

Postgraduate Online Learning Open Days 2025

Cultural Heritage Futures

Dr Chiara Bonacchi



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Edinburgh Futures Institute

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Cultural Heritage Futures

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School of History, Classics and Archaeology

Dr Arturo Rey da Silva

School of History, Classics and Archaeology

With UK-based and international heritage partners



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Study at Edinburgh Futures Institute

Interdisciplinary

Bringing arts, humanities and social sciences together with sciences, engineering and medicine to address complex global issues.

Participatory and porous

Inviting diverse groupings to bring their ways of working and thinking together. EFI extends this invitation to industry, the public and government.

Critical and research-led

Working on pressing social issues that require new ways of thinking. Mindful of the role of universities in confronting uncomfortable questions.

Future-facing

Embracing the non-traditional, the untried and the unexpected. EFI defines challenges and co-creates responses to build better futures.



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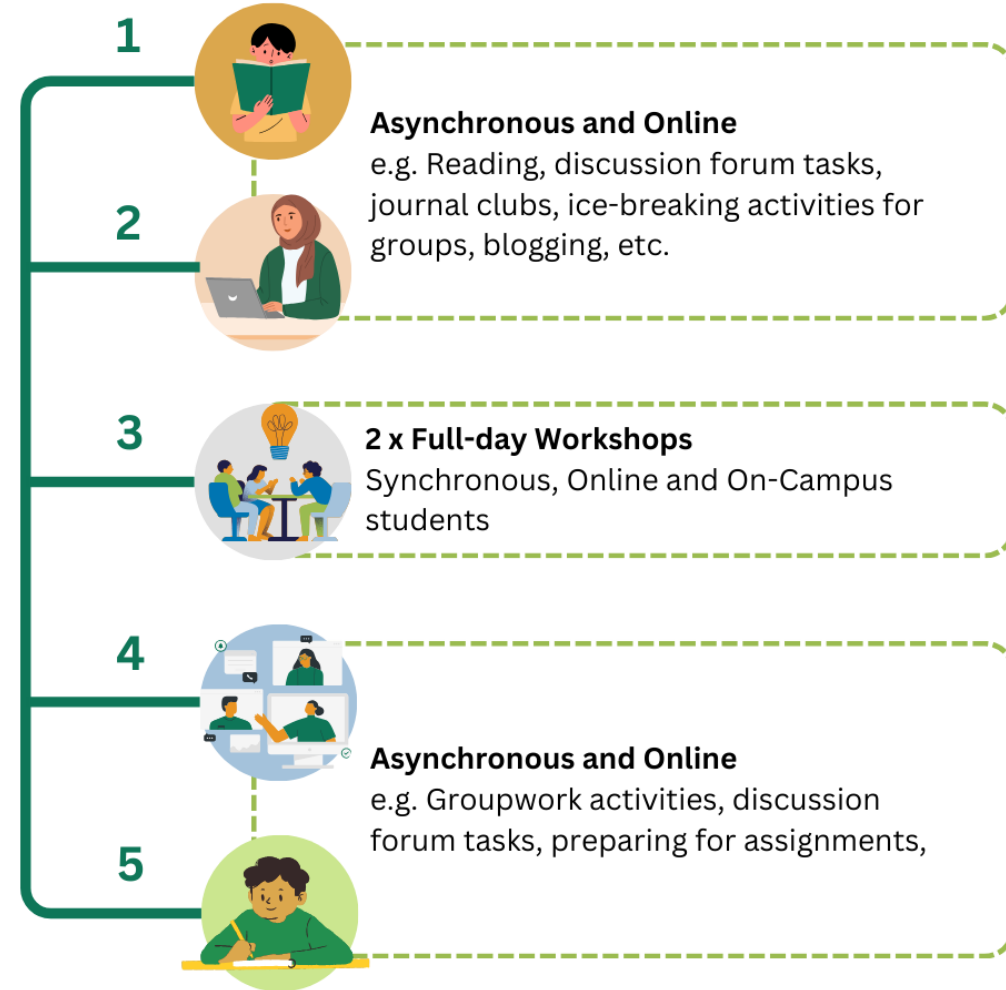
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Fusion Teaching

- breaking down the online/on-campus distinction
- community-focused: bringing students from across the world together as a single cohort
- accessible: most courses are taught in five week blocks, with online activities and a two day long intensive sessions (09:00-17:00 Edinburgh local time)
- connected: employers work with us on the design and teaching of our programmes and help support projects

