1. **Title of the module**

MEMS8880(MT888)

Palæography and Codicology: an introduction to manuscript studies

1. **School or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module**

MEMS

1. **The level of the module (Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)**

Level 7

1. **The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents**

15 credits / 7.5 ECTS

1. **Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)**

Autumn (plus 3 hour workshop held in Spring, twice, once in Canterbury and once in Paris)

1. **Prerequisite and co-requisite modules**

None

1. **The programmes of study to which the module contributes**

MEMS MA

1. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**
2. Appreciate how the physical form of the book and its script encodes information about its purpose, production and use.
3. Demonstrate awareness of the fundamental stages in the history of Latin palaeography from antiquity to the early modern period.
4. Show competence in transcribing texts in a variety of scripts.
5. Show competence in identifying and analysing scripts.
6. Appreciate the fundamentals of providing a technical description of manuscript products.
7. Demonstrate an understanding of the status of manuscripts in the medieval and post-medieval world.
8. **The intended generic learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**
9. Have confidence in their mastery of the fundamental study skill of identifying and reading multiple scripts
10. Show the critical acumen to organise information by date and place through the use of palaeographical knowledge
11. Appreciate that the materiality of any written artefact provides an important primary source open to individual research
12. Recognise the methods of reasoning involved in making a palaeographical identification
13. Show enhanced skills of analysis achieved through managing their own learning in a supportive environment
14. Demonstrate mastery of the essential palaeographical and codicology vocabulary.
15. Show close acquaintance with the specific requirements of presenting palaeographical and codicological scholarship.
16. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

Our cultural heritage is defined by the legacy of manuscript artefacts. Those books and documents carry with them multiple pieces of information — more so than any printed book — that help decipher not just the meaning of their texts but also of their purpose and history. This module introduces you to the long history of that culture and, in particular, will give you the technical tools to make use of these sources. You will learn to read a variety of scripts and to appreciate the cultural contexts in which they were used (Latin palaeography, so called because the scripts — whatever the language — derive from the practices of ancient Rome); you will also study the book as object, understanding the elements of its make-up and what they can tell us about the society in which it was made and used (codicology).

1. **Reading list (Indicative list, current at time of publication. Reading lists will be published annually)**

B. Bischoff, *Latin* *Palaeography: Antiquity and the Middle Ages* (Cambridge, 1990), trans. D. Ó Cróinín and D. Ganz.

E. M. Thompson, *An Introduction to Greek and Latin Palaeography* (Oxford, 1912).

M. P. Brown, *A Guide to Western Historical Scripts from Antiquity to 1600* (London, 1990).

J. Roberts, *Guide to Scripts Used in English Writings up to 1500* (London, 2006).

G. E. Dawson and L. Yeandle, *Elizabethan Handwriting 1500-1650*, rev. ed. (Chichester, 1981).

Students will also be directed to online resources, in particular digitised manuscripts at, eg, the British Library and the Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana websites.

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

Contact hours: 47

Private study: 103 hours.

Total: 150 hours

1. **Assessment methods**
   1. Main assessment methods

Assessment will be by four elements:

1. Transcriptions (two marks, weighted equally at 10% each, total of 20%)
2. Manuscript Description (20%)
3. Exam (2 hr) (20%)
4. A term paper (2,500 words) (40%)

13.2 Reassessment methods

Choose one from the following:

100% coursework

1. ***Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods (section 12) and methods of assessment (section 13)***

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 8.5 | 8.6 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 | 9.4 | 9.5 | 9.6 | 9.7 |
| **Learning/ teaching method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Private Study** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Seminars | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Transcriptions |  |  | **x** | **x** |  |  | **x** |  |  | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Description | **x** |  | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  |  | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Exam | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** | **x** |  | **x** |  | **x** | **x** |
| Essay | **x** | **x** |  |  | **x** | **x** |  |  | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |

1. **Inclusive module design**

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

a) Accessible resources and curriculum

b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods

The module convenor is available to provide private consultation and the relevant support systems are flagged up to students. The visits to archives will be undertaken aware of any mobility issues, though medieval buildings like Canterbury Cathedral often require an exemption from DDA compliance.

1. **Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered**

Canterbury / Paris

1. **Internationalisation**

This module is necessarily international in its coverage. That feature is enhanced further by the fact that those students who take the Paris MA will be able to complete their manuscript description using French libraries

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**Revision record – all revisions must be recorded in the grid and full details of the change retained in the appropriate committee records.**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date approved | Major/minor revision | Start date of delivery of revised version | Section revised | Impacts PLOs (Q6&7 cover sheet) |
| 21/11/2019 | Major | Autumn 2020 | 5,12,13,14,16,17 | Yes |
|  |  |  |  |  |