

Programme change proposals

At York each degree programme has its own, tailored set of distinctive learning outcomes. These won't change, no matter what your location or mode of delivery, and our academics are working hard to ensure your programmes and modules next year continue to inspire and motivate you.

Your health and safety is our number one priority and in light of the Covid-19 pandemic we have needed to make changes to some of your programmes of study for the coming academic year. This document summarises the changes that are proposed.

Programme(s)	MA in Archaeology of Buildings MA Early Prehistory and Human Origins MSc in Early Prehistory and Human Origins MA in Conservation Studies MA in Conservation Studies (Historic Buildings) MA in Cultural Heritage Management MA in Field Archaeology MA in Funerary Archaeology MSc in Funerary Archaeology MA in Medieval Archaeology MA Prehistoric Landscape Archaeology MA in Historical Archaeology MA in Mesolithic Archaeology MSc in Digital Archaeology MSc in Digital Heritage MSc in Bioarchaeology MSc in Zooarchaeology MA in Material Culture and Experimental Archaeology MSc in Material Culture and Experimental Archaeology MA Roman Archaeology MA Iron Age and Celtic Archaeology MA Sustainability Studies MSc Sustainability Science
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Summary of Overall Plans

Students on our Postgraduate Taught (PGT) programmes will be invited to engage in learning in a variety of ways, with flexibility built in to allow us to maximise face-to-face teaching in line with any shifts in the government guidance on physical distancing.

We are working closely with Timetabling services and Estates Management and will timetable as many sessions as we can into classroom sessions, giving all students some physical face-to-face opportunities. We are working with tabletabling to find the best solutions but space will be limited and it may be that face to face teaching will be located on different campuses. For those students who are not able to attend campus, as well as those who might be self-isolating, we will be providing alternative learning provision online which will usually be a timetabled online version of the classroom based activity.

Lectures will be pre-recorded and put on the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) which will give you the opportunity to watch and digest them at your own pace, and in a way that best suits your working patterns. In addition, other activities for the week, and face-to-face teaching will be provided both in classrooms and online.

We will continue to assess students through a varied range of coursework and specific assessment plans will be available by the start of the module.

Programme Structures

Students will be asked to make option choices in August.

Core 20 credit modules

None of our core 20 credit modules are changing in content. In some cases the lectures will be pre-recorded this summer but seminars will be delivered face-to-face. In addition, staff will be developing activities as part of the weekly homework to link the lectures and seminars. Staff are developing new VLE module pages which will provide clear guidance on what is required each week, with clear directions on reading requirements.

Due to new staff joining the department, we are now able to offer new additional 20 credit modules in Celtic and Iron Age Archaeology and Roman Archaeology that feature on the new MA programmes in these topics. The modules 'Ancient Celts: Archaeology and Identity in Iron Age Europe' and 'Roman Europe' will be taught in the Autumn Term and 'Life and Death in Iron Age Britain and Ireland' and 'Death Burial and Commemoration in the Roman World' will be taught in the Spring Term. These bring significant new choices to period-based specialisms for our postgraduate students.

Skills 5 credits modules

We've made an improvement to the structure of our skills modules. You take two of these each term and they would ordinarily run as two blocks in a term - so you would take skills option 1, then skills option 2. In order to increase the options available to students we are going to run the modules concurrently over 8 weeks not 4.

Given the potential limitations on our timetable, it makes sense for these skills modules to run throughout the term, so you will sit both skills modules at the same time over the whole term. This widens the skills option choices available to students and provides a longer period to develop your learning and understanding of these skills in this changed environment.

Further changes or information of note

None