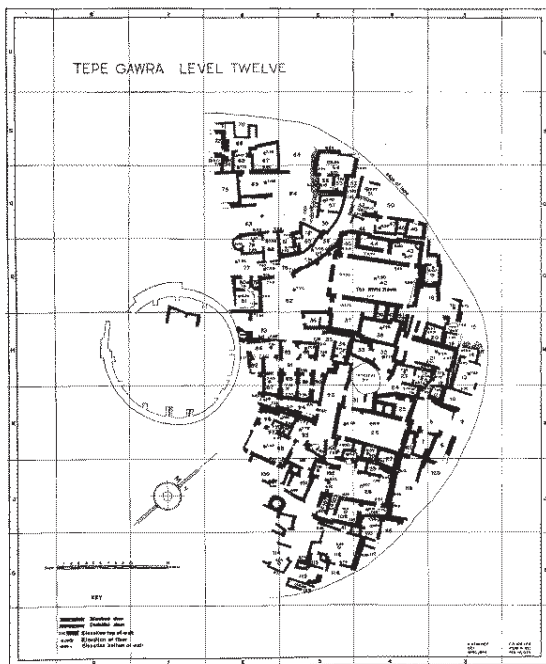




MA Archaeology of the Arab and Islamic World

Degree Handbook 2013-14



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Degree Moodle site:

<https://moodle.ucl.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=19119>

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Introduction

This handbook is for the MA in Archaeology of the Arab and Islamic World at UCL Qatar. It outlines the aims and objectives, degree structure and content, and includes outlines of the core and optional modules, as well as information on UCL Qatar policies, and teaching and learning methods.

The handbook should be used alongside the UCL Qatar Graduate Handbook which contains information on all the MA and MSc programmes and modules available at UCL Qatar, and further information on UCL Qatar as a whole. If students have any queries about the MA in Archaeology of the Arab and Islamic World, they should contact the Degree Coordinator, Dr Robert Carter.

Aims, Objectives and Learning Outcomes

The MA in Archaeology of the Arab and Islamic World covers the archaeology of the Middle East and the art and archaeology of the Islamic world, with a focus on the Middle East and North Africa. It includes core modules in pre-Islamic archaeology and Islamic archaeology, archaeological method and theory, and Arabian archaeology. Students will gain a detailed understanding of the material culture of the region, and the history and prehistory of human occupation, as well as a theoretical and comparative understanding of the archaeology of the region, and the problems and questions inherent in archaeology as a whole.

Technical skills, archaeological practice and the management of collections are also taught, providing broad training in the recovery, recording, analysis, interpretation and curation of archaeological finds and data. These skills will be further developed through the compulsory Placement element (typically fieldwork or museum work), consisting of eight weeks work spread over the two years. In Year 2 students will be able to specialise in an area, time-period or field of their choice through their choice of Optional modules, and through an independent research project leading to a Dissertation.

Aims and Objectives

The programme aims to:

- Provide a detailed introduction to the archaeology of the Arab and Islamic World and its material culture.
- Train the students in the recovery, analysis and interpretation of archaeological data according to sound methodological and theoretical principles.
- Give students a broad understanding of long-term trajectories of human occupation and social change in the region, while allowing them to specialise in an area, time period or field of their choice.
- Enable participants to pursue research in Middle Eastern and Islamic Archaeology, and potentially to prepare them for PhD level research.
- Equip students to work in the regional museums and antiquities services of the region.

Learning outcomes

At the completion of the MA programme, students will:

- Have comprehensive knowledge of the cultural, historical and chronological framework of the region, up to and including the Late Islamic Period.
- Have understanding of key stages of human development in the Middle East and human society, including sedentarization, agriculture, urbanism, the origins of the state, and early empires
- Have understanding of the historical archaeology of the region, including the Arab conquests and the spread and impact of Islam, Islamic art, architecture and material culture at different stages of history.
- Have understanding of the key theoretical debates in archaeology.
- Have understanding of practical, analytical and methodological issues surrounding archaeology, including excavation methodology, survey, basic geographic information skills, data acquisition, management and analysis, formation processes, environmental and geoarchaeological data, sampling, finds analysis, integration of historical and archaeological data, use of historical sources
- Be competent in a range of technical skills relevant to cultural heritage, such as digital photography, illustration, specialised IT, and data and finds management.
- Be able to carry out independent research and extended academic writing.

