Introduction

Forensic Archaeology is the specialist application of archaeological techniques to the search and recovery of evidential material from crime scenes. This often, but not always, involves buried human remains. It is essential that forensic archaeologists are able to appreciate their role within a wider police investigation and have a detailed understanding of crime scene management procedures. The discipline of forensic archaeology in the United Kingdom is defined by the Institute for Archaeologists (Standards and guidance for Forensic Archaeologists) and the Forensic Science Society component standards for forensic archaeology and this programme has been developed with these specific criteria in mind.

The taught elements of the programme have a focussed structure that covers the key areas within forensic archaeology and is based upon direct case experience by the principal tutors working with UK police forces. There is a strong emphasis on hands-on experience utilising simulated crime scene scenarios. Students can choose to undertake a substantial individual research dissertation or students can alternatively during the summer vacation there are two further, substantial research and writing assignments that require advanced level academic writing skills.
addition during the summer vacation students take part in a simulated, complex, multi scene investigation that will require high level skills in co-operative working, scene management and information synthesis.

The programme is appropriate for students with either humanities or science based academic background and is underpinned by modules on Crime Scene Management and English Law delivered by West Yorkshire Police and Bradford School of Law.

In accordance with the University’s mission, ‘Making Knowledge Work’, School of Archaeological Sciences aims to provide excellence in a comprehensive range of archaeological topics, with emphasis on both teaching (‘Excellent’ in Subject Review 2000) and research (Grade 5 in Research Assessment Exercise 2001, and 20% 4*, 30% 3* in 2008), believing in the two activities to be mutually dependent.

First destination figures for Postgraduate Taught Programmes indicate that c. 85% of graduates achieve work or further studies in the discipline or cognate areas.

Programme Aims

The programme is intended to:

A1. provide graduates in archaeology, anthropology, biosciences and related subjects with advanced practical, analytical and interpretative skills in forensic archaeology;

A2. provide a programme of study that reflects areas of staff expertise;

A3. provide a supportive, structured learning environment in which students are encouraged to develop independent learning skills;

A4. develop high-level subject knowledge and understanding;

A5. provide training in discipline skills to enable graduates to pursue careers in Forensic Archaeology and Crime Scene Investigation;

A6. provide a means to develop critical and analytical problem solving skills and personal transferable skills to prepare students for careers in non-cognate fields.

Programme Learning Outcomes

When you have completed the programme you will be able to:

LO1. demonstrate a critical awareness of practical, analytical and interpretative approaches in forensic archaeology and the investigation of crime scenes

LO2. use a selected range of methods and techniques within the subject area and interpret the generated data

LO3. apply this in the wider context of the discipline

LO4. possess advanced laboratory and/or field skills in search and recovery of forensic evidence, recording techniques and survey methods

LO5. conduct an excavation of buried remains with appropriate recording to a full professional standard

LO6. write expert witness statements and technical reports to a professional standard in the context of the UK legal system
LO7. employ effective decision-making and leadership skills as part of small team
LO8. design and complete a substantial work of independent study
LO9. critically evaluate professional literature in a chosen area and related disciplines
LO10. communicate conclusions in writing and orally to specialist and non-specialist audiences, working effectively in groups, manage and appraise your own leaning and research
LO11. manage your time effectively when undertaking complex and extended tasks
LO12. confidently use information technology to critically review, synthesise and carry forward professional research in a specialised area.

Curriculum

The Programme is offered full-time (1 year) and part-time (2 or more years). The taught components of the programme emphasise a hands-on approach to field exercises and laboratory sessions. The programme addresses thematic and theoretical aspects through lectures, seminars, and tutorials. Skills and knowledge are developed through essays, seminar presentations, practical and written examinations, reports, and a dissertation. Passage through the programme is intended to develop critical, research and problem solving skills. Modules in Semester 1 (Introduction to Forensic Archaeology, Crime Scene Management, Recording Crime Scenes, Law 1 and Forensic Anthropology for Crime Scene Investigators) are designed to provide the essential framework on which later modules build. Semester 2 provides the compulsory main thematic module (Forensic Archaeology and Crime Scene Investigation) as well as training in expert witness skills (Law 2).

For those students who choose to complete the programme through completing the research project; the module on Research Skills prepares students for their research project, including planning of research, research design, research ethics, time keeping, ethics, and health and safety. The final element of the programme is a 15,000-word dissertation.

