## VF14: Ancient History and Archaeology

**Undergraduate BA 2020**

### Essentials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>UCAS code</strong></th>
<th>VF14</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Degree</strong></td>
<td>BA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mode of study</strong></td>
<td>Full Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Duration</strong></td>
<td>3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Location</strong></td>
<td>Durham City (<a href="http://www.durham.ac.uk/study/location/durham.city">www.durham.ac.uk/study/location/durham.city</a>)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>A-Level</strong></td>
<td>AAB</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>BTEC</strong></td>
<td>DDD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>International Baccalaureate</strong></td>
<td>36</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Alternative qualifications**

- Other UK qualifications ([www.dur.ac.uk/resources/undergraduate/UKequivalencies2017-18.pdf](http://www.dur.ac.uk/resources/undergraduate/UKequivalencies2017-18.pdf))
- International qualifications ([www.dur.ac.uk/international/country.information/](http://www.dur.ac.uk/international/country.information/))

**Contextual Offers**

You may be eligible for an offer which is one or two grades lower than our standard entry requirements. Find out more ([www.durham.ac.uk/study/ug/apply/contextualoffers/](http://www.durham.ac.uk/study/ug/apply/contextualoffers/)).

**More information**

Still have questions? ([www.durham.ac.uk/study/askus/](http://www.durham.ac.uk/study/askus/))

**Department(s) Website**

- [www.durham.ac.uk/classics](http://www.durham.ac.uk/classics)
- [www.durham.ac.uk/archaeology](http://www.durham.ac.uk/archaeology)
Course Summary

Description

This joint honours degree enables you to combine modules in Ancient History from the Department of Classics and Ancient History with those offered by the Department of Archaeology. The balance is broadly equal, but by Year 3 you can, if you wish, weight your choice of modules more to one side than the other; and the dissertation provides a further opportunity to concentrate your studies in an area that particularly interests you.

Year 1

Compulsory modules

- Archaeology in Britain
- Cities in Antiquity.

Archaeology

Choose one module from:

- Applied Archaeological Methods
- Discovering World Prehistory
- Medieval to Modern: An Introduction to the Archaeology of the Medieval to Post-Medieval World
- Ancient Civilisations of the East
- OR: a language module

And, Ancient History: Three modules in Ancient History OR: two modules in Ancient History and a language module.

Year 2

Three modules in Ancient History OR: two modules in Ancient History and a language module.

Three modules in Archaeology from:

- Professional Training (includes three weeks of excavation in the summer preceding Level 2)
- Developing Archaeological Research
- Prehistoric Europe
- Becoming Roman
- Ancient Mediterranean Civilisations: East and West
- Archaeology of Medieval and Post-Medieval Britain
- East Mediterranean in the Bronze Age
- OR a language module.

Year 3
Compulsory modules

- Dissertation (double module) registered in **either Classics or Archaeology**.

Optional modules

**Choose two modules from Archaeology:**

- Specialised Aspects in Archaeology (double module)
- Specialised Aspects in Archaeology (single module)
- Current Archaeology
- Advanced Professional Training
- Interpreting Heritage
- Museum Representation
- Two modules in Ancient History **or** one module from Ancient History and a language module.

Fieldwork

Fieldwork is not compulsory for Joint Honours but all Joint Honours students are encouraged to attend three weeks at our field school in the first year, and three weeks at an excavation of their choice in the second year.

Joint Honours students may only take one language module in a year.

We review course structures and core content (in light of e.g. external and student feedback) every year, and will publish finalised core requirements for 2020 entry from September 2019.

Study Abroad

**Classics and Ancient History**

Single Honours courses include an optional European Studies element as part of the ERASMUS scheme, where you may spend the third year of a four-year course studying at a European university. We currently have ERASMUS exchange links with universities in Belgium (Liege), France (Bordeaux), Germany (Tubingen, Munich), Greece (Athens), Italy (Bologna, Rome, Milan, Vercelli), the Netherlands (Free University, Amsterdam, Groningen), Spain (Seville) and Switzerland (Fribourg), with further to come. Students interested in studying abroad should apply to transfer to the European Studies course after their first year of study.

