



The University of Manchester

The University of Manchester

Faculty of Humanities

School of Arts, Languages and Cultures

Department of Classics, Ancient History, Archaeology and
Egyptology

MA Handbook 2022-23

EGYPTOLOGY (ONLINE)



September 2022

Contents	Page
1. Welcome and Introduction	3
2. Egyptology and MA Related Staff within CAHAE	4
3. Programme Aims and Learning Outcomes	5
4. Programme Structure	7
5. Discussion Boards Guidance	8
6. Style Guidance	10
7. Dissertation Guidance	11
8. Student Guidance	11
9. Timetable and Key Dates	12

1. Welcome and Introduction

Welcome to the Department of Classics, Ancient History, Archaeology and Egyptology (CAHAE) at the University of Manchester! You have joined one of the UK's largest and liveliest communities of postgraduate students, and we are delighted that you have chosen to continue your study of the ancient world with us.

Egyptology has a distinguished history at the University of Manchester. The Manchester Museum houses an extensive collection of Egyptian artefacts, which for many decades has attracted scholars worldwide. Egyptology has been taught online at Certificate level within the University since 2007: prior to that, it was taught through the Department of Continuing Education. Today Egyptology is taught CAHAE, within the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures (SALC) in the Faculty of Humanities. We offer a suite of online Egyptology courses including a Certificate, Diploma and MA and several Short Courses. With a student body of about 70 postgraduate students and about 150 other students, taught by three full-time Egyptologists, we are the largest Egyptology department by student numbers in the UK, and one of the largest in the world.

Successful postgraduate study and research depend on excellent resources, a stimulating intellectual environment, and first-class academic support. We offer you all of these in a lively and friendly community of Egyptologists within one of the UK's top research institutions. We look forward to working with you over the coming year and wish you every success in your studies.

For queries relating to individual MA units (including assignment and assessment information) please consult the individual unit handbook. You will find this on the relevant unit Home Page.

2. Egyptology and MA Related Staff within CAHAE

Professor Joyce Tyldesley

Interests Include: The royal women of ancient Egypt from Neithhotep to Cleopatra, and the history of Egyptology.

Email: joyce.tyldesley@manchester.ac.uk

Dr Nicky Nielsen

Interests include: New Kingdom and Late Period Settlement, Material Culture including ceramics, and monumental inscriptions.

Email: nicky.nielsen@manchester.ac.uk

Dr Huw Twiston Davies

Interests include: Egyptian literature, language, and textual culture, textual transmission in ancient Egypt, the *Book of the Dead*, the New Kingdom, and Egyptian religion.

Email: huw.twistondavies@manchester.ac.uk

Maria Calderhead (Postgraduate Administrator CAHAE)

Email: salc-pgt@manchester.ac.uk

Other Useful Contacts

Student Support and Guidance Office: salc-studentsupport@manchester.ac.uk

Disability Advisory and Support Service: dass@manchester.ac.uk

Students' Union Advice Centre: info.su@manchester.ac.uk

Counselling Service: counselling.service@manchester.ac.uk

The Counselling Service website offers a lot of online tools and support:

<https://www.counsellingservice.manchester.ac.uk/>

3. Programme Aims and Learning Outcomes

The Masters in Egyptology provides students with the opportunity to study aspects of ancient Egyptian civilization, history, archaeology and culture, part-time and entirely online. Building on the University of Manchester's reputation for world-leading distance learning courses in Egyptology, the programme allows students to develop a critical approach to data and source material while providing the opportunity to conduct independent research.

Programme Aims

The programme aims have been formulated to provide students with the skills and knowledge necessary to enhance their employability within and outside academia, and to support progression to postgraduate research programmes in Egyptology, archaeology and other heritage fields. The programme will:

1. Provide flexible, part-time study (by distance learning) of Egyptology at a postgraduate (Masters) level.
2. Provide opportunities for:
 - The sustained study and academic progression leading to the award of Masters in Egyptology.
 - The development and demonstration of knowledge and skills that will facilitate progression to further study.
3. Develop the student's:
 - Knowledge of the history, culture, archaeology and language of dynastic Egypt.
 - Skills of critical enquiry and disciplined thinking.
 - Ability to manage time efficiently.
 - Ability to conduct independent research.
 - Ability to disseminate the results of independent research, effectively and appropriately.

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the MA in Egyptology, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the main methods of Egyptological enquiry and research.
- Demonstrate an awareness of the history of Egyptology as a discipline, and its relationship to connected disciplines.
- Use relevant study skills (computer skills, library skills, independent research skills) to construct reasoned academic arguments.
- Present evidence, ideas and arguments clearly, accurately and in the appropriate written format.
- Make sound judgements and develop lines of argument on the basis of existing scholarly theories and concepts of the subject studied.
- Demonstrate a capability for independent research, independent learning and time management.
- Demonstrate an awareness of potential and inherent biases within the source material.
- Demonstrate an ability to use a range of IT tools to create and present work in various formats.

