University student lecture notes in Special Collections
Andrew MacGregor, May 2018
QG HCOL039 [https://www.abdn.ac.uk/special-collections/documents/guides/qghcol039.pdf]

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Introduction
Many individuals have deposited their papers with the University; as a result it has acquired an unrivalled collection of material not solely relating to the history and culture of the north-east of Scotland but also of national and international importance.

Student lecture notes are indispensable resources to illustrate what was being taught at the University and also at other universities in Europe. The notes may be important for information on an individual student, but more often the notes are utilised for researching the teaching methods of famous teaching staff.

Please note that this factsheet should be consulted in conjunction with the factsheet QG HCOL040: University student resources in Special Collections.

University of Aberdeen lecture notes
Arranged by name of lecturer
Lecture notes of John Anderson, on logic (copy), taken by James Brodie: 1711 – 1712 (MS 3105).

Lecture notes of Alexander Bain, on logic, taken by an unknown student: 1860 – 1861 (MS 3863).

Lecture notes of James Beattie, on moral philosophy, taken by various students: 1766 - 1780 (MS 3977).

Lecture notes of James Beattie, on ‘Elements of Moral Philosophy’, taken down by an unknown student: late 18th century (MS 2065).

Lecture notes of James Beattie, on moral philosophy, taken by Joseph Troup: 1796 – 1797 (MS 2901).

Lecture notes of James Beattie jnr., on ancient history and natural history, taken by William Knight: 1799 - 1800 (MS 3980 & MS 3981).

Lecture notes of [James Beattie jnr.], on natural history, taken by David Shirrefs: 1806 - 1807 (MS 2781).

Lecture notes of William Black, on logic, taken by an unknown student: 1691 - 1692 (MS 3919).

Lecture notes of William Black, on metaphysics, ethics and geography taken by an unknown student: 1692 - 1693 (MS 3920).

Lecture notes of [William Black], on logic, taken by David Kinloch: 1702 – 1703 (MS 2859).

Lecture notes of [William Blackhall], on logic, taken by Andrew Cant: c. 1641 - 1642 (MS 3077).

Lecture notes of George Campbell, on theology, taken by Robert Eden Scott: 1786 – 1787 (MS 3982).

Lecture notes of Thomas Clark, on chemistry, taken by Alexander Bain: 1840 – 1841 (MS 4009 & MS 4010).

Lecture notes of Patrick Copland, on natural philosophy, taken by Duncan Davidson: 1789 – 1790 (MS 2996).

Lecture notes of Patrick Copland, on natural philosophy, taken by William Knight: 1800 – 1801 (MS 3995, MS 3996 & MS 3997).

Lecture notes of Patrick Copland, on natural philosophy, taken by Robert Wilson: 1803 (MS 438 – MS 439).

Lecture notes of Patrick Copland, on natural philosophy, taken by John Mitchell: 1807 – 1808 (MS 2944).

Lecture notes of Patrick Copland, on natural philosophy, taken by William Duncan: 1812 – 1813 (MS 3016).

Lecture notes of Patrick Copland, on natural philosophy, by William Corbet: 1814 – 1815 (MS 3968).

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Lecture notes of Patrick Copland, on natural philosophy, taken by William Strachan: 1819 – 1820 (MS 3997).

Lecture notes of John Cruickshank, on mathematics, taken by James Hay: 1836 – 1837 (MS 3970).

Lecture notes of John Cruickshank, on mathematics and theology, taken by Alexander Warrack: 1852 – 1854 (MS 4011).

Lecture notes of James Davidson, on natural and civil history, taken by William Mercer: 1826 (MS 3971).

Lecture notes of James Davidson, on natural and civil history, taken by William Watson: 1833 – 1834 (MS 3999).

Lecture notes of James Davidson, on natural and civil history, taken by an unknown student: 1610 – 1611 (MS 113).

Lecture notes of [James Dunbar], on natural philosophy, taken by William Munro: c. 1788 – 1789 (MS 3940).

Lecture notes of [James Dunbar], on moral philosophy, possibly Dunbar's own copy: c. 1784 – 1809 (MS 3107/5/2/6).

Lecture notes of James Dunbar, on natural philosophy and arithmetic and algebra, taken by George Yeats: 1790 – 1792 (MS 3865).