Degree Structure

The two-year programme comprises five core modules (mandatory, three of 30 credits and one of 15 credits in Year 1, and one of 30 credits in Year 2), four or five optional modules (one of 15 credits in Year 1, and either four of 15 credits in Year 2 or two of 15 credits and one of 30 credits), an eight week or 40 day Placement (30 credits), and a Dissertation on a topic relevant to the Masters degree(90 credits).

The lecturers will help with the arrangement of the Placement element, which can be distributed over both years and take place at more than one project or venue. This may include a local field project run by UCL Qatar.

Year 1: Core modules

Archaeology of the pre-Islamic Middle East (Semester 1-2, UCLOG111, 30 credits)

Module Coordinator: Robert Carter

The course will provide an overview of the prehistoric and pre-Islamic archaeology of the Middle East and Arab World, giving a broad platform to inform students' subsequent Options choices and future research. The time scale ranges from the Palaeolithic to the 6th century AD. The course will be

structured chronologically but a comparative and thematic approach will be taken. The focus will be on the Middle East, but Egypt and North Africa will be referenced for comparative analysis.

Art and Archaeology of the Islamic World (Semester 1-2, UCLQG112, 30 credits)

Module Coordinator: Robert Carter/Andrew Petersen

Principal lecturers: Jose Carvajal and Andrew Petersen

The syllabus covers the development of material culture in the Islamic world. Geographical parameters reach from Spain to Central Asia and from the Crimea to Zanzibar, i.e. Eurasia, the Sub-Continent and East Africa. Chronological parameters span the Middle Eastern pre-Islamic empires and the European colonial empires, i.e. broadly the sixth to nineteenth centuries. The course is structured chronologically and divided into the Formative Period (AD 650-1050), the Classical Period (AD 1050-1450), and the Age of the Gunpowder Empires (AD 1450-1850).

Archaeological Method and Theory (Semester 1-2, UCLQG113, 30 credits)

Module Coordinator: Robert Carter.

Principal lecturers: Robert Carter and Trinidad Rico

The course will train the students in the technical methodology of archaeological field research (excavation, survey, analyses etc), and in the history and modern state of archaeological thought, theory and interpretation, including topics specifically relevant to Middle Eastern and Islamic archaeology and cultural heritage. Although there will be some hands-on sessions, it is primarily desk-based, and not intended to take the place of practical fieldwork training or laboratory analysis (to be covered in the Placement).

Technical Skills for Cultural Heritage (Semester 1-2, UCLQG011, 15 credits)

Module Coordinator: Argyris Karapitsanis

Lecturers: Stuart Laidlaw (Institute of Archaeology, UCL) and Caroline Hebron

The Technical Skills for Cultural Heritage module offers training in digital photography and archaeological illustration. It is a core course of the MSc, delivered by visiting lecturers. This course will prepare students with technical skills relevant to working in cultural heritage (museums, galleries, conservation, archaeology, site preservation etc.) and equip them to operate successfully as professionals in their chosen field.

Year 1: Options

GIS in Archaeology 1 (Semester 1, UCLQG114, 15 credits)

Module Coordinator: Robert Carter

Principal Lecturer: Richard Fletcher

This course introduces the principles of archaeological GIS, the techniques deployed to acquire, manage and visualise spatial data, as well as the most frequently used analytical tools. Students will become proficient users of ESRI's ArcGIS software, but will also be encouraged to think about GIS functionality from a broader perspective. This option is also open to Year 2 students.