Intensive Course Timeline

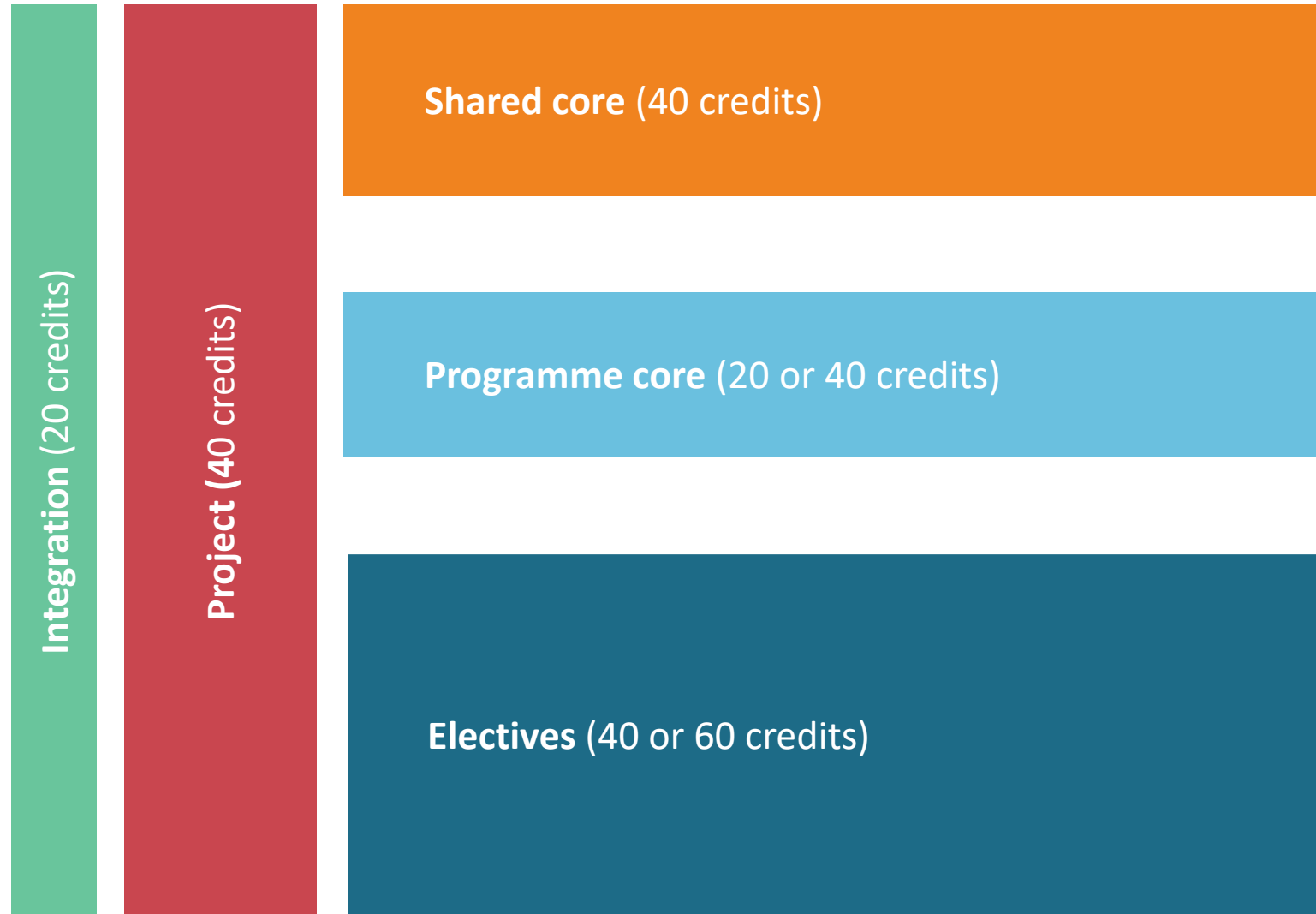
Weeks



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Our MSc Programme Structure



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Our Core Courses

Futures Methods

Practical skills to apply cutting-edge futures and foresight methods and tools across diverse fields

Insights Through Data

Data science foundations, analytic and programming skills

or

Text Remix

Basic programming and creative skills

Representing Data

Programming and maker skills for data visualization and physicalisation

or

Building Near Futures

Futures methods and responses shared in a public-facing format

Ethical Data Futures

The ethical dimensions of contemporary data practices



Skills Focused

Working in cross-disciplinary teams with students from other Futures Institute programmes, you will learn critical data skills, ethical awareness, creative thinking, and methods to address complex issues:

- collect, manage and analyse computational datasets
- use emerging methodologies for mapping and designing possible futures
- learn the fundamentals of data ethics
- learn how to use creative skills in the analysis and representation of data-informed and qualitative inquiry



The Student Experience

- global and diverse cohort, on campus and online
- a very well supported experience with a dedicated student experience and support team
- events and networks to connect with each other



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The Opportunity

Develop Unique Expertise

- Understand how the past shapes who we are and how we think as individuals and societies.
- Learn how to interpret, manage, research heritage collections and places to address pressing social and environmental challenges at local to global scale.



The Future of Heritage

Your Future

- The MSc Cultural Heritage Futures has been designed to shape the future of the heritage sector.
- Through this interdisciplinary and challenge-driven programme, you will become a creative heritage professional committed to data-informed innovation with social purpose.



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A Rich Portfolio

Design your pathway

Critical Heritage: Politics of the Past

Heritage Practice and Global Challenges

Heritage Places, Policies and Diplomacies

Sensing the Past: Intimacy and heritage as an ethical practice

Heritage Environments and Climate Change

Heritage, Data, Activism

Future Library and Archive Collections

Wikipedia and the Past

Video Games and XR for Inclusive Heritages

Biocultural Heritage for Just and Sustainable Futures



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Learn with Experts

Build Industry Connections

- World-leading academics in cultural heritage
- High-profile heritage partners in Edinburgh, Scotland, the UK and internationally
- UNESCO, ICOMOS, ICOM, Aliph, Historic Environment Scotland, Historic England, Museum of London Archaeology...



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Your Career

- Working in cultural heritage
- Academic path through a PhD
- Work as a private consultant, or for local, national and international heritage bodies and organisations
- Roles such as site management, policy officer, heritage interpretation development, public engagement officer/manager, digital communications and social media officer/manager

Types of employers might include:

Universities and research organisations, heritage management agencies (HES, HE, World Monument Fund, UNESCO), heritage sites and museums, archives, archaeological units, cultural, social and innovation policy consultancies, local and national government, charities...



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Questions?

- for further queries contact: **efi.education@ed.ac.uk**
- visit the EFI website: **<https://efi.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate-study>**
- search for 'Edinburgh Futures Institute' on our degree finder: **<https://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/postgraduate/degrees>**



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Join us to **challenge, create**, and make **change** happen.



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