**Archaeology**

We are part of the SOCRATES/ERASMUS programme which encourages students to study for part of their course in a university of another EU country. We currently have links with the universities of Gothenburg (Sweden), Mainz (Germany), Bordeaux (France), Vienna (Austria) and the Free University of Berlin (Germany), as well as Bergen (Norway) and Koc (Turkey). Studying abroad through one of these exchanges, like the Year Abroad, will involve inserting an extra year into your programme of study between your second and final years. If, in your second year, your application for a place is successful, you will be transferred from the three-year version of your degree to a four-year version. Students will also have the opportunity to participate in excavations run by members of staff and colleagues of other universities at various places around the world.
Placement Year

You may be able to take a work placement. Find out more (www.durham.ac.uk/placements/).
Admissions Process

Subject requirements, level and grade

A level - AAB

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma/OCR Cambridge Technical Extended Diploma – DDD

International Baccalaureate score - 36 to include 665 in higher level subjects

In addition to satisfying the University’s general entry requirements, please note:

- We welcome applications from those with other qualifications equivalent to our standard entry requirements and from mature students with non-standard qualifications or who may have had a break in their study
- If you do not satisfy our general entry requirements, the Foundation Centre offers multidisciplinary degrees to prepare you for a range of specified degree courses
- We are pleased to consider applications for deferred entry.

Science A levels

Applicants taking Science A levels that include a practical component will be required to take and pass this as a condition of entry. This applies only to applicants sitting A levels with an English examination board.

English Language requirements

Please check requirements for your subject and level of study [www.durham.ac.uk/learningandteaching.handbook/1/3/3/].

How to apply

www.durham.ac.uk/undergraduate/apply

Information relevant to your country

www.durham.ac.uk/international/country.information/
Fees and Funding

Full Time Fees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Fee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EU Student</td>
<td>£9,250.00 per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Student</td>
<td>£9,250.00 per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Island Student</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>International non-EU Student</td>
<td>£20,500.00 per year</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The tuition fees shown for home and EU students are for one complete academic year of full time study and are set according to the academic year of entry. Fees for subsequent years of your course may rise in line with an inflationary uplift as determined by the government.

The tuition fees shown for overseas students are for one complete academic year of full time study, are set according to the academic year of entry, and remain the same throughout the duration of the programme for that cohort (unless otherwise stated).

Please also check costs for colleges and accommodation (www.durham.ac.uk/undergraduate/accommodation/costs/).

Scholarships and funding

www.durham.ac.uk/undergraduate/finance
Career Opportunities

Classics and Ancient History

Classics students from universities such as Durham are highly valued by employers, who realise that, in studying for your degree, you have not only mastered the intricacies of Latin grammar, Augustan foreign policy or Aristotelian metaphysics, but have also acquired skills which are readily transferable in the jobs market. You have learned, for example, to think logically, to compile and evaluate evidence and to express yourself clearly and succinctly both orally and in writing. The aptitude of classicists for careers in computing is well-known, but our graduates have also found their way into careers as diverse as the civil service, gold dealing, insurance, journalism, law, accountancy, public relations and the theatre.

Among our many distinguished alumni: Robert Swan (en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Swan) was the first man to walk to both poles, and a leading environmentalist. He studied Ancient History in Durham, from 1976-1979. Jenny Willott (www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/female-lib-dem-minister-makes-cabinet-history-9292698.html), who studied Classics at Durham, was MP for Cardiff Central between 2005 and 2015. (She made headlines when she resigned as Chris Huhne’s Parliamentary Aide over the issue of University tuition fees.) And Matt Barber, who read Classical Studies and Philosophy at Durham between 2002-2005, can be seen as Atticus Aldridge on 'Downton Abbey' (www.telegraph.co.uk/culture/tvandradio/downton-abbey/11218750/The-real-love-story-behind-Downton-Abbeys-Atticus-Aldridge.html).

