

Archaeology

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Majors

The Major in Archaeology

During the 2023-24 academic year, the Interdisciplinary Program in Archaeology will continue to suspend declarations of the major due to a restructuring of the curriculum. For questions about majoring in anthropology with an emphasis in archaeology, please contact Professor Sarah Baitzel (<https://anthropology.wustl.edu/people/sarah-baitzel/>).

Total units required: 27

Required courses:

Code	Title	Units
ARC 190B	Introduction to Archaeology	3
ARC 200C	World Archaeology: Global Perspectives on the Past	3

Elective courses:

The major requires 21 advanced (300-/3000- or 400-/4000-level) units in addition to the two introductory courses. These 21 advanced units should be distributed among the offerings in anthropological archaeology and classical archaeology. Eligible courses for the major and minor can be found in the course listings under the L52 ARC Archeology listings. All majors must also complete a supervised archaeological field school of six weeks (or the equivalent) that has been approved by the departmental director.

Additional Information

Internships/Research: The hands-on experience of archaeological fieldwork is particularly attractive to many students. Undergraduate majors in archaeology will complete at least one supervised field project, which is selected to best meet the student's long-term goals. Most field research projects are small, which allows students to work closely with faculty and staff. Recently, students have worked at excavations in such diverse areas as Ireland, France, Kazakhstan, Greece, Israel, China, Japan, Guatemala, Bolivia, the U.S. Southwest, and Cahokia, Illinois. Students focusing on North American archaeology often take an internship at one of the local private firms to gain experience in contract archaeology. Undergraduate participation in research is encouraged, particularly for students working on Senior Honors theses.

Senior Honors: Archaeology majors are encouraged to work for Senior Honors, for which students may apply during their junior or senior year. Acceptance into the program is based on previous academic performance, a proposal accepted by an archaeology faculty member who agrees to supervise the honors research, and approval of the archaeology program director. The honors thesis will be evaluated by a three-member faculty committee.

Study Abroad: In addition to field schools in the summer, many students — particularly those focusing in classical archaeology — also opt to complete a semester abroad.