Interdisciplinary Methods for the Study of Cultural Heritage (UCLQG014, 15 credits)

Module coordinator: Trinidad Rico

This module offers an overview of multi-disciplinary methods used for the study of cultural heritage. The aim of this module is to provide students with an overview of different ways of evaluating and conceptualising cultural heritage. The module will cover practices of documentation and appraisal from the perspective of different disciplines that engage with cultural heritage, in order to become familiar with the way heritage is interpreted and constructed from different vantage points. Moreover, the module also encourages debates around the relevance of each method of appraisal, considering its benefits and limitations. Each lecture and seminar is aimed to present a method and its context descriptively, and then to discuss its potentials and limitations in such a way that issues of heritage theory may also be attached to practice. The module also aims to provide support for dissertation writing by helping define the best methodology for the type of questions and resources that they are proposing during Semester 2.

Collections Care and Management (Semester 1, UCLQG012, 15 credits)

Module Coordinator: Voula Golfomitsou

Collections Care and Management is a module shared across all three Masters programmes at UCL Qatar. The module introduces students to all aspects of managing museums and gallery collections: documentation, collections management systems, preventive conservation, environmental monitoring, risk management, security issues, storage and loans management.

Year 2: Core modules

Archaeology of Arabia and the Gulf (UCLQG121, 30 credits)

Module Coordinator: Robert Carter

This module will give a detailed exposition of the archaeology of the Arabian Peninsula and the Arabian Gulf, from the Palaeolithic to the Late Islamic period. Major sites and elements of material culture will be discussed, and themes specific to Arabia will be picked out for special attention across the regional and chronological span. The global significance of key developments will be highlighted.

Placement (UCLQG128, 30 credits)

Module Coordinator: Robert Carter

Students are expected to complete a total of 40 days placement work (i.e. 8 weeks on a 5-day week, potentially less if working a 6-day week in the field; or 300 hours). This will be assessed with a report and portfolio in Year 2, Semester 2, but elements of the work may also be undertaken during Year 1. The duration may be broken up into more than one period of work, at more than one site, museum or laboratory.

Placements are intended to be relevant to each student's interests, and to be sourced and arranged in conjunction with the Module Coordinator and the Student and Research Manager. The placement may be relevant to the student's Dissertation topic. The department will run an excavation in Qatar during November and December each year, and in the first instance placement work may be undertaken there. Work abroad, or at other excavations in Qatar, is also encouraged.

Teaching has been arranged so that placement elements can take place from May to August. Suitable placements may include:

- Archaeological fieldwork (including excavation, survey, and both specialist and non-specialist post-excavation work).
- Museum work (including curatorial assistance, collections management, docent activities)
- Internship and research assistance at other kinds of heritage organization, or for cultural heritage research projects.
- Laboratory work.

The student is expected to demonstrate their own skills and learning, and to develop these skills in the workplace. Each student will report to a named member of staff in the institution or project where the placement is taking place (e.g. site director, head of department, research project leader, museum director, curator or officer). This staff member will oversee their work on a day-to-day basis and confirm completion of the placement at the end, including duration, scope of activities and satisfactory participation.

The Module Coordinator will monitor the progress of the placement through regular contact with the student and the supervisory staff, via telephone, video call or email if abroad.

Each student will produce a portfolio and report of their placement. The report and portfolio will form the assessed part of the module. The report/portfolio will summarise the student's work and specify the skills that they have learnt or improved. The portfolio will include examples of the student's work on the project (e.g. copies of context sheets and workbooks, plans and drawings, matrices, photographic evidence, database, diary etc), as well as documents providing commentary, further analysis and background research on the work undertaken. It is recognised that in some cases the practical portfolio element will be small, as not all valid placement work generates tangible output, in which case commentaries and background research will provide a significant element.

Further details of the placement can be found in the UCL Qatar Graduate Handbook and in the Placement Module Handbook.

UCL Qatar may cover the costs of travelling to and from the Placement, and additionally may provide accommodation costs, subject to application.

Dissertation (Semester 2, UCLQG099, 90 credits)

Module Coordinator: Robert Carter

Taught element coordinated by Trinidad Rico

The dissertation is a piece of extended academic writing of up to 15,000 words. It provides the students with the opportunity to pursue research according to an agenda of their own devising, on a topic relevant to the Masters degree and decided in discussion with the Degree Coordinator towards the end of Semester 1/early in Semester 2 of Year 2. The Degree Coordinator will advise on topics and suggest relevant supervisors and advisors who may be based at UCL Qatar or elsewhere. The dissertation allows students to utilise theoretical frameworks and methodologies learned through the Masters degree, to develop data analysis skills and to explore in detail relevant topics of personal interest. These topics may be related to their placement, their place of work, and may act as a starting point for further PhD research.