For those students who choose to complete the programme through the non-dissertation route; the compulsory module Research and Brief Writing for CSI provides the opportunity to practice independent source-based research on a small, contained topic that is presented as a professional quality briefing document. During the summer period the students will take part in a substantial week-long forensic exercise (Advanced Field Programme for CSI) and write two substantial research papers, Independent Research Paper for CSI 1 and Independent Research Paper for CSI 2.

Postgraduate Certificate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Study period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARC7021-B</td>
<td>Introduction to Forensic</td>
<td>Core</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Archaeology</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARC7011-A</td>
<td>Crime Scene Management</td>
<td>Core</td>
<td>10</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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Students who have achieved the regulatory credit points at Level 7 and have achieved learning outcomes LO 1-3 and LO 9 may exit the programme and are eligible for the award of Postgraduate Certificate.

### Postgraduate Diploma

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Study period</th>
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<tr>
<td>ARC7024-A</td>
<td>Research Skills</td>
<td>Core</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARC7023-A**</td>
<td>Research and Brief Writing</td>
<td>Core</td>
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<td>ARC7012-B</td>
<td>Forensic Archaeology and Crime Scene Investigation</td>
<td>Core</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARC7016-A</td>
<td>Elements of Forensic Taphonomy</td>
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<td>20</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAW7017-A</td>
<td>Law of Evidence for Non Lawyers</td>
<td>Core</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*core for students who complete the programme by the dissertation route

**core for students who complete the programme by the non-dissertation route

Students who have achieved the regulatory credit points at Level 7 and have achieved learning outcomes LO 1-7 and 9-11, may exit the programme and are eligible for the award of Postgraduate Diploma.

### Master of Science – Dissertation route

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Study period</th>
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<tr>
<td>ARC7034-E</td>
<td>Dissertation</td>
<td>Core</td>
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### Master of Science – without dissertation route

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<tr>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Study period</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARC7014-C</td>
<td>Advanced Fieldwork Programme for CSI</td>
<td>Core</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARC7018-A</td>
<td>Independent Research Paper for CSI 1</td>
<td>Core</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARC7019-B</td>
<td>Independent Research Paper for CSI 2</td>
<td>Core</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>S</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Students who have achieved the regulatory credit points at Level 7 and have achieved learning outcomes LO 1-12, are eligible for the award of Master of Science.
The curriculum may change, subject to the University's programme approval, monitoring and review procedures.

**Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies**

The teaching and learning strategy takes into consideration the learning outcomes, the nature of the subject, and the need for students to take responsibility for their own learning as part of this advanced taught programme.

The assessment strategy is designed to support the learning outcomes of each specific module. It uses a wide range of assessment methods, including coursework (laboratory and field reports, research design, essay, and individual case assignments), exams, and oral presentations. Assessment elements are regularly structured in a way that allows candidates to benefit from formative learning towards summative assessment.

Due to the specialist nature of the programme all modules are core to the programme. The teaching strategy makes use of employer engagement by including delivery of elements from the Police force (Crime Scene Management) in support of LO1. The thematic modules are delivered in a combination of formal lectures, student-led intensive seminars/tutorials and extensive practical instruction. Coursework (laboratory and field reports, worksheets) is geared towards demonstrating relevant knowledge, understanding and professional skills (LO1-9) in principal approaches to the recovery, interpretation and reporting of forensic evidence. Communication skills are tested in both written and oral form (see LO6, LO9) in several modules.

Example: Forensic Archaeology and Crime Scene Investigation: as a developmental and thematic broadening exercise, assessment comprises a professional written report (2000 words, 40% of the module assessment value); an expert witness statement (1500 words, 30% of the module assessment value); and a mock court exercise (30% of the module assessment value). The assignments cover search, excavation and recovery of evidential material from a crime scene and result, after an oral briefing presentation, in a written report that will be defensible in Court.

Example: Introduction to Forensic Archaeology: There are three developmental assignments: Assessment 1 (worksheet, 1000 words, 10%) consists of a series of stratigraphy based exercises of increasing complexity; Assessment 2 (Geophysics Coursework, 2000 words, 40%) is a critical evaluation of the potential of different geophysical techniques to different ground conditions and target types. Assessment 3 (Forensic scenario, 2000 words, 50%) requires to make strategy decisions relating to search and excavation as well as critically comment on the evidential value of material presented and make proposals of forensic strategy. Within the role playing scenario candidates take on the role of a forensic archaeologist and must respond to questions posed by the investigation team.

