ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDIES

**Director of undergraduate studies**: William Honeychurch, 51 Hillhouse Ave., 432-3676, william.honeychurch@yale.edu; archaeology.yale.edu

This interdisciplinary major is supervised by the University’s Council on Archaeological Studies. Inquiries about the major may be addressed to the chair of the council, Richard Burger, Department of Anthropology, 10 Sachem Street, or to the DUS.

The major in Archaeological Studies provides a program of interdepartmental offerings covering prehistoric, early historic, medieval, and other cultures and cultural developments in the Old and New Worlds, and introduces students to the analytic tools that facilitate archaeological studies. The major is designed to expose students to a variety of archaeological research perspectives: anthropological, historical, art historical, and scientific. Also emphasized are substantive studies including (1) study of such prehistoric–early historic transformations as the origins of agriculture, cities and states, and early empires, and (2) study of the material culture, art, and architecture of prehistoric, early historic, and medieval cultures, including the iconography of ancient cultures, the relationship between art and society, ancient writing systems, and American historical archaeology.

**REQUIREMENTS OF THE MAJOR**

The major consists of twelve courses, including the senior project. In addition, students must participate in a Yale-affiliated summer research project, or another archaeological field school approved in advance by the DUS. The following five courses are required: an introductory survey; the introductory laboratory course ARCG 316L; an advanced laboratory course; a theory course; and the senior research project ARCG 491. The remaining seven courses required for the major must be distributed among the six subject areas represented by the departments and programs offering courses multiple-titled with Archaeological Studies, with three of those seven courses falling in different departments and programs. The relevant departments and programs are Anthropology, Classics, Environmental Studies, Geology and Geophysics, History, History of Art, and Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations. Some courses may be applied to categories other than the ones in which they are listed in this bulletin upon approval by the DUS. For three of the seven archaeology electives students may, with permission of the DUS, substitute courses from other departments in areas related to their research.

Students majoring in Archaeological Studies are strongly encouraged, but are not required, to devote a second summer to archaeological research, either in the field or in a laboratory. Members of the Council faculty currently direct archaeological field projects in China, Egypt, Guatemala, Peru, Mongolia, Senegal, Syria, and Rome. Qualified majors are encouraged to apply for research positions with these projects.

**Field research** In addition to being the base for several faculty field projects around the globe, the Council on Archaeological Studies takes as its principal mission the encouragement of multiple field experiences. Our undergraduate majors are required to participate in at least one intensive summer field school. Approval is required, and costs are often subsidized by the Council. Students are encouraged to participate in each other’s field projects, thereby learning about the greatest number of cultures and areas possible, while experiencing a diverse array of field situations.

**SENIOR REQUIREMENT**

The final requirement for the major is a senior research project (ARCG 491) in some field of archaeology, preferably one involving more than one area or discipline.

**ADVISING**

Students majoring in Archaeological Studies should consult with the DUS at the beginning of each term.

**REQUIREMENTS OF THE MAJOR**

**Prerequisites** None

**Number of courses** 12 term courses (incl senior project)

**Specific course required** ARCG 316L

**Distribution of courses** 1 intro survey; 1 advanced lab; 1 theory course; 7 electives, at least 1 in each of 3 areas, as specified

**Field requirement** 1 summer field techniques course or research project, as specified

**Substitution permitted** For 3 electives, 3 courses related to research, with DUS permission

**Senior requirement** Research project (ARCG 491)

**COUNCIL ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDIES**

**Anthropology** Richard Burger (Chair), Oswaldo Chinchilla, Ellery Frahm, William Honeychurch, Roderick McIntosh, Eric Sargis, Anne Underhill, David Watts

**Classics** Andrew Johnston, Diana Kleiner

**Geology & Geophysics** Ronald Smith

**History** Joseph Manning

**History of Art** Edward Cooke, Jr., Milette Gaifman, Mary Miller
Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations  John Darnell, Karen Foster, Eckart Frahm, Harvey Weiss  
Religious Studies  Stephen Davis

Courses

Anthropology

ARCG 171a / ANTH 171a, Great Civilizations of the Ancient World  Anne Underhill
A survey of selected prehistoric and historical cultures through examination of archaeological sites and materials. Emphasis on the methodological and theoretical approaches by which archaeologists recover, analyze, and interpret the material remains of the past.  SO  

