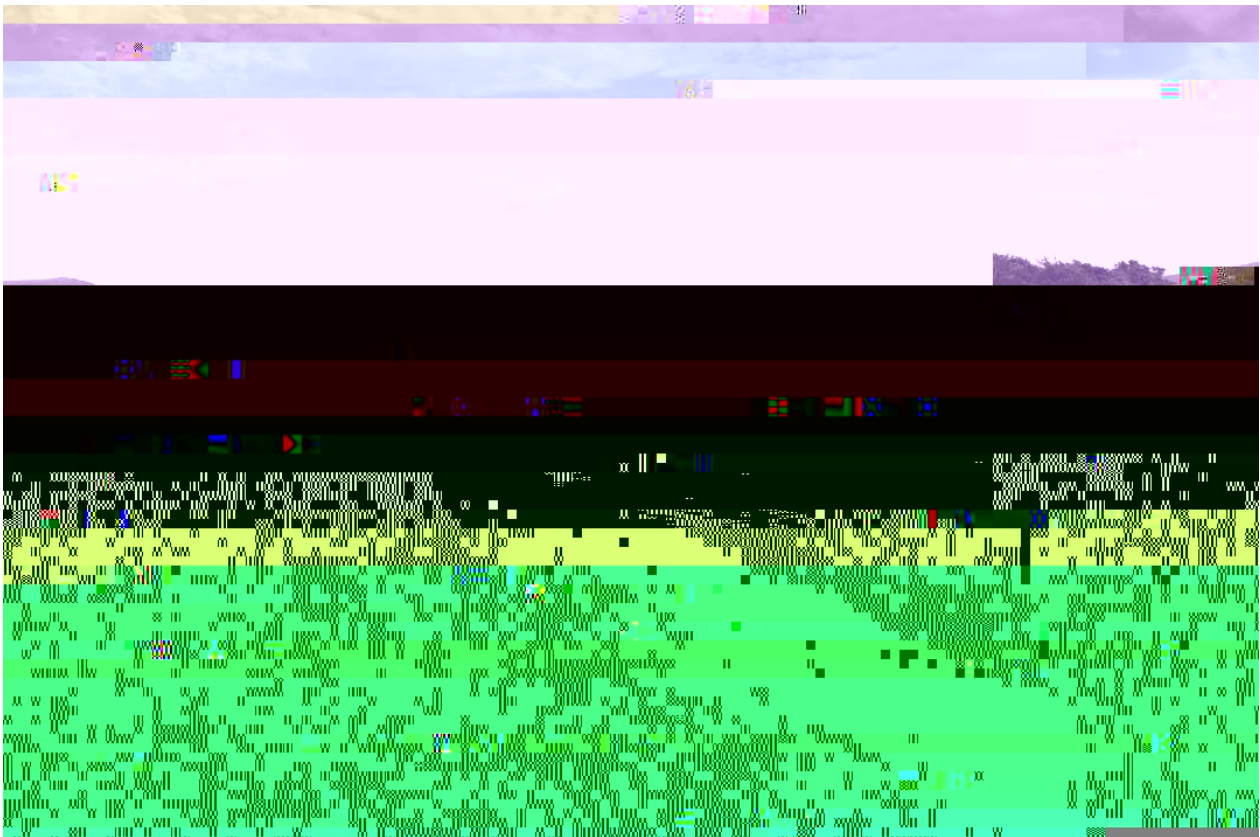




INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY

# MA in Mediterranean Archaeology

Degree Handbook 2023-24



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The programme of study for this degree is intended to help students meet the objectives outlined above, and also to provide a framework for them to achieve any additional personal academic objectives. It comprises:

Two compulsory core modules (15 credits each, 30 credits in total);

Options (60 credits in total) comprising modules of either 15 credits or 30 credits (two-term modules are valued at 30 credits), which are chosen from a dedicated range of Mediterranean modules;

A dissertation on a research topic within the field of Mediterranean archaeology and related areas (90 credits).

Each module addresses a specific subject and has its own Co-ordinator.

ARCL0133 Themes, Thought and Theory in World Archaeology: Foundations

ARCL0199 Heritage Ethics and Archaeological Practice in the Middle East and the Mediterranean

The first core module (ARCL0133) is designed to provide an intensive-level introduction to archaeological theory within a seminar framework based on set readings and on short online lectures that students are required to listen to in advance of the seminar. It introduces students to the modern history of archaeological ideas and to several broad interpretive questions that continue to guide the generation of archaeological knowledge. The second core module (ARCL0199) introduces students to an overview of debates and frameworks of practice, policy and ethical issues in cultural heritage in the Middle East and Mediterranean today (format of the seminars and pre-class activities to be confirmed).

Students must take 60 credits of options, made up of 15-credit or 30-credit modules. At least 45 credits must be made up of options associated with this specific degree, but students may also select an option from the overall range of those available in the Institute of Archaeology, after discussion with, and subject to the agreement of, the Degree Co-ordinator. More exceptionally, it is possible to take one module provided by another Department within UCL, or at one of the other Colleges of the University of London — students should, again, discuss this with their Degree Co-ordinator. The options available this year are listed at the back of this handbook.

The dissertation of up to 15,000 words is a report on a piece of research. There are few restrictions but the topic chosen must be approved by the Degree Coordinator as relevant to the general area covered by this degree. Soon after arrival, students should discuss their area of research interests with their Degree Co-ordinator, who will help them to focus their ideas for their dissertation, or refer them to another member of staff who will be able to provide more specific advice, and will probably become the student's Dissertation Supervisor. The Supervisor will help the student define their dissertation topic, and provide guidance through the main stages of the work. The dissertation provides a further opportunity to explore and achieve the student's own academic objectives. It might be used to apply newly learned approaches to an archaeological problem that has long been of interest, or to gain greater experience with particular methods of data analysis. If a student is studying part-time while working in the field or museum, they might choose to analyse a data set derived from their own work, or to assess the potential of particular theoretical or methodological approaches for their work. They can treat the dissertation as a one-off research project, as a pilot study for a Ph.D. project, or use it to showcase their skills for potential employers.

The dissertation submission deadline is 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023. Guidelines for researching, writing and producing the dissertation are included in the Institute of Archaeology Core Programme Handbook: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeology/current-students/ioa-student-handbook>. Advice on the preparation



The essay will be marked in the normal way, and will be returned to you with comments and any suggestions for improvement. An indication of the likely mark will be given for guidance, but the mark will be included in the assessment of your year's work. We hope that many of you will find the writing of a practice essay a helpful means of ensuring that you are producing the sort of work expected before submitting an essay that will contribute to your final marks.

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