- Conduct independent research: gather, investigate and disseminate evidence.
- Embrace change as an active learner.
- Demonstrate a high level of personal responsibility in terms of time management and the ability to develop an independent learning programme.

4. Programme Structure

Our programme structure reflects the interdisciplinary nature of Egyptology and Egyptian archaeology. It includes the history of the development of Egyptology, hieroglyphs and literature studies, and units on art, urbanism and religion. Students develop their own pathway through the Programme in consultation with the Programme Directors, in such a way as to achieve both coherence of structure, the furtherance of their own interests, and preparation for the future.

The Egyptology MA Programme is split between two years of study, each offering 90 credits (180 credits in total). It functions as follows:

Year 1

The theme of Year 1 is Communication

You will take two mandatory research skills units to help you formulate an effective research strategy for your dissertation and further academic career, alongside three mandatory units on significant aspects of Egyptian culture, history and archaeology.

In addition you will be automatically registered for “ALC61250 Wellbeing & Diversity course for PGT students”. The university would like all postgraduate students to complete this brief module, but it is not compulsory.

Semester 1

Academic Skills and Research Design in Egyptian Archaeology Part 1 (30 credits)

Social Studies in Ancient Egypt (15 credits)

Semester 2

Academic Skills and Design in Egyptian Archaeology Part 2 (15 credits)

Art and Artists in Ancient Egypt (15 credits)

Urbanism and Ancient Egypt (15 credits)

Year 2

The theme of Year 2 is Research

In Semester 1 you will select two units from the list below:

Ancient Egyptian Religion and Funerary Beliefs (15 credits)

Identity and the Individual in Ancient Egypt (15 credits)

The Amarna Period (15 credits)

Fast-track Middle Egyptian (15 credits)

In Semester 2 you will research and write a dissertation based on a topic agreed with your supervisor.

Dissertation (60 credits).

5. Discussion Boards Guidance

Our MA programme employs the Socratic method of teaching and learning. This encourages dialogue between individuals based on the asking and answering of questions to stimulate critical thinking and draw out ideas and underlying presuppositions. Egyptology, where even simple questions rarely have a simple or single answer, is well-suited to this method of teaching and learning, and our asynchronous discussion boards are the ideal place to conduct this type of pedagogic discussion at MA level.

However, this method of teaching and learning relies heavily on the cooperation of students, who have to be prepared to engage in informed discussion while respecting the views and personalities of others. Students are certainly not expected to agree with everything posted, either by fellow students or by programme tutors. We welcome discussion on all matters relevant to ancient Egypt, and are also happy to answer questions about programme structure, the choice of activities and readings etc. But it is expected that all discussion board participants will post their questions, responses and comments in an appropriately respectful manner. It is possible to challenge another person's ideas without attacking or seeming to attack that person.

Posting Rules

In order to allow discussion to flourish, it is important that students adhere to the following basic discussion board rules:

- Always be polite and respectful to and about your fellow students.
- Always be polite and respectful to and about your tutors.
- Every post should be of interest to others, or should be intended to generate discussion.
- Do not use slang, abbreviations or sarcasm as these can be difficult for everyone to understand. Remember, many of our students do not have English as their first language.
- Do not dominate the discussion board. Allow others "space" to participate.
- Be tolerant of other posting styles. Students of different ages and from different cultural backgrounds use electronic communication in different ways, with some traditionally using long and elaborate formats and others being more abrupt.

If you feel that someone has made an inappropriate post, please notify Joyce Tyldesley by email: joyce.tyldesley@manchester.ac.uk

Offensive and Vexatious Posts

Occasionally, students make posts that are likely to disrupt to the flow of the discussion boards. These posts may include, but are not necessarily be limited to:

- Offensive posts (including but not limited to sexism, racism, bullying, homophobia and rudeness).
- Vexatious posts (including but not limited to posts which prevent the normal function of the discussion board).

It may be that there is no underlying intention to be offensive or vexatious. However, whatever the underlying motives, posts that disrupt the teaching and learning process cannot be allowed to continue. The procedure for dealing with such posts is as follows:

Offensive Posts

- On receipt of a complaint by either a member of staff or a student, the Egyptology Online sub-department will meet to review the relevant evidence.
- Post(s) deemed to be offensive will be deleted from the discussion board. A copy will be retained.
- An email will be sent to the student concerned, outlining the problem and suggesting ways that future posts should be presented.
- If the problem continues, the student deemed to be exhibiting offensive behaviour will be allocated to a separate discussion board and the matter will be reported to either the SALC Lead on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion or the CAHAE Head of Department (whichever is the more appropriate) for review and action.