The module will be closely supervised through one-on-one tutorials throughout the research and writing period. There is a taught element (optional for Archaeology students) coordinated by Dr. Trinidad Rico, in Semester 2 with classes on developing research questions, research methods and resources, structure, argument and presentation. The supervisor will meet with each student at

regular intervals during the writing up period, in person or via video call or phone. During Semester 2 of Year 2 students will meet with their supervisor to develop and deliver the following:

1. Research topic
2. Research questions and indicative bibliography/resources/case studies
3. Literature review
4. Structure and chapter headings
5. First chapter review.

Year 2: Optional modules

In Year 2 students will choose four out of a wider selection of specialised Optional modules, each of 15 credits. Depending on the choices of the student body, some Options may be delivered by visiting lecturers in the form of compressed courses, with the teaching delivered during a single week (though not the reading and assessment). The choice of Options may include Archaeology of the Islamic Gunpowder Empires, Islamic Archaeology of Syria, Egypt, Central Asia or other regions, Chalcolithic Middle East, Urban Foundations of the Middle East, Comparing Civilizations, GIS in Archaeology, Maritime Archaeology, and others. These will be further defined once student interests have been ascertained.

Year 2: Options

In Year 2 students will have the choice of taking either four 15-credit options or two 15 credit options and one 30 credit option. The available choices will be:

Maritime Archaeology (Semester 2, UCLQG122, 30 Credits)

The course will train the students in the technical methodology of maritime archaeology (excavation, survey, analyses etc), and in the scope, history and modern state of maritime archaeological theory and practice. The course will combine desk-based study with practical fieldwork training. Diving is not required.

GIS in Archaeology 1 (Semester 1, UCLQG114, 15 credits)

Module Coordinator: Robert Carter

Principal Lecturer: Richard Fletcher

This course introduces the principles of archaeological GIS, the techniques deployed to acquire, manage and visualise spatial data, as well as the most frequently used analytical tools. Students will become proficient users of ESRI's ArcGIS software, but will also be encouraged to think about GIS functionality from a broader perspective. In 2013-2014 this option is also open to Year 1 students.

Papyri and the history of the medieval Muslim world (Semester 2, UCLQG123, 15 Credits)

Working with reproductions of original Arabic papyrus documents students will be taught the basic technical skills to read and edit papyri. They will also be acquainted with using papyri for writing history. In the class Arabic, Greek, Coptic papyri will be used to instruct students on writing history on the basis of documentary evidence and secondly to familiarize them with the many facets of the medieval Muslim world with its many ethnicities, cultures, religions and languages through encounters with daily life as expressed in the documents. The documents will be complemented with readings from narrative sources as a third objective of the course is to show how the

documents can confirm, disagree with and change our view of early Muslim society as presented in the narrative sources.

Approaches to Islamic Ceramics (Semester 1 or 2, UCLQG124, 15 Credits)

The course provides an introduction to the use of ceramic as one of the major sources of evidence for understanding the past. Through a series of lectures and practical session, an overview is provided of the ceramic production process, the use of ceramics in society and the specific ways in which archaeologists, art historians and scientists make use of ceramics to reconstruct past activity. Strong emphasis is also placed on the practical aspects of processing, recording and researching ceramics. By the end of the course it is hoped that the student should have acquired an appreciation of the potential significance of ceramics and be familiar with the range of techniques required to pursue their own independent research on the basis of ceramic evidence.