Lecture notes of [James Farquharson], on natural history, taken by Alexander Warrack: 1852-1853 (MS 4014).

Lecture notes of John Fleming, on natural philosophy, taken by William Smith: 1843 – 1844 (MS 3938).


Lecture notes of Patrick Forbes, on chemistry, taken by Charles Thurburn, Hugh Fraser and another: 1833 – 1838 (MS 3931).

Lecture notes of David Fordyce, on philosophy, taken by an unknown student: 1743 - 1744 (MS 3976).

Lecture notes of Alexander Fraser, on logic, taken by Kenneth Sutherland and others: 1694 (MS 3084).

Lecture notes of George Fraser, on 'physics, astronomy, trigonometry and geometry', taken by George Gordon and others: 1686–1687 (MS 3918).

Lecture notes of George French, on chemistry, taken by William Knight: 1801 – 1802 (MS 4005).

Lecture notes of Alexander Gerard, on moral philosophy, taken by George Forbes: [1757 – 1758] (MS 3997).


Lecture notes of [George Glennie], on moral philosophy, taken by William Knight: [1801 – 1802] (MS 3964).

Lecture notes of [George Glennie], on moral philosophy, by [William Officer]: [1804 – 1805] (MS 3787).

Lecture notes of George Glennie, on moral philosophy, taken by Earnest Mearns: 1812 – 1813 (MS 3998).

Lecture notes of Thomas Gordon, on mathematics and natural philosophy, taken by Alexander Thomson: 1771 – 1774 (MS 3941 – MS 3947).

Lecture notes of [Thomas Gordon], on mathematics, taken by Alexander Robertson: 1776 – 1781 (MS 3928).

Lectures notes of Thomas Gordon, on moral philosophy and logic, taken by unidentified student: 1780 (MS 301).

Lecture notes of [Robert Hamilton], on mathematics and geometry, taken by Alexander Paterson: 1792 (MS 4012).

Lecture Notes on [Robert Hamilton], on mathematics, taken by John Morrison: 1805 – 1806 (MS 4004).

Lecture notes of Matthew Hay and others, on medicine, taken by John Stuart and Frank Stuart: 1892 – 1917 (MS 3128).

Lecture notes of Matthew Hay and others, on medicine, taken by Alexander Anderson: 1907 – 1908 (MS 3327).

Lecture notes of Dr Robert Jamieson, Alexander Kilgour and Dr William Keith, on medicine, taken by Dr Robert Jamieson: 1861 (MS 2813).


Lecture notes of William Knight, on natural philosophy, taken by Alexander Gibbon: 1826 – 1827 (MS 3758).

Lecture notes of [William Knight], on natural philosophy, taken by Alexander Brand: 1828 – 1829 (MS 3060).
Lecture notes of William Knight, on natural philosophy, taken by Alexander Bain, John Davidson and Arthur Harvey: 1824 – 1839 (MS 3965, MS 3966 & MS 3967).

Lecture notes of William Knight on natural philosophy, by an unknown student: 1837 (MS 3513).

Lecture notes of William Knight, on natural philosophy, taken by Francis Aberdein: 1843 – 1844 (MS 3484).

Lecture notes on ‘psychology, theology, moral philosophy and logic’, taken by John Logie: 1766 (MS 2855).

Lecture notes of William MacGillivray, on natural and civil history, taken by Alexander Fullerton, George Robertson Gordon and J. P. Watson: 1840 – 1850 (MS 4006, MS 4007 & MS 4008).

Lecture notes of [Roderick MacLeod], on natural and moral philosophy, taken by [Robert Eden Scott] and Robert Hall: 1783 - 1785 (MS 3949 – MS 3951).

Lecture notes of William Martin, on moral philosophy, taken by John Brebner: 1851 – 1852 (MS 3821).

Lecture notes of [M. McKail], on mathematics, taken by John Cuming and Alexander Gordon: 1730 (MS 2003).

Lecture notes of Duncan Mearns, on divinity, taken by W. G. Blaikie: 1837 – 1839 (MS 3934).

Lecture notes of Alexander Muir, on metaphysics, taken by Patrick Simpson: 1706 (MS 3166).

Lecture notes by Alexander Ogston, on surgery, taken by Joseph Ellis Milne: 1888 (MS 3496).

Lecture notes of George Peacock, on logic, physics, ethics and politics, taken by Robert Gordon: c. 1688 (MS 3974).