Vexatious Posts

- On receipt of a complaint by either a member of staff or a student, the Egyptology Online sub-department will meet to review the relevant evidence.
- Post(s) deemed to be vexatious will be deleted from the discussion board. A copy will be retained.
- An email will be sent to the student concerned, outlining the problem and suggesting ways that future posts should be presented.
- If the problem continues, the student deemed to be exhibiting vexatious behaviour will be allocated to a separate discussion board and the matter will be reported to either the CAHAE Senior Tutor or the CAHAE Head of Department (whichever is the more appropriate) for review and action.

6. Style Guidance

A high standard of presentation is one of the criteria for assessment of all pieces of academic written work within CAHAE, whether a first-year undergraduate essay or a Ph.D. thesis. Some basic information is provided here. Individual unit assignments will provide specific style guidelines. More general guidance on presentation and referencing may be found on the Community board.

Make sure that you understand and follow the specific requirements for each piece of coursework that you submit; if you are in any doubt, ask via the unit discussion board.

Where referencing is required (please check individual unit assignment requirements), **you must use the Harvard referencing system**. This is fully explained on the Community board. There are several acceptable variations in the Harvard system, so make sure that you are consistent in your presentation, and pay particular attention to the use of punctuation, spaces, parentheses and italics.

Bibliography

Unless instructed otherwise, you should end each piece of assessed work with a **bibliography** listing all the items of modern scholarly literature cited in your text. Items should be listed alphabetically by author's surname. There is no need to list works of ancient literature (e.g. Herodotus) in your bibliography, although you must list any translations or commentaries that you have used. Your bibliography should only list sources cited in your text – it is not an extended reading list.

Citations and Quotations

If you use an argument from an expert, book or article, this must be acknowledged in your work. Acknowledgement is made by citing your source. This citation must be placed inside parentheses in your main text, and a full reference must be added to your bibliography. Referencing is more fully explained on the Community board.

Avoid constant **quotation** from the same work. If you do quote from a modern author, acknowledge your source. Failure to give proper acknowledgement of a source that you have used may be deemed to constitute plagiarism.

7. Dissertation Guidance

Year 2 Semester 2 is dedicated to researching and writing a dissertation. Further details of this requirement may be found on the dedicated dissertation unit board. During this Semester you will be offered up to three Zoom meetings with your dissertation Supervisor, which you will use to discuss your research topic and any issues which arise from it.

Successful completion of a written dissertation proposal – the unit assignment for *Academic Skills and Research Design in Egyptian Archaeology Part 2* in Year 1 Semester 2 – is the compulsory pre-requisite for the completion and submission of the MA dissertation in Year 2 Semester 2. Further details relating to this requirement are provided on the *Academic Skills and Research Design in Egyptian Archaeology Part 2* board.

8. Student Guidance

All CAHAE students are assigned a personal tutor who is available to deal with academic and pastoral issues. The personal tutors for MA students in Egyptology are Professor Joyce Tyldesley, Dr Nicky Nielsen and Dr Huw Twiston Davies. You should feel free to contact them either through the unit boards (for general and work-related matters) or by email (for private and personal matters). If you need advice or clarification on any academic matter, do please seek help straight away.

If you have an administrative query concerning the MA programme, you should contact Maria Calderhead at: salc-pgt@manchester.ac.uk

If you would like to discuss anything with a non-academic member of staff, the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures has a dedicated Student Support Office, which offers impartial advice on academic, financial and personal issues:
<https://www.alc.manchester.ac.uk/study/student-support/>

9. Timetable and Key Dates

The MA Egyptology programme is taught entirely online, with eleven learning modules being released on a weekly basis during term time. Learning modules include lectures, readings, Activity work and other relevant learning materials. The programme is taught asynchronously. Students are expected to work through the learning modules at their own pace at a time convenient to them, although it is expected that Activity work will be completed and posted to the discussion board within two weeks of release.

Key dates are as follows:

Semester 1

- “Community” opens Saturday 10 September
- Teaching starts: Monday 26 September 2022
- Reading Week: Week 6
- Coursework submission date (Years 1 and 2): Friday 13 January 2023

Semester 2

- Teaching starts: Monday 30 January 2023
- Coursework submission date (Year 1): Friday 19 May 2023
- Resubmitted Coursework (Years 1 and 2): Monday 21 August 2023
- Dissertation submission date (Year 2): Monday 04 September 2023

Submission of coursework and dissertation

Students must submit their coursework and dissertation via the appropriate Turnitin submission area by midday (12pm) UK time (either GMT or BST) on set submission deadlines. The submission area is located on the unit Blackboard (left hand menu).

Failure to submit by the deadline will generate a late submission penalty. Please see the School's late submission penalty information in the School PGT Handbook here:

Page 51: <https://documents.manchester.ac.uk/display.aspx?DocID=14089>

If you are registered on units outside of the School, you should ensure that you are aware of the penalties that will be imposed for late course work submission for that School. Schools may operate different penalty schemes for late submission.