Example: Research Skills: Assessment comprises a Research Design (1500 words, 75%) based on the format of formal grant applications in preparation for similar tasks in a future professional environment, and an oral presentation (15 minutes, 25%) assessed for presentation style and quality of its content and delivered in the style of a conference podium presentation.
The Dissertation (15,000 words) encompasses a substantial piece of original research, which is ultimately assessed for its publishable merit.

**Assessment Regulations**

This Programme conforms to the standard University Assessment Regulations for Postgraduate Programmes which are available at the following link:

http://www.bradford.ac.uk/agpo/ordinances-and-regulations/

**Admission Requirements**

The University welcomes applications from all potential students regardless of their previous academic experience; offers are made following detailed consideration of each individual application. Most important in the decision to offer a place is our assessment of a candidate’s potential to benefit from their studies and of their ability to succeed on this particular programme. Entrance requirements for each programme will vary but consideration of your application will be based on a combination of your formal academic qualifications and other relevant experience.

If you have prior certificated learning or professional experience which may be equivalent to parts of this programme, the University has procedures to evaluate this learning in order to provide you with exemptions from specified modules contained within the curriculum. Please talk to us if you do not fit the standard pattern of entry qualifications.

The University of Bradford has always welcomed applications from disabled students, and these will be considered on the same academic grounds as are applied to all applicants. If you have some form of disability you may wish to contact the programme leader before you apply.

A first degree in a relevant discipline, normally with an upper second-class degree, or equivalent is required for UK students. Other relevant qualifications and past experience will also be considered for admission to the programme. Admission will be judged on an individual basis for overseas students, at an equivalent level to UK entry requirements. For North American students, normally a GPA of at least 3.0 on a scale of 4.0 is required, or an equivalent. Admissions are made on the basis of demonstrated ability, qualifications, experience, references, and, occasionally, interviews. A completed application form, references, official transcripts, or a list of programmes/modules and grades/marks stamped by the applicant's undergraduate department or student registry are required of all applicants.

**Learning Resources**

The JB Priestley Library on the city campus and our specialist library in the Faculty of Management provide a wide range of printed and electronic resources to support your studies. We offer quiet study space if you want to work on your own, and group study areas for the times when you need to discuss work with fellow students. Subject librarians for each School provide training sessions and individual guidance.
in finding the information you need for your assignment, and will help you organise your references properly.

Student PC clusters can be found in all our libraries and elsewhere on the campus. Many of these are open 24/7. You can also use the University's wireless network to access the internet from your own laptop. Most of our online journals are available on the internet (both on and off campus), and you can also access your University email account, personal information and programme-related materials this way.

Staff are on hand during the daytime to help you if you get stuck, and there is a 24/7 IT helpline available.

The Archaeological Sciences student handbook (available on the Divisional website) lists specific resources useful to archaeology students, including a list of electronic resources produced by the Subject Librarian.

Students are encouraged to join the Archaeological Sciences Society which sponsors social and academic events, and runs a Coffee Bar in our student common room. Students are also encouraged to attend Archaeological Sciences' weekly Research Seminars where prominent scholars from other institutions (and from within Archaeological Sciences) talk on cutting-edge research – a valuable complement to the formal taught component of the programme which is a major benefit of Archaeological Sciences status as a top research department.

Archaeological Sciences is well equipped with teaching and research laboratories for the specialisms covered in the programme and students use these facilities in modules and in dissertation research. Specialised laboratories include: the Biological Anthropology Research Centre (BARC, including the Bradford Human Remains Collection); Northern Isles Research Unit (NARU); the Iron Age Research Laboratory; Conservation laboratory; Geophysics Laboratory; Archaeobotany and archaeozoology research collections. There is also an extensive collection of over 3000 specimens of rock, minerals and fossils to support geology and earth science components of the programme, and the ecology modules are supported by excellent microscope facilities and supporting biological materials. An excellent stock of field equipment is available for use by students, including equipment for geophysical and topographic survey (both conventional and electronic).