Lecture notes of [George Peacock], on general physics, taken by John Stewart and Ludovick Reid: 1691 (MS 3975).

Lecture notes of George Peacock, on logic and metaphysics, taken by Patrick Forbes and others 1699 (MS 3969).

Lecture notes of Thomas Reid, on natural philosophy, taken by an unknown student: 1757 – 1758 (MS 3927).

Lecture notes of Patrick Sandilands, on logic, taken by James Wineram: 1669 (MS 3935).

Lecture notes of Hercules Scott, on moral philosophy and law and jurisprudence: 1848 – 1849 (MS 3948).

Lecture notes of Robert Eden Scott, on natural philosophy, taken by James Adam: 1796 – 1797 (MS 3930).


Lecture notes of Henry Scougal, on logic, taken by Alexander Bisset and George Gordon: 1670 – 1671 (MS 3924).

Lecture notes of Henry Scougal, on ethics, taken by Thomas Ogilvie and John Ogilvie: [1682 – 1683] (MS 3926).

Lecture notes of William Seaton, on Latin and natural philosophy and cartesian science, taken by John Syme and Thomas Udny: 1693 (MS 3516).

Lecture notes of John Shier, on natural history, taken by James Dalgarno: 1838 – 1839 (MS 3777).

Lecture notes of Francis Skene, on natural history, taken by an unknown student: 1775 (MS 4000).

Lecture notes by George Skene, on geometry and trigonometry, taken by William Gordon: 1693 (MS 3933).

Lecture notes of George Skene, on logic and geometry, taken by Alexander Abercrombie and Alexander Andrew: 1693 – 1694 (MS 3917).

Lecture notes of George Skene, on logic, taken by Thomas Ogilvie: 1701 – 1702 (MS 3921).

Lecture notes of George Skene, on general physics, taken by Thomas Ogilvie and another: 1702 – 1703 (MS 141).

Lecture notes of George Skene, on geography, taken by [Alexander MacLennan]: [1701 – 1704] (MS 2092).

Lecture notes of George Skene and James Urquhart, on ethics, taken by Alexander Stewart: 1708 – 1709 (MS 3922).


Lecture notes of John Stuart, on Greek grammar, taken by James Andrew: 1788 - 1789 (MS 4013).

Lecture notes of John Stuart, on Greek, taken by Alexander Middleton: 1815 – 1816 (MS 3141).
Lecture notes of [James Urquhart], on logic, taken by John Ogilvie: 1717 (MS 3925).

**Lecturers not stated: arranged by student name**

Beattie, James (Professor of Moral Philosophy and Logic), student notes on moral philosophy: 1761 – 1793 (MS 30/16).

Beattie, James (Professor of Moral Philosophy and Logic), student notes on moral philosophy: [1760s] (MS 555).

Campbell, George (Principal and Professor of Divinity), student notes on systematic theology: 1782 – 1789 (MS 3983 – MS 3993).

Cant, Andrew, Aristotle's logic lecture notes: 1642 (MS 3077).

Copland, Patrick (Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy), student notes on natural philosophy: 1783 to 1807, compiled by Murchison in 1856 (MS 3123).

Cormack, Dr Gertrude, medical lecture notes: 1915 – 1920 (MS 3164).

Deans, Winifred M. and Maxwell D., lecture notes: 1910s – 1930s (MS 3359).

Dune, Robert and George Peacock, logic lecture notes: 1622 – 1623 (MS 151).


Forbes, Patrick (Professor of Humanity), student notes on latin: 1821 (MS 3932).

Garrow, Duncan, United Free Church minister: lecture notes: c.1910 (MS 2873).

Hamilton, Robert (Professor of Mathematics), student notes on natural philosophy and other subjects: 1779 – 1812 (MS 455 and MS 458).

Hadden, George, algebra lecture notes: 1792 (MS 3994).


Knight, William (Professor of Natural Philosophy), student notes on natural history and botany: 1811 – 1839 (MARISCHAL/9/1/4).

Knight, William (Professor of Natural Philosophy), student notes on natural philosophy: 1816 – c.1820 (MARISCHAL/8/1/1 & MARISCHAL/9/1/4).

Knight, William (Professor of Natural Philosophy), student notes on natural philosophy, chemistry and natural history: c.1800 – c.1840 (MARISCHAL/9/1/4).