Of those students that left in 2017:
- 86% are in paid employment or further study

Of those students in employment:
- 76% are in graduate level employment
- Median salary £24,000

(Source: Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE) survey of 2016/17 graduates. The DLHE survey asks leavers from higher education what they are doing six months after graduation. Full definitions for
the DLHE Record can be found here: www.hesa.ac.uk/support/definitions/destinations

A significant number of students progress onto higher level study following their degree in Classics and Ancient History. Some remain within their academic field of interest and pursue a Masters, notably at Durham but also other prestigious institutions. Others take a different route and pursue professional postgraduate programmes in law, finance and teaching to name but a few.

Employment development opportunities

The Careers, Employability and Enterprise Centre works closely with the department in facilitating student access to job and work experience opportunities, careers and employability events, employer workshops and presentations, skills programmes and tailored individual careers guidance. The department delivers a number of events in partnership with the Careers, Employability and Enterprise Centre including 'Beyond the BA' and 'Beyond the MA'.

Archaeology

A degree in archaeology will provide you with skills in teamwork, practical and intellectual problem solving and critical analysis of evidence, in addition to providing you with enhanced knowledge on specific aspects of the human past and present.

Durham University as a whole was recently ranked top 25 in the world by employers for the quality of its graduates. Our students are always in high demand in the professional sector, with many gaining employment not only in archaeology-related fields, such as conservation, heritage, museums and commercial labs and units, but also in education, business, finance and defence.

Of those students who graduated in 2017:

• 90% are in paid employment or further study 6 months after graduation

Of those in employment:
• 89% are in graduate level employment
• Median salary £18,250

(Source: Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE) survey of 2016/17 graduates. The DLHE survey asks leavers from higher education what they are doing six months after graduation. Full definitions for the DLHE Record can be found here: www.hesa.ac.uk/support/definitions/destinations)

Specific Archaeology Employment: Commercial field units & consultancies; Museums & Heritage Management; Local Government; Academic sphere; National Heritage bodies (e.g. Inspectors of Ancient Monuments, field workers, Climate Change Managers); The National Trust, Churches Conservation Trust, Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings; National Finds Advisors, Portable Antiquities Scheme; Durham University.

Beyond Archaeology: The City; Business Management & Administration; Education (all levels, many subjects); Marketing and Advertising; Small and Medium Enterprises; Armed Forces; International charities; Conservation; Ecological and Environmental spheres (e.g. environmental impact assessments); Forensics (inc. International War Crime investigation); Publishing and journalism; Media production and research; Law.

Employers have included: Deloitte, Boots, E.ON, PwC, Ernst and Young, KPMG, Citi Group, Accenture, Fortnum & Mason, Smith & Williamson, Kuoni Travel, The UK Government, HM Treasury, the British Army, Survival International and Dig Deep (Africa), English Heritage, Historic Scotland, CADW, the Victoria and Albert Museum, the British Museum and York Archaeological Trust.

The Careers, Employability and Enterprise Centre (www.durham.ac.uk/careers/) works with closely the department in facilitating student access to job and work experience opportunities, careers and employability events, employer workshops and presentations, skills programmes and tailored individual careers guidance. A dedicated Careers Adviser is available to support Anthropology students individually and collectively.

Development Opportunities

Throughout your programme you will be invited to attend in-department employability talks and evenings, and careers fairs organised by the Careers, Employability and Enterprise Centre (www.dur.ac.uk/careers/), as well as one-on-one sessions with your personal academic advisor.

Work Experience

In your first year you will spend three weeks working on our internationally significant Binchester excavation.

