

MSc in Genealogical, Palaeographic and Heraldic Studies (full time – 18 month)

Appendix VI: Timetables 2026-2028

MSc Total 180 SCQF Level 11 credits (1800 hours)

Notes	The course is ONLINE ONLY and uses the Strathclyde VLE called MyPlace. There are mandatory online tutorial sessions throughout the course.					
M1 Professional practice and methodologies 1 (LL927)	M3 Repositories, geography and administration 1 (LL945)		M5 Property, law and inheritance 1 (LL944)			
M2 Civil and church records 1 (LL943)	M4 Family history studies and overseas records 1 (LL915)		M6 Heraldry and Latin 1 (LL942)			

Semester 1 Starts Friday 18 Sep 2026 – NOTE: There will be an optional online induction period which will provide access to MyPlace (the University's virtual learning environment) beginning 11 September 2026.

SESSION	Materials and Release dates							Tutorial Days	Assignments Due		
	Note that materials are typically available on a Friday, to be discussed at the next Tutorial. Assignments for submission are normally on a Monday. Where Fridays/Mondays are Scottish public holidays, this has been taken into account.										
M1 C1	Introduction	Friday 18 Sep	C0 Welcome and admin. Course introduction, IT, e-mail and MyPlace (VLE)	C1.1 Aims and objectives of genealogical research	C1.2 Ethics (including adoption)	C1.3 Analysis of evidence & genealogical standards	C1.4 Search strategies	C1.5 Palaeography 1	C1.6 Research planning	Wed 30 Sept	C1A Mon 05 Oct
M1 C2	Genealogical practice	Fri 18 Sep	C2.1 Gathering family information	C2.2 Recording genealogical data; producing reports and charts	C2.3 Referencing, record keeping and indexing	C2.4 Genealogy software	C2.5 Client reports	C2.6 Business practice/Professional bodies		Wed 7 Oct Wed 14 Oct	C2A Mon 12 Oct

A1 – First Assessment due by Mon 26 Oct 2026– Construction of various genealogical reports (released 02 October)

M2 C3	Civil records and census substitutes	Fri 09 Oct	C3.1 UK censuses before and after 1841 (except Ireland)	C3.2 Census substitutes	C3.3 Statutory registration in Scotland	C3.4 Using Statutory Civil Registers (SRs) (Scotland)	C3.5 Civil registration in England and Wales	C3.6 Using English and Welsh civil registration records	Wed 28 Oct	C3A Mon 26 Oct
M2 C4	Church records	Fri 09 Oct	C4.1 Old Parish Records in Scotland	C4.2 Records of other Scottish churches	C4.3 Using church records in England and Wales	C4.4 Death records (Burial records and Monumental Inscriptions)	C4.5 Principles of DNA testing		No tutorial	C4A Mon 09 Nov

A2 – Second Assessment due by Mon 23 Nov 2026– A 4-generation ancestor study (released 16 October) Optional in person student event (Glasgow/Edinburgh): TBA November 2026

M3 C5	Searching and repositories	Fri 06 Nov	C5.1 Catalogues, genealogical literature and journals		C5.2 Using archives (including Scottish, English and private and family archives)	C5.3 Copyright law, freedom of information and data protection laws	C5.4 Local directories, newspaper archives, photographic archives	Wed 18 Nov	Mon 23 Nov
M3 C6	Administrative and commercial organisation	Fri 06 Nov	C6.1 Local government, burghs and counties	C6.2 Maps (incorporating tithe maps and apportionments)	C6.3 Burghs, burgesses and guilds in Scotland and England	C6.4 Money & coinage, weight & measure	C6.5 Dates and calendars	Wed 02 Dec	Mon 07 Dec

A3 – Third Assessment due by Weds 06 Jan 2027– A 4-generation descendant study (released 13 November)

M4 C7	Personal records	Fri 20 Nov	C7.1 Education & occupations	C7.2 Armed forces	C7.3 Surnames	C7.4 Genetic genealogy: autosomal testing	C7.5 Genetic genealogy: Y-DNA testing	Wed 09 Dec		Wed 06 Jan
M4 C8	Social organisation; overseas records	Fri 20 Nov	C8.1 Feudalism, nobility and landed gentry	C8.2 Demography, family origins, social framework, class distinction, family and community studies	C8.3 Irish records	C8.4 Emigration / immigration	C8.5 USA sources	C8.6 Canadian sources	Wed 06 Jan	Mon 11 Jan

A4 – Fourth Assessment due by Mon 25 Jan 2027– A narrative report (released 04 December)

M5 C9	Property and law - England	Mon 04 Jan	C9.1 Palaeography 2	C9.2 Wills and inheritance: England and Wales	C9.3 Land records in England and Wales	C9.4 Ecclesiastical law in England	C9.5 Other English records, charters, etc.	Wed 13 Jan	Mon 25 Jan
M5 C10	Property and law - Scotland	Mon 04 Jan	C10.1 Landholding and land records in Scotland	C10.2 Courts and legal systems in Scotland	C10.3 Wills, testaments and inventories in Scotland	C10.4 Other Scottish documents and Legal Scots		Wed 10 Feb	Mon 08 Feb

A5 – Fifth Assessment due by Mon 15 Feb 2027– A transcription/palaeography/inheritance of land & genetic genealogy exercise (released 04 January)

M6 C11	Heraldry	Friday 22 Jan	C11.1 Genealogical and historical context, origins and intentions of heraldry		C11.2 Heraldic devices, composition and law	C11.3 Heraldic registers and visitations; heraldic literature		Wed 17 Feb	Mon 22 Feb
M6 C12	Latin and palaeography	Friday 22 Jan	C12.1 Latin for genealogy and family history		C12.2 Latin translation for real	C12.3 Palaeography 3		Wed 24 Feb	Mon 08 Mar

A6 – Sixth Assessment due by Mon 08 Mar 2027 – An options exercise: client study/palaeography/heraldry (released 22 January) Learning Log due by Mon 15 Mar 2027

NOTE: Semester one ends 08th March. The University closes TBC (poss: Wednesday 22 December 2026, reopens Tuesday 05 January 2027). This timetable is subject to change.

