

CX303-30 Dissertation

22/23

Department

Classics & Ancient History

Level

Undergraduate Level 3

Module leader

Conor Trainor

Credit value

30

Module duration

20 weeks

Assessment

100% coursework

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

An individual research project devised, designed and researched by the student, with guidance from their supervisor.

[Module web page](#)

Module aims

This is the core module for final-year honours students. It allows them to pursue an individual research project, under careful supervision, which culminates in the production of a 8000-10,000 word dissertation.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

There is no set syllabus as this module allow students to devise their own research project in conjunction with a supervision.

Schedule as follows:

Summer term prior to vacation

Dissertation Briefing and Library Training Session:

Autumn term

Week 1: Training Session: Writing a Dissertation: Aims, Methods, Objectives, Problems, resources

Week 2: Submit a 250-word plan of study and the (provisional) title of dissertation on Tabula.

End Week 2: Supervisors allocated

Week 3: All students should contact their supervisors to arrange for a supervision in Week 3

Week 4: Submit an outline plan of project including chapter headings; also submit a bibliography of items

already read + a list of items to read. This must be submitted on Tabula.

Week 7: Presentation Skills Workshop: How to make an effective presentation?

Week 11: Submit a sample chapter on Tabula. You will receive written feedback on this from your supervisor at

the start of the spring term.

Spring term

Weeks 2 & 3: Presentations; each student presents a 10-minute powerpoint presentation before peers and a

member of staff of dissertation topic, with handout followed by discussion. Feedback will be given on all aspects

of structure, content, and presentation of the talk by staff and peers

End Week 3: Students to submit the precise title of the dissertation on Tabula.

End Week 9: Deadline for submitting drafts to supervisor (unless extension granted).

End Week 10: Deadline for final submission in hard copy and to Tabula

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- To increase and enhance knowledge of the classical world by carrying out independent research on a subject of their choice, as approved by the department, within the range of possibilities opened up within the broad field of Classics and Ancient History.
- To communicate this original research clearly through an extended piece of organized and articulate academic argument (between 8,000 and 10,000 words), subject to the criteria for assessment as set out on the Presentation and Assessment page.
- To further develop skills in problem-solving and analysis and evaluation of material through working with primary sources, and with advanced scholarly literature independently, critically, and creatively.
- To develop skills needed to manage an extended piece of academic writing, including enhanced bibliographical management, coherent presentation of footnotes and of primary and secondary sources of whatever kind, and furthering of IT and word-processing abilities.
- To work effectively and constructively with a supervisor, and to further develop time-management skills.
- To further develop oral presentation skills through the core (though non-assessed) requirement to present their work-in-progress to peers and members of the department mid-way through the process, and by partaking in presentation-skills sessions put on as part of

module induction.

Research element

This module allows students, under careful supervision, to pursue an individual research project which culminates in the production of a dissertation of 8 000-10 000 words in length.

Subject specific skills

- To increase and enhance knowledge of the classical world by carrying out independent research on a subject of their choice.
- To communicate research ideas clearly through an extended piece of organized and articulate academic argument (between 8,000 and 10,000 words).
- To further develop skills in problem-solving and analysis and evaluation of material through working with primary sources, and with advanced scholarly literature independently, critically, and creatively.
- To develop skills needed to manage an extended piece of academic writing, including enhanced bibliographical management, coherent presentation of footnotes and of primary and secondary sources of whatever kind, and furthering of IT and word-processing abilities.
- To work effectively and constructively with a supervisor, and to further develop time-management skills.
- To further develop oral presentation skills through the core (though non-assessed) requirement to present their work-in-progress to peers and members of the department mid-way through the process, and by partaking in presentation-skills sessions put on as part of module induction.

Transferable skills

- critical thinking
 - problem solving
 - active lifelong learning
 - communication
 - information literacy
 - ICT literacy
 - Ethical Values
 - Professionalism
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Study

Study time

Type	Required
Seminars	3 sessions of 2 hours (2%)
Project supervision	10 sessions of 30 minutes (2%)
Private study	289 hours (96%)
Total	300 hours

Private study description

Independent research project devised, designed and researched by the student, with guidance from their supervisor.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You must pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group A1

	Weighting	Study time
Dissertation	100%	
An 8-10,000-word dissertation.		

Feedback on assessment

Formative feedback given on individual chapters. Tabula feedback marking sheet.

Availability

Courses

This module is Core for:

- Year 3 of UCXA-Q800 BA in Classics
- Year 3 of UCXA-VV16 Undergraduate Ancient History and Classical Archaeology
- Year 4 of UCXA-VV19 Undergraduate Ancient History and Classical Archaeology with Study Abroad
- Year 4 of UCXA-VV18 Undergraduate Ancient History and Classical Archaeology with Study in Europe

- Year 3 of UCXA-Q820 Undergraduate Classical Civilisation
- Year 4 of UCXA-Q821 Undergraduate Classical Civilisation with Study in Europe
- Year 3 of UCXA-Q804 Undergraduate Classics (Latin)
- Year 4 of UCXA-Q802 Undergraduate Classics (Latin) with Study in Europe

This module is Core optional for:

- Year 3 of UCXA-QQ37 Undergraduate Classics and English
- Year 4 of UCXA-QQ38 Undergraduate Classics and English (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 4 of UITA-RQ38 Undergraduate Italian and Classics

This module is Core option list B for:

- Year 2 of UCXA-Q82P Undergraduate Classical Civilisation