Archaeology of the Ottoman Empire (Semester 2, UCLQG125, 15 Credits)

The course will anatomise the development and characteristics of urbanism in the Middle East, focusing on the period from the end of the Chalcolithic to the end of the Bronze Age (ca. 4000-1300 BC), but also considering the long prelude to urbanism, and touching on later periods where the nature of urbanism has been a particular focus of debate. Definitions of complexity, urbanism and civilization will be explored, as well as the methodological challenges of excavating and analyzing urban sites. The urban plan and environment of key towns and cities will be compared and contrasted, as well as their cultural, administrative, legal and symbolic contexts.

Urban Foundations of the Middle East (Semester 2, UCLQG126, 15 Credits)

The course will anatomise the development and characteristics of urbanism in the Middle East, focusing on the period from the end of the Chalcolithic to the end of the Bronze Age (ca. 4000-1300 BC), but also considering the long prelude to urbanism, and touching on later periods where the nature of urbanism has been a particular focus of debate. Definitions of complexity, urbanism and civilization will be explored, as well as the methodological challenges of excavating and analyzing urban sites. The urban plan and environment of key towns and cities will be compared and contrasted, as well as their cultural, administrative, legal and symbolic contexts.

Summary of degree structure, assessments and submission deadlines

Please note: deadlines for some courses are provisional and may be moved in consultation with the lecturers and students.

Module	Credits	Coursework length and type	Submission deadline
Year 1			
Archaeology of the pre-Islamic Middle East (UCLQG111)	30	Essay 1 (3000 words) Essay 2 (3000 words)	16 Dec 2013 19 Mar 2014
Art and Archaeology of the Islamic World (UCLQG112)	30	Essay 1 (2500 words) Essay 2 (2500 words) Essay 3 (2500 words)	01 Dec 2013 16 Feb 2014 30 Mar 2014
Archaeological Method and Theory (UCLQG113)	30	Stratigraphic Exercise (cf. 1000 words) Monograph Comparison (2000 words) Essay on Archaeological Theory (3000 words)	03 Nov 2013 24 Nov 2013 08 Apr 2014
Technical Skills for Cultural Heritage (UCLQG011)	15	Project portfolio	23 Oct 2013
Option: Collections Care and Management (UCLQG012)	15	Project portfolio	10 Dec 2013
Option: Interdisciplinary Methods for the Study of Cultural Heritage (UCLQG014)	15	Project Portfolio	12 Jan 2014
Option: GIS in Archaeology 1 (UCLQG114)	15	Practical (cf. 2000 words) Essay (1500 words)	12 Jan 2014 26 Jan 2014
Year 2			
Archaeology of Arabia and the Gulf (UCLQG121)	30	Presentation x 4 (15 mins each) Essay 1 (3000 words) Essay 2 (3000 words)	TBC 19 Dec 2013 27 Mar 2014
Option: GIS in Archaeology 1 (UCLQG114)	15	Practical (cf. 2000 words) Essay (1500 words)	12 Jan 2014 26 Jan 2014
Option: Maritime Archaeology (UCLQG122)	30	Boat/site recording exercise (1000 words) Coastal heritage management report (2500) Essay (3000 words)	30 Apr 2014 30 Apr 2014 30 Apr 2014
Option: Papyri and the History of the medieval Muslim world (UCLQG123)	15	Essay (3000 words)	20 Mar 2014
Option: Approaches to Islamic Ceramics (UCLQG124)	15	Essay (3000 words)	09 Feb 2014
Option: Archaeology of the Ottoman Empire (UCLQG125)	15	Report on Museum Visit (1000 words) Essay (3000-4000 words)	24 Nov 2013 02 Dec 2013
Option: Urban Foundations of the Middle East (UCLQG126)	15	Essay (3000 words)	26 Jun 2014
Placement (UCLQG128)	30	Report and portfolio	26 Jun 2014
Dissertation (UCLQG099)	90	Dissertation Plan Oral Examination Dissertation	Jan 2014 Jun 2014 17 Aug 2014

Site and Museum visits

With the exception of a session on practical site survey (part of Archaeological Methods and Theory), there are no compulsory site and museum visits. UCL Qatar staff will nonetheless be organising trips to key sites in Qatar, and students are encouraged to participate. Students will also be encouraged to take part in any archaeological research projects run by staff in Qatar, e.g. survey and excavations. With the agreement of the Degree Coordinator, this participation can contribute towards placement requirements.

