Archaeology with a Placement Year BA

This degree offers all the flexibility of the Archaeology BA programme combined with the opportunity to work as a part of a professional team to excavate, survey, study, manage and conserve historic sites and finds. Working alongside the expert staff at Archaeology South-East (ASE), in a stimulating and innovative environment, you will be at the forefront of new archaeological discovery, engaging with the public to promote an understanding of the historic environment.

Key information

Programme starts
September 2020

Location
London, Bloomsbury

Degree benefits

- UCL is ranked the second best place to study archaeology in the UK by the Guardian University Guide 2018.
- Combine a wide-ranging degree in archaeology at a world-leading university with a year of professional training and paid employment as part of a leading professional archaeological team working in South-East England.
- Optional modules (which may not run every year) include Greek Art & Architecture, Zoarchaeology, Archaeological Photography, Indigenous Archaeology, Archaeology of Human Evolution (to name but a few!)
- The degree includes 70 days of partially funded fieldwork: destinations have included Belize, Spain, USA, Romania, Portugal, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Wales, Scotland, Uganda & Greece (to name a few).

Degree structure

In each year of your degree you will take a number of individual modules, normally valued at 15 or 30 credits, adding up to a total of 120 credits for the year. Modules are assessed in the academic year in which they are taken. The balance of compulsory and optional modules varies from programme to programme and year to year. A 30-credit module is considered equivalent to 15 credits in the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).

Core modules in the first year provide a solid grounding in the practical and theoretical methods in archaeology and an introduction to major issues in world prehistory.

The second and fourth years provide a more advanced understanding of archaeology and allow you to develop your own specialised interests by choosing optional modules in particular subject areas.

During year three up to eight students, who have demonstrated an aptitude and commitment in years two and three, will work as a part of a professional team to excavate, survey, study, manage and conserve historic sites and finds. Working alongside our expert staff, in a stimulating and innovative environment, you will be at the forefront of new archaeological discovery, engaging with the public to promote an understanding of the historic environment.

YEAR ONE

Core or compulsory module(s)
- Field Methods
- Introduction to Archaeology
- Introduction to Social Anthropology
- People and Environments
- Sites and Artefacts
- World Archaeology: The Deep History of Human Societies

Optional modules
- You will select one 15 credits optional module from the following:
- Introduction to Egyptian and Ancient Near Eastern Archaeology
- Introduction to European Prehistory
- Introduction to Greek Archaeology
- Introduction to Roman Archaeology
- Texts in Archaeology

YEAR TWO

Core or compulsory module(s)
- Current Issues in Archaeological Theory
- Interpreting Archaeological Evidence
- Public Archaeology
- Research and Presentation Skills
- Public Archaeology

Optional modules
- You will select 15 credits in World Archaeology
- 15 credits in Archaeological Science or Skills – an updated list will be published each year
- 30 credits of optional modules in Archaeology or a related subject to be selected in consultation with your Personal Tutor.

YEAR THREE

- Placement year
FINAL YEAR

Core or compulsory module(s)

- Archaeology in the World
- Field Archaeology
- Dissertation

Optional modules

- You will select a total of 60 credits from the following:
  - 15 credits in world archaeology
  - 15 credits in archaeological science or skills – an updated list will be published each year
  - Optional modules in Archaeology or a related subject, to be selected in consultation with your Personal Tutor to the value of 30 credits

Your learning

You will be taught using a mixture of lectures, seminars and practical sessions, either field or laboratory-based. Full use is made of our extensive teaching and reference collections and close connections to the national museums and collections of London.

Fieldwork

Fieldwork is a major component of the degree with 70 days of partially funded fieldwork being a compulsory element (fieldwork includes excavation / museum work / research and can take you all over the globe; other recent projects have included Montenegro, Peru, Wales, Spain, Romania and China, to name a few).

Assessment

Coursework, typically 1,500-2,500 word essays, is used to assess most modules. Most compulsory modules and some optional modules involve an examination element too. The completion of 70 days' fieldwork is a requirement for all archaeology students.