Lyall, Agnes, Master of Arts lecture notes: 1927-1930 (MS 3606).


Macpherson, Robert (Professor of Systematic Theology), student notes on theology: 1852 – 1865 (MSU 515, MSU 516, MSU 517, MSU 518, MSU 519, MSU 520, MSU 521).

Moir, William and John, physics and astronomy lecture notes: 1619 – 1620 (MS 150).

Riddell, Beatrice, Master of Arts (history) lecture notes: 1909 – 1910 (MS 3844).


Scott, Robert Eden (Professor of Moral Philosophy), student notes on various subjects: 1795 – 1801 (KINGS/8/1/2 and MS 659).

Stuart, Helena, zoology lecture notes: 1928 (MS 3281).

Stuart, John, student notes on greek grammar: 1782 (MS 365).

Thomson, David (Professor of Natural Philosophy), student notes on natural philosophy: 1850 - 1854 (MSU 479 – MSU 480 and MSU 503).

Watt, Archibald, english and education lecture notes: 1932 – 1938 (MS 3641).

Wright, John Milne, Master of Arts lecture notes: 1927 – 1929 (MS 3814).

**Lecture notes from other universities**

**Arranged by name of lecturer**

Lecture notes of Dr. J. Abernethy, physician, on medical practice: 1822 (MS 2220).


Lecture notes of Dr Joseph Black, on chemistry, mineralogy and coals, taken by David Skene: 1753 - 1770 (MS 478/37 and MS 478/47).

Lecture notes of Hermann Boerhaave, Professor of Medicine and Botany, University of Leiden: 1734 (MS 2127).

Lecture notes of Dr Herman Boerhaave, Alexander Monro and others collected by James Thomson in Hadines [Haddington]: 1741 (MS 663).

Lecture notes of Alexander Cockburn, on physica, taken by Thomas Johnstoune: 1687 (MS 2187).

Lecture notes of William Cullen, Professor of medicine, University of Glasgow, on Chemistry: 1756 – 1757 (MS 469).

Lecture notes of Dr William Cullen and Dr James Gregory in the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh taken by George French: 1769 – 1770 (MS 129).

Lecture notes of Professor James Forbes, Edinburgh University, on natural philosophy, taken by George Burnett: 1840 – 1841 (MS 3564).

Lecture notes of Dr John Hope, Professor of Botany, University of Edinburgh, on Botany, farming and husbandry, taken by James Cunningham: 1774 – 1781 (MS 564).

Lecture notes of David Hume, Professor of Scots Law, Edinburgh University, on Scottish law, taken by A. Copland: 1811 – 1812 (MS 1030).

Lecture notes of P. Lemonnier, Professor of Physics at the College d'Harcourt, Paris: 'Physica generalis et particularis' (General and specific physics): 1731 (MS 111).

Lecture notes of Dr John Walker of Edinburgh, on natural history: 1782 (MS 3107/6/5).

Lecture notes of Peter Wesseling, Professor of Greek at the Academy of Trajectina (Netherlands): 'Dictata in Tursellini Epitomen historiarum' (lecture notes on Tursellinus' summary of histories): 18th century (MS 369 – MS 373).

Lecturers not stated: arranged by student name

Elfinston, William, lawyer: collection of lecture notes taken at Louvain: 1433 (MS 195, MS 196 and MS 197).

Fordyce, George, physician: miscellanea from medical lectures: 1778 – 1779 (MS 505).

Grant, Alexander: lecture notes, from Utrecht: c.1695 (MS 3570).

Gregory family: notes, lectures and essays: De Febribus in Genere et Diversis Aliis by Isbrandus de Diemerbrock: 17th century (MS 2206/22/2).

Scott, Robert Eden: lecture notes of various Edinburgh University professors: 1785 – 1786 (MS 189).

Printed collections

The Local Collection, accessible via the Reading Room, contains relevant printed material such as the University Calendar.

Access

Materials are available upon request for consultation in the Reading Room. Please search online catalogues to identify individual items:

www.abdn.ac.uk/special-collections/search-catalogues/index.php

Further reading

For further reading please also see the studies of a number of manuscripts, printed books and collections in the journals Aberdeen University Library Bulletin, Aberdeen University Review and Northern Scotland.