

Understanding Artefacts

Module Code:	ARC5026-B
Academic Year:	2018-19
Credit Rating:	20
School:	School of Archaeological and Forensic Sciences
Subject Area:	Archaeology
FHEQ Level:	FHEQ Level 5
Module Leader:	Dr Benjamin Jennings

Additional Tutors:

Professor Ian Armit, Dr Stephen Dockrill, Mr Robert Janaway, Dr Catherine Batt, Dr Randolph Donahue, Dr Adrian Evans, Dr Julie Bond, Dr Benjamin Stern, Dr Benjamin Jennings

Pre-requisites:

Co-requisites:

Contact Hours

Type	Hours
Lectures	24
Practical classes and	12
Supervised time in	8
Laboratory	4
Directed Study	152

Availability Periods

Occurrence	Location/Period
BDA	University of Bradford / Semester 1 (Sep - Jan)

Module Aims

To provide an understanding of the potential of artefacts for addressing fundamental questions in archaeology. To allow students to identify, select and differentiate between different methods of recording and illustrating (for example line drawing versus 3D

scanning) different types of artefact. To allow students to select and use post-excavation strategies for recording, conservation and long-term of storage of artefacts. To provide students with the experience to interpret basic summary data concerning artefacts, which may include typologies, post-excavation assemblage reports, and scientific analytical data. To provide the theoretical framework and practical experience for working with assemblages of artefacts in order to answer broader archaeological questions, such as issues of production, consumption, trade and exchange, and identity.

Outline Syllabus

The module will discuss approaches to the post-excavation research of artefacts, which may include identification and recording; artefact handling; artefact classification; artefact condition and survival; putting together an assessment report; differing approaches to illustrating artefacts, including drawing, photography and 3D scanning; theoretical approaches to the production and consumption of artefacts; conservation and curation post-excavation; approaches to the use of scientific analysis of artefacts; practical scientific analysis of artefacts; and the interpretation of scientific data from the analysis of artefacts; and the investigation of theoretical concepts such as identify, prestige and iconography through discussion and interpretation of evidence from artefacts.

Module Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module, students will be able to...

- 1 Determine specific issues with appropriate methodologies for recording, illustrating and curating artefacts.
- 2 Select and use appropriate theoretical approaches to artefact studies to address archaeological questions.
- 3 Examine the benefits of, and problems associated with, the scientific analysis of archaeological artefacts.
- 4 Demonstrate team work and collaboration through formative assessment.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy

Lectures, workshops, laboratory practicals, and supervised time in workshops/studios.

The portfolio will consolidate the learning and the students' understanding will be measured by set tasks and reflective commentary from aspects across broader areas of the module, while the coursework critique will assess depth of knowledge and understanding within specific areas of the module.

The supplementary assessment will address the broad range of module content through the formulation of appropriate essay titles.

During directed study hours students are expected to undertake reading to consolidate and expand on the content of formal taught sessions; research and prepare for seminars; research and prepare for assessments; revise material from formal taught sessions; and undertake specific elements of reading as directed.

Mode of Assessment

Type	Method	Description	Length	Weighting	Final Assess'
Formative	Presentation	Group presentation on data interpretation exercise	10 minutes	%	No
Summative	Coursework	A tripartite critique of an artefact report, incorporating a critique of an artefact report from the publication of an excavation, a critique of how that artefact report contributes to the wider understanding of the site, and a critique of how the...	0-2400 words	60%	Yes
Summative	Coursework	Portfolio of advanced set tasks including recording, illustration and presentation of assemblage data	0-1600 words	40%	No

Legacy Code (if applicable)

Reading List

To view Reading List, please go to [rebus:list](#).