Your career

Throughout the degree, which includes 70 days of fieldwork, students develop the ability to work collaboratively and effectively within teams as well as working independently in order to execute research. Students develop strong research and analytical skills and an appreciation of the importance of recovering primary data through practical experience.

Students learn to communicate effectively verbally, visually and in writing to diverse audiences and develop a sensitivity to different cultures.

Your application

Application for admission should be made through UCAS (the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service). Applicants currently at school or college will be provided with advice on the process; however, applicants who have left school or who are based outside the United Kingdom may obtain information directly from UCAS.

We use predicted grades, references, previous academic records and the personal statement on your application to assess your suitability for the programme. You should demonstrate your interest in studying archaeology and explain the measures you have taken to sustain your interest in the past. Evidence of interests and activities beyond the school curriculum will also be of benefit.

The UCAS application forms are assessed by a central UCL team and the Archaeology department. The personal statement and predicted grades are used for assessment and sometimes extra information is requested.
**Entry requirements**

**A LEVELS**
Standard Offer: ABB. No specific subjects.
Contextual Offer: BBB. No specific subjects.

**GCSE**
English Language and Mathematics at grade C or 5. For UK-based students, a grade C or 5 or equivalent in a foreign language (other than Ancient Greek, Biblical Hebrew or Latin) is required. UCL provides opportunities to meet the foreign language requirement following enrolment, further details at: www.ucl.ac.uk/ug-reqs

**IB DIPLOMA**
Standard Offer: 34 points. A score of 16 points in three higher level subjects, with no score lower than 5.
Contextual Offer: 32 points. A total of 15 points in three higher level subjects, with no score below 5.

**CONTEXTUAL OFFERS – ACCESS UCL SCHEME**
As part of our commitment to increasing participation from underrepresented groups, students may be eligible for a contextual offer as part of the Access UCL scheme. For more information see www.ucl.ac.uk/prospectus

**OTHER QUALIFICATIONS**
UCL considers a wide range of UK and international qualifications for entry into its undergraduate programmes. Full details are given at: www.ucl.ac.uk/otherquals

**UNDERGRADUATE PREPARATORY CERTIFICATES (International foundation courses)**
UCL Undergraduate Preparatory Certificates (UPCs) are intensive one-year foundation courses for international students of high academic potential who are aiming to gain access to undergraduate degree programmes at UCL and other top UK universities.

Typical UPC students will be high achievers in a 12-year school system which does not meet the standard required for direct entry to UCL.

For more information see: www.ucl.ac.uk/upc.

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**TUITION FEES**
The fees indicated are for undergraduate entry in the 2020/21 academic year. The UK/EU fees shown are for the first year of the programme at UCL only. Fees for future years may be subject to an inflationary increase. The Overseas fees shown are the fees that will be charged to 2020/21 entrants for each year of study on the programme, unless otherwise indicated below.

- UK & EU: £9,250 (2020/21)
- Overseas: £27,540 (2020/21)

Full details of UCL’s tuition fees, tuition fee policy and potential increases to fees can be found on the UCL Students website.

**Additional costs**
If you are concerned by potential additional costs for books, equipment, etc. on this programme, please get in touch with the relevant departmental contact (details given on this page).

**FUNDING**
Various funding options are available, including student loans, scholarships and bursaries. UK students whose household income falls below a certain level may also be eligible for a non-repayable bursary or for certain scholarships. Please see the Fees and funding pages for more details.

**CONTACT**
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**Brexit**
For up-to-date information relating to specific key questions following the UK’s decision to leave the EU, please refer to: www.ucl.ac.uk/brexit

**Disclaimer**
This information is for guidance only. It should not be construed as advice nor relied upon and does not form part of any contract. For more information on UCL’s degree programmes please see the UCL Undergraduate Prospectus at www.ucl.ac.uk/prospectus