In your second, you will organise a three week placement working alongside a fieldwork team or in a museum/laboratory. These placements act as opportunities to experience archaeology in 'real-world' situations.

Among the skills valued by many employers around the world, Archaeology at Durham offers you:

• Team work
• Evidence evaluation, advocacy and debate
• Project Management
• Planning and Budgeting
• Use of quantitative and qualitative data
• Oral, written and visual presentation
- Public engagement
- Scientific lab work
- Health and Safety awareness
- Geography and landscape analysis
- Sampling techniques and strategies
- Interpretation of maps and satellite imagery
- In-depth knowledge of world history, culture and religion
Open days and visits

Pre-application open day

Pre-application open days are the best way to discover all you need to know about Durham University. With representatives from all relevant academic and support service departments, and opportunities to explore college options, the open days provide our prospective undergraduates with the full experience of Durham University.

Please see the following page for further details and information on how to book a place:
www.durham.ac.uk/opendays

Discover Durham Tours

Discover Durham tours offer a brief introduction to the University. The tour begins at one of our undergraduate colleges, where you will receive an introductory talk from a member of college staff, followed by a tour of the college by current students.

www.durham.ac.uk/undergraduate/live/visit/discoverdurham

Overseas Visit Schedule

www.durham.ac.uk/international/office/meetus
Department Information

Classics and Ancient History

Overview

Our academic staff work in a truly interdisciplinary way and specialise in a wide range of artistic, historical, literary, linguistic, cultural and philosophical aspects of the Graeco-Roman world. We are consistently ranked among the top Classics departments in the UK. We offer a wide variety of modules: ancient Greek and Latin for every level of ability, surveys of the main periods and themes of Greek and Roman history, and teaching in all aspects of Classical culture, including philosophy, art, and literature in translation.

Rankings

- 4th In *The Times and Sunday Times University Guide 2018*
- 5th In *The Guardian University Guide 2018*.

Staff

For a current list of staff, please see the Classics and Ancient History Department web pages (www.dur.ac.uk/classics/staff/).

Facilities

There is a well-stocked departmental library with a reading room and study space, plus a computer room. In addition, extracurricular activities are provided by the lively and friendly Students’ Classical Society, which often puts on a Greek or Roman play in English translation.

Website

www.durham.ac.uk/classics

Archaeology

Overview

From the Palaeolithic to the post-medieval, from Iceland to India, from architecture to ancient DNA – broad and dynamic, archaeology changes constantly with new discoveries and innovative research. Combine hands-on work with traditional academic study. Learn from expert staff; take part in fieldwork, real excavations and finds; study historic buildings, scientific methods, archaeological theory and computer techniques; and learn how they all help us to understand the past.

Rankings

- 6th in the QS World University Subject Rankings for Archaeology 2019.
- 4th in *The Times and Sunday Times University Guide 2019*. 
Staff

For a current list of staff, please see the Archaeology Department web pages.

Facilities

Durham has one of the largest Archaeology departments in Britain, with 28 full-time members of teaching staff. The Department is close to the University’s first-class Bill Bryson Library, which has some of the best archaeological holdings in northern Britain. We are one of the most comprehensively equipped Archaeology departments in the UK, offering project rooms, teaching laboratories and internationally renowned scientific research laboratories in DNA, conservation, isotopes, environmental archaeology, luminescence dating, palaeopathology and soil and bone chemistry, which have recently undergone a £3.2 million refurbishment. Other facilities include a computer room, photographic studio, and common room. A commercial archaeological unit, Archaeological Services (Durham University), is also part of the Department and works with the Department to provide training in excavation and fieldwork skills.

You will have access to two University Museums; the Museum of Archaeology on Palace Green houses excellent Roman and medieval material from Durham in an international context and the Durham University Oriental Museum on Elvet Hill, is the only museum of its kind in the UK entirely devoted to the art and archaeology of cultures from Asia and Egypt.

Website

www.durham.ac.uk/archaeology