Semester 2: starts Friday 12 March 2027

M1 (LL914)	Methods of Professional Enquiry is a University requirement for those undertaking postgraduate study. This Unit provides practical skills in record keeping, analysis of evidence, and academic research methods, standards and writing. There are formative assignments which are milestones towards the Dissertation.
M2 (LL925)	There are seven tutorial topics, each of which has an Assignment. In addition, a learning log must be completed and submitted.
M3 (LL913)	This module concerns itself with the understanding, transcription and (occasionally) translation of important classes of older documents. There are five Études. The Area Étude could be a parish, registration district, street, village, etc, across time or a focus on an aspect of ancestral tourism; the House/Building Étude could be an occupied building of any sort, across time, in any location chosen; the Options Étude is a choice from an emigration/immigration, heraldry, DNA or palaeography study. The Client Report Étude involves finding a “client” for whom you will construct a professional Family Report. The others are set Document Études.

Note that materials are typically available on a Friday, to be discussed at a Tutorial session. Assignments for submission are normally on a Monday.

SESSION	Materials and Release dates			Milestones	Tentative Tutorial Days
	M1 Methods of professional enquiry LL914	M2 Genealogy, heraldry and social history 2 (LL925) - Tutorial topics	M3 Documents, palaeography and research studies 2 (LL946)		
D1	Archive administration & intro to academic research Part 1 materials released 12 March 2027	Genetic Genealogy Released Friday 12 March 2027 Due Mon 05 Apr	Introduction to Études and documents Released Friday 12 March 2027 (no assignment)		Wed 10 Mar Wed 17 Mar
D2	Reflective exercise – Due Mon 05 April	Irish records in depth Released Friday 12 March 2027 Due Mon 26 Apr	Document Étude 2 (Scottish) [This is a group project] Released 12 March 2027 Group agreement Due Tues 30 Mar Due Mon 12 Apr		Wed 24Mar
D3	Critical reading/Literature searching & reviews Part 2 materials released 09 April 2027	U.S. and Canada sources Released Friday 12 March 2027 Due Mon 10 May	Document Étude 1 (English) Released 12 March 2027 Due Tues 04 May	Brief Research Proposal (500 words) Submit Mon 05 July	Wed 7 Apr
D4	Critical Reading Exercise – Due Mon 10 May	British Empire sources Released Friday 12 March 2027 Due Mon 24 May	Area or House/building Étude Released 12 March 2027 Due Mon 24 May		Wed 21 Apr
D5	Literature Search – Due Mon 17 May	Australian and NZ sources Released Friday 23 April 2027 Due Mon 07 June	Client Report Étude Released 12 March 2027 Due Mon 21 June	Learning log Submit Mon 26 Jul	Wed 05 May
D6	Research Methods/Questions/Scoping Part 3 materials released 07 May 2027	European, Jewish sources Released Friday 23 April 2027 Due Mon 22 June	Options Étude Released 12 March 2027 Due Tues 20 July		Wed 19 May
D7	Brief Research Proposal - Due Mon 05 July	Heraldry/mediaeval genealogy Released Friday 23 April 2027 Due Mon 12 July			Wed 09 June
	This timetable is subject to change				

MSc in Genealogical, Palaeographic and Heraldic Studies 2026-28 – This tier of the MSc is worth 60 SCQF Level 11 credits (600 hours) on its own. This starts in Semester 3 (Fri 17 Sept 2027) but there are “Milestones” within Semester 2. The major submission is the Dissertation itself (12,000-16,000) words plus a consolidated learning log, both to be submitted in early March but with mileposts to reach along the way. There is online tutor guidance on academic writing, study and research skills, etc.

MSc SUBMISSION DATES Semester 3			This timetable is subject to change
All materials released during Semester 2	Due dates	Tutorial Days in Semester 3	
			Tutorial sessions in the dissertation semester are mainly one to one sessions with your MSc tutor. Days and times to be set up in agreement with tutor and student.
Semester 3 starts	Fri 17 Sept 2027	Probably: 22 Sept 2027	Joint tutorial session introducing the dissertation semester
Research plan & Ethics Form (1500 words)	Mon 04 Oct		
Personal prof. development plan	Mon 08 Nov		
Draft literature review	Mon 22 Nov		
Interim report	Mon 10 Jan 2028		
Optional submission of dissertation outline and/or draft chapters (up to 2 further chapters beyond the lit. review) as these are written, but usually no later than the indicated date here...	Mon 21 Feb 2028		
Dissertation (12,000-16,000 words)	Mon 27 Mar 2028		
Dissertation submission form	Mon 27 Mar		
Record of contacts (supervision log)	Mon 03 Apr		
Learning/research log	Mon 03 Apr		
Examinations Board meets early June			
Graduation (July)			