Teaching Schedule

The MA in Archaeology of the Arab and Islamic World is an intensive two-year programme. Each year, teaching takes place across two fifteen week semesters: Semester 1 teaching runs from the start of September to November, and Semester 2 teaching from mid-January to the end of April. Each semester has a Reading Week, and national holidays such as Eid and National Sports Day are observed. Placements may take place after May, but it will also be possible for students to undertake part-time Placement elements at other times of year. In Year 2 the period June-mid-August is set aside for dissertation work. The detailed timetable for each module is in the module handbooks and on the relevant Moodle site.

Teaching Methods

During induction week the students will meet the principal lecturers for the MA in Archaeology of the Arab and Islamic World programme. This will give an opportunity to talk through the programme structure and modules. We will also go through the Handbooks and make sure that all students are able to access module and programme information on the Moodle site.

Teaching and learning

The MA in the Archaeology of the Arab and Islamic World is a postgraduate degree and students are expected to take a high degree of responsibility for their learning and studying. Each module comprises a set number of contact hours (lectures and seminars) which are compulsory, and an additional number of hours allocated to background reading and the preparation of project work and assessed module work. Typically, a teaching session will last three hours and consist of an extended lecture, divided by a short break, followed by seminar discussion; or split into two shorter lectures, each followed by seminar discussion. In some sessions students will be asked to make short presentations on the topic, singly or in groups.

Some module elements are taught by guest lecturers. In Year 2 specialist Optional courses (15 credits) will be delivered by visiting lecturers. The range of Options will be selected by the students early in Semester 2 of Year 1. In these cases the majority of contact hours will be compressed into one week.

There will be a variety of methods of delivery which include lectures, seminar discussions, practical classes, and student-led presentations. Fieldwork training will be provided to those students who attend the UCL Qatar excavations in Qatar as part of their placement. The class size will be small other than on the parts of the modules shared across all the MA programmes, such as Technical Skills for Cultural Heritage and Collections Care and Management, where students will work alongside their colleagues on the other UCL Qatar degree programmes.

Participation and group work

The seminars are intended to be interactive and we encourage students to participate in the discussion as this enriches the learning experience for all. Student will sometimes be asked to deliver short presentations during the seminars, singly or in groups.

Dyslexia and other Disabilities

If you have dyslexia or any other disability, please make your lecturers aware of this. Please discuss with them whether there is any way in which they can help you. Students with dyslexia are

reminded to indicate this on each piece of coursework. Help is available with all kinds of learning difficulties (initially, see www.ucl.ac.uk/disability/services/dyslexia-centre).

Prerequisites

Students accepted onto the MA in Archaeology of the Arab and Islamic World are expected to have a good first degree, normally a 2:1 or above (or international equivalent), to be fluent in English, and to have experience of working in a museum or similar organisation, either as a volunteer or as an employee.

Degree assessment

The Board of Examiners normally meets at the end of each year. At that time students who have completed all elements may be recommended for the award of a degree. Degree results will be graded as a Distinction, Pass or Fail. The requirements for each grade are as follows:

Distinction

A candidate must normally achieve 70% or above in (i) the weighted arithmetic mean of all components of the degree, including 70% or above in (ii) the Dissertation, and (iii) in 75 credits of taught courses (i.e. two 30 credit modules + one 15 credit module, or one 30 credit module + three 15 credit modules). In addition, there must be no marks below 50%, no condoned marks, no re-sits, and all marks must be based on first attempts.

Merit

A candidate must normally achieve i) 60% or above in the weighted arithmetic mean of all components of the degree, and ii) 65% or above in the Dissertation. In addition, there must be no marks below 50%, no condoned marks, no re-sits, and all marks must be based on first attempts.

Pass

In order to pass students must have completed 330 UCL credits and passed all assessed work, including the Dissertation, with a pass mark of 50% or greater. Ca. 25% of the programme's taught element excluding the Dissertation and Placement, may be condoned at 40-49%. Thus a pass may still be given if marks are between 40-49% in 45 credits worth of courses (equals ca. 21% of a total of 210 credits of taught modules in this Masters), being either one 30 credit module and one 15 credit module, or three 15 credit modules. Within this limit only 1 core course can be condoned.