**Student Support and Guidance**

**Programme Team**

The nature of teaching, learning and research provision at Master's level (FHEQ level 7) creates an intense working atmosphere, where academic support is largely provided by the Programme Manager, but also by the Head of Postgraduate Studies. Support for you personally and in your programme of study, will be provided both by the University and the Programme Team. The programme manager will act as your personal tutor and can be approached with academic or personal concerns. The School will ensure that there is someone available with whom you feel comfortable to help and support you. You will be provided with a comprehensive series of handbooks that you can consult on a range of learning issues and your module tutors will be available to consult on subject specific queries.
Students' Union

We value the feedback provided by students and collaborate with the Students’ Union, through a system of student representatives and formal Staff Student Liaison Committees, so that any issues you wish to raise are addressed rapidly.

The Students’ Union and the University of Bradford work in partnership to provide confidential counselling and welfare services where you can get help with any aspect of your personal or academic life. Student Financial and Information Services (part of the Hub) will provide you with information about a diverse range of issues such as council tax, personal safety and tourist information. International Students can access a range of additional advice and support services through the Student’s Union.

Employability and Career Development

The University is committed to helping students develop and enhance their employability profile, commitment towards a career pathway(s) and to implementing a career plan.

Professional career guidance and development support is available throughout your time as a student and as a graduate from Career Development Services. The support available from Career Development Services includes a wide range of information resources, one to one appointments, a weekly workshop programme, a mentoring programme, graduate recruitment and careers fairs, plus information and help to you find part time work, summer work placements, internship programmes and graduate/postgraduate entry vacancies. In addition, some students will receive seminars and workshops delivered by Career Development Services as part of their programme of study. All students are encouraged to access Career Development Services at an early stage during their studies and to use the extensive resources available on their web site www.careers.brad.ac.uk.

Career Development Services annually undertakes a survey of all postgraduates to find out their destination six months after graduation. The survey gathers data on the employment and further study routes graduates have entered and a range of other information including job roles, name and location of employers, salary details etc. The survey findings for each programme of study are presented on the programme information pages on the University website and via Career Development Services’ website www.careers.brad.ac.uk.

For this programme specifically, we provide tailored careers advice through the Programme Manager, who is an expert in the field. They will use their experience and professional contacts to assist you in finding employment. For all students, our investment in fieldwork, and our dedicated ‘hands-on’ approach to the teaching of archaeology has ensured that Bradford postgraduates have long been seen as extremely well-grounded in the skills and knowledge that employers look for.

Learner Development Unit for Academic Skills Advice

For postgraduate students on taught programmes who are looking to improve their marks during their time at university, study skills and maths advice is available to all regardless of degree discipline. Students can access a programme of interactive workshops and clinics which is delivered throughout the year. This is in addition to our extremely popular face-to-face guidance from our advisers, who also offer a wide range of online and paper based materials for self-study.
Disability

Disabled students will find a supportive environment at Bradford where we are committed to ensuring that all aspects of student life are accessible to everyone. The Disability Service can help by providing equipment and advice to help you get the most out of your time at Bradford and is a place where you can discuss any concerns you may have about adjustments that you may need, whether these relate to study, personal care or other issues. For more information contact the Disability Service by phoning: 01274 233739 or via email: disabilities@bradford.ac.uk

University policies and initiatives

Ecoversity

Ecoversity is a strategic project of the University which aims to embed the principles of sustainable development into our decision-making, learning and teaching, research activities campus operations and lives of our staff and students. We do not claim to be a beacon for sustainable development but we aspire to become a leading University in this area. The facilities we create for teaching and learning, including teaching spaces, laboratories, IT labs and social spaces, will increasingly reflect our commitments to sustainable development. Staff and student participation in this initiative is crucial to its success and its inclusion in the programme specification is a clear signal that it is at the forefront of our thinking in programme development, delivery, monitoring and review. For more details see www.bradford.ac.uk/ecoversity/.

The University of Bradford and the Faculty of Life Sciences are committed to the principles of Education for Sustainable Development as outlined in the UNESCO definition (see http://info.brad.ac.uk/admin/ecoversity/what-sustainability.php). The programme provides opportunities both to explore the sustainable development challenge and to develop a responsible professionalism. The nature of the Programme in Forensic Archaeology and Crime Scene investigation embraces the principles of responsible science and professionalism by integrating employer engagement (Crime Scene Management) and by emphasising responsible and professional conduct of investigation and reporting within the relevant legal system throughout the curriculum.

Further Information:

For further information, please check the University prospectus or contact Admissions.

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The contents of this programme specification may change, subject to the University's regulations and programme approval, monitoring and review procedures.