ARCG 232a / ANTH 232a / LAST 232a, Ancient Civilizations of the Andes  Richard Burger
Survey of the archaeological cultures of Peru and Bolivia from the earliest settlement through the late Inca state.  SO  

* ARCG 255b / ANTH 255b / LAST 255b, Inca Culture and Society  Richard Burger
The history and organization of the Inca empire and its impact on the nations and cultures it conquered. The role of archaeology in understanding the transformation of Andean lifeways; the interplay between ethnohistoric and archaeological approaches to the subject.  SO  

ARCG 267b / ANTH 267b, Human Evolution  David Watts
Examination of the fossil record of human evolution, including both paleontological and archaeological evidence for changes in hominin behavior during the Pleistocene. Prerequisite: Introductory course in biological anthropology or biology.  SO  

ARCG 316La / ANTH 316La, Introduction to Archaeological Laboratory Sciences  Staff
Introduction to techniques of archaeological laboratory analysis, with quantitative data styles and statistics appropriate to each. Topics include dating of artifacts, sourcing of ancient materials, remote sensing, and microscopic and biochemical analysis. Specific techniques covered vary from year to year.  

* ARCG 375b / ANTH 375b / ARCG 379b, Anthropology of Mobile Societies  William Honeychurch
The social and cultural significance of the ways that hunter-gatherers, pastoral nomads, maritime traders, and members of our own society traverse space. The impact of mobility and transport technologies on subsistence, trade, interaction, and warfare from the first horse riders of five thousand years ago to jet-propulsion tourists of today.  SO  

* ARCG 379b / ANTH 375b / ARCG 379b, Anthropology of Mobile Societies  William Honeychurch
The social and cultural significance of the ways that hunter-gatherers, pastoral nomads, maritime traders, and members of our own society traverse space. The impact of mobility and transport technologies on subsistence, trade, interaction, and warfare from the first horse riders of five thousand years ago to jet-propulsion tourists of today.  SO  

* ARCG 385a / ANTH 385a, Archaeological Ceramics  Staff
Archaeological methods for analyzing and interpreting ceramics, arguably the most common type of object found in ancient sites. Focus on what different aspects of ceramic vessels reveal about the people who made them and used them.  SO  

* ARCG 397a or b / ANTH 397b, Archaeology of East Asia  Anne Underhill
Introduction to the findings and practice of archaeology in China, Japan, Korea, and southeast Asia. Methods used by archaeologists to interpret social organization, economic organization, and ritual life. Attention to major transformations such as the initial peopling of an area, establishment of farming villages, the development of cities, interregional interactions, and the nature of political authority.  SO  

* ARCG 399a / ANTH 478a / EVST 399a / NELC 399a, Agriculture: Origins, Evolution, Crises  Harvey Weiss
Analysis of the societal and environmental drivers and effects of plant and animal domestication, the intensification of agroproduction, and the crises of agroproduction: land degradation, societal collapses, sociopolitical transformation, sustainability, and biodiversity.  SO  

* ARCG 454a / ANTH 454a, Statistics for Archaeological Analysis  William Honeychurch
An introduction to quantitative data collection, analysis, and argumentation for archaeologists. Emphasis on the exploration, visualization, and analysis of specifically archaeological data using simple statistical approaches. No prior knowledge of statistics required.  QR  

ARCG 464b / ANTH 464b / E&EB 464b, Human Osteology  Eric Sargis
A lecture and laboratory course focusing on the characteristics of the human skeleton and its use in studies of functional morphology, paleodemography, and paleopathology. Laboratories familiarize students with skeletal parts; lectures focus on the nature of bone tissue, its biomechanical modification, sexing, aging, and interpretation of lesions.  SC, SO  

* ARCG 476b / ANTH 476b, GIS and Spatial Analysis for Archaeology  William Honeychurch
Introduction to the use of geographical information systems (GIS) in anthropology, with attention to archaeological applications. Examples from theoretical, analytical, and geographical contexts; introduction to current software.  SO  