Fail

The mark for the dissertation is less than 50%, or the mark for more than 25% of the taught elements is less than 50%.

Coursework

Methods of assessment

Methods of assessment vary from module to module, with details given in each module handbook. A 15-credit module will usually be assessed by the equivalent of a 3000 word piece of work, usually in the form of an essay, while a 30 credit module will require two such essays. Alternatively, some

modules may have a greater number of smaller essay requirements, the total amounting to not more than the equivalent of 4000 words (15 credit modules) or 8000 words (30 credit modules).

Some modules require the presentation of a portfolio element and report (drawings, completed computer assignments etc.). In the case of the placement confirmation is also required from the host that the stated work has taken place satisfactorily (a form will be supplied by the Student and Research Manager).

If students are unclear about the nature of an assignment, they should contact the Module Coordinator. The Module Coordinator will be willing to discuss an outline of their approach to the assessment, provided this is planned suitably in advance of the submission date.

Written work is to be submitted in hard copy to the Student and Research Manager, and digitally via Turnitin. Some module assessment elements can not be submitted via Turnitin, and should be submitted only via the Student and Research Manager. Students should check individual module handbooks to confirm whether this is the case and ask their Module Coordinators if they have any doubt.

Oral examination

All Masters students are required to attend an oral examination (*viva voce*), normally as part of their Dissertation assessment. This will usually be held in June of Year 2. In it you will be asked to present and discuss your work to date and your dissertation plans. The oral examination will be conducted by the Degree Coordinator and another academic staff member and will normally last for about 20 minutes. It is assessed as 10% of the Dissertation module. Students may regard the examination as a progress meeting, albeit a mandatory one. In the event of a problem being identified by the examiners you may be invited to attend a formal viva voce examination with the External Examiner for the degree also in attendance.

Workload

The MA in Archaeology of the Arab and Islamic World is an intensive full-time programme amounting to 3300 learning hours over two years. Teaching and preparation for taught sessions and modules work will take up most of your time. The full schedule of the programme is available on the UCL Qatar Moodle site. The handbooks for individual modules give the hours of teaching and other scheduled activities.

Moodle

UCL uses an online learning resource called 'Moodle'. The MA in the Arab and Islamic World degree Moodle site address is:

You should regard this site as the 'virtual home' for the duration of your study. The site contains electronic copies of module documentation, online reading lists, timetables and schedules, and includes a message board, calendar of events, and resources, as well as links to the Moodle sites for each of the individual core modules. Please visit the site frequently and make use of its many functions and resources.

Library Resources

UCL Qatar library is found on the second floor of the Georgetown library. It can be accessed through: <http://www.library.georgetown.edu/qatar/>

UCL online resources can be accessed via <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/library/eresources.shtml>

Virginia Commonwealth University, Qatar, library: <http://www.qatar.vcu.edu/library/>

Museum of Islamic Art library, Doha: <http://www.qma.org.qa/en/news/news-archive/494-mia-library-re-opens-to-public>

Useful Links

Websites of major English-language bodies involved in archaeological research in the Arab and Islamic world include:

American Schools of Oriental Research: <http://www.asor.org/about/index.shtml>

British Foundation for the Study of Arabia: <http://www.thebfsa.org/>

British Institute for the Study of Iraq: <http://www.bisi.ac.uk/>

British Institute of Persian Studies: <http://www.bips.ac.uk>

Council for British Research in the Levant: <http://www.cbri.org.uk/>

Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago: <http://oi.uchicago.edu/>

Preliminary Reading

Milwright, M. 2010. *An Introduction to Islamic Archaeology*. Edinburgh.

Renfrew, C. and Bahn, P. 2008 *Archaeology: theories, methods and practice (5th ed.)*. London: Thames & Hudson.

Roaf M. 1990 *Cultural Atlas of Mesopotamia and the Ancient Near East*. Andromeda Oxford Limited: Abingdon.

