

MODULE CODE: CLCL7006
TITLE: Dissertation
DATED: 04/07/2014

LEVEL: 7
CREDITS: 60

JACS CODE: Q800/V110

AIM(S)

- To enable students to reformulate and use relevant understanding, methodologies and theories to address a specific problematic issue that involve many interacting factors on a chosen topic related to their MA degree scheme.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon the successful completion of this module, the student should be able to demonstrate:

- the ability to construct an independent and methodologically informed argument, based on independent research, synthesizing relevant material;
- the ability to critically analyse and interpret the key problems, methodologies, and theories in their chosen topic, and produce and integrate a detailed analysis of the relevant primary sources;
- the ability to participate in the modern scholarly discussions on the proposed topic, and evaluate critically that scholarship with a sound understanding of the contexts in which it is located, so that developments and trends can be taken in account;
- responsibility for planning and developing their own research and to exercise autonomy and sound judgement;
- the ability to present written work in a manner appropriate for a relevant/professional audience.

INDICATIVE CONTENT

The dissertation provides an excellent opportunity to study in detail a specific aspect of the ancient world. Students decide on their own topic in close consultation with a member of staff. Those taking the MA in Classics may, as an alternative to a traditional dissertation essay, offer a lemmatic commentary on a Greek or Latin text in the original, to reflect their linguistic achievement.

The subject of the dissertation can be on any area deemed relevant to the student's MA scheme. In choosing a topic, however, students must bear in mind these two points:

- although the choice of topic may arise out of one of the modules previously taken (and indeed it is natural that it should), it cannot overlap directly with anything submitted for assessment;
- there must be someone within the School capable of supervising a dissertation on the proposed topic.

The proposed topic must in the first instance be approved by the Director of Postgraduate Studies, who will then allocate a suitable dissertation supervisor.

LEARNING AND TEACHING STRATEGY

Guided independent study allows students to further their independent learning skills with appropriate support provided by the module tutor(s) (e.g. preparation for lectures and seminars, follow-up work, background reading, revision, completion of assessment tasks).

The allocation of teaching to deliver the module is:

Activity type	Hours	Percentage
Scheduled learning		
Independent learning	600	100%
Placement learning		
TOTAL	600	100%

ASSESSMENT

Assessment Component 1 – 100%

15,000 word dissertation

The dissertation must follow the academic conventions laid out in the *Postgraduate Student Guide*.

Topics are chosen in consultation with the module tutor.

Topics on which essays have been written include:

‘Imperial Divinity through Ritual and Monument’; ‘Oracles, Prophecy and Seers in Fifth Century Greek Tragedy’; ‘The Insight of Ajax’; ‘Rome and Dacia Roman Frontiers: Strategy, Tactics, Conquest, and Consolidation’; ‘The African Emperor? The Origins, Career, and Rise to Power of Septimius Severus’; ‘Women Without Men: Outside the Bonds of Marriage in the Ancient Greek World’.

Assessment Summary

Activity type	Percentage
Written exam	
Coursework	100%
Practical	
TOTAL	100%

EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (ESD)

Does the module contribute to ESD?	Yes
If yes please provide brief details (no more than 100 words):	
This module is designed in line with 2 of the 5 pedagogic approaches to sustainable development identified by UNESCO:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critical and Creative thinking 	

Critical and creative thinking enables people to explore new ways of thinking and acting, make informed decisions, and create alternatives to present choices. It involves reflecting on how people interrelate with one other, understanding cultural differences and creating alternative ways to live together.

- Systemic thinking

Thinking systemically is essential to sustainable development, as piecemeal approaches have proved not to work - instead resolving one issue while creating other problems. Sustainable development requires approaches which go beyond analysis in terms of 'problem-solving' and/or 'cause-effect'.