills that are vital as you embark on your career, opening up an extremely wide variety of career options. Such invaluable transferable skills include the ability to weigh up evidence and arguments, to express your opinions coherently and concisely, to work independently, and to manage your time and workload effectively. These skills will demonstrate to employers that you are uniquely equipped to respond positively to the challenges and opportunities of tomorrow's workplace. Our graduates specialising in ancient history and ancient world studies have succeeded in careers as diverse as law; the media; IT; the Civil Service; the armed services; advertising, film and television; business and finance; teaching; politics; numerous roles in the public sector and NGOs; publishing; teaching; museums, galleries and libraries – to name but a few.

External Examiner(s) for the programme

Name: Dr James Corke-Webster - University of Durham

Name: Dr Anthony Booth - University of Sussex

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 they take 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
Computer discs or USB drives	Students are expected to provide their own portable data storage device.
Hardware	It is advisable that students provide their own laptop or personal computer, although shared facilities are available across the University campus.
Laboratory Equipment and Materials	All laboratory equipment and materials are provided.
Placements (including Study Abroad Programmes)	Students on placement programmes can expect to cover costs for health and travel insurance, accommodation and living expenses; travel costs; visa costs. This will vary depending on which country you are travelling to. Specific details on what additional costs there will be are detailed in the individual module profiles which can be found under the modules tab of the programmes details of your programme.
Printing and Photocopying Costs	Where possible, coursework such as essays, projects and 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. A list of the University printing costs can be found here: http://www.southampton.ac.uk/isolutions/students/printing/
Software Licenses	All software is provided
Stationery	You will be expected to provide your own day-to-day stationary items, e.g. pens, pencils, notebooks, etc.). Any specialist stationery items will be specified under the Additional Costs tab of the relevant module profile.
Textbooks	Where a module specifies core texts these should generally be available on the reserve list in the library. However due to demand, students may prefer to buy their own copies. These can be purchased from any source. Some modules suggest reading texts as optional background reading. The library may hold copies of such texts, or alternatively you may wish to purchase your own copies. Although not essential reading, you may benefit from the additional reading materials for the module.

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.