Classics

ARCG 161a / CLCV 161a / HSAR 247a, Art and Myth in Greek Antiquity  Milette Gaifman
Visual exploration of Greek mythology through the study of ancient Greek art and architecture. Greek gods, heroes, and mythological scenes foundational to Western culture; the complex nature of Greek mythology; how art and architecture rendered myths ever present
in ancient Greek daily experience; ways in which visual representations can articulate stories. Use of collections in the Yale University Art
Gallery. WR, HU

ARCG 252a / CLCV 175a / HSAR 252a, Roman Architecture Diana Kleiner
The great buildings and engineering marvels of Rome and its empire. Study of city planning and individual monuments and their
decoration, including mural painting. Emphasis on developments in Rome, Pompeii, and central Italy; survey of architecture in the
provinces. HU

Environmental Studies

ARCG 226a / EVST 226a / NELC 268a, Global Environmental History Harvey Weiss
The dynamic relationship between environmental and social forces from the Pleistocene glaciations to the Anthropocene present.
Pleistocene extinctions; transition from hunting and gathering to agriculture; origins of cities, states, and civilization; adaptations and
collapses of Old and New World civilizations in the face of climate disasters; the destruction and reconstruction of the New World by the
Old. Focus on issues of adaptation, resilience, and sustainability, including forces that caused long-term societal change. SO

* ARCG 473b / ANTH 473b / EVST 473b / NELC 473b, Abrupt Climate Change and Societal Collapse Harvey Weiss
The coincidence of societal collapses throughout history with decadal and century-scale drought events. Challenges to anthropological
and historical paradigms of cultural adaptation and resilience. Examination of archaeological and historical records and high-resolution
sets of paleoclimate proxies. HU, SO

Geology and Geophysics

* ARCG 362b / EVST 362b / G&G 362b, Observing Earth from Space Ronald Smith
A practical introduction to satellite image analysis of Earth’s surface. Topics include the spectrum of electromagnetic radiation, satellite-
borne radiometers, data transmission and storage, computer image analysis, the merging of satellite imagery with GIS and applications
to weather and climate, oceanography, surficial geology, ecology and epidemiology, forestry, agriculture, archaeology, and watershed
management. Prerequisites: college-level physics or chemistry, two courses in geology and natural science of the environment or
equivalents, and computer literacy. QR, SC

History of Art

ARCG 161a / CLCV 161a / HSAR 247a, Art and Myth in Greek Antiquity Milette Gaifman
Visual exploration of Greek mythology through the study of ancient Greek art and architecture. Greek gods, heroes, and mythological
scenes foundational to Western culture; the complex nature of Greek mythology; how art and architecture rendered myths ever present
in ancient Greek daily experience; ways in which visual representations can articulate stories. Use of collections in the Yale University Art
Gallery. WR, HU

ARCG 237a / HSAR 237a / NELC 108a, Ancient Painting and Mosaics Karen Foster
Developments in wall painting, vase painting, and mosaics as seen in ancient Egypt, the Aegean Bronze Age, and the Greek, Etruscan, and
Roman world. HU

Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations

* NELC 001b / AFST 001b / ARCG 001b, Egypt and Northeast Africa: A Multidisciplinary Approach John Darnell
Examination of approximately 10,000 years of Nile Valley cultural history, with an introduction to the historical and archaeological study
of Egypt and Nubia. Consideration of the Nile Valley as the meeting place of the cultures and societies of northeast Africa. Various written
and visual sources are used, including the collections of the Peabody Museum and the Yale Art Gallery. Enrollment limited to first-year
students. Preregistration required; see under First-Year Seminar Program. WR, HU

ARCG 218b / NELC 191b, Ancient Ships and Maritime Archaeology Karen Foster
Introduction to the world of the ancient mariners, with special attention to new discoveries and interpretations. HU, SO

ARCG 244a / NELC 109a / RLST 245a, The Age of Akhenaton John Darnell
Study of the period of the Egyptian pharaoh Akhenaton (reigned 1353–1336 B.C.E.), often termed the Amarna Revolution, from
historical, literary, religious, artistic, and archaeological perspectives. Consideration of the wider Egyptian, ancient Near Eastern, African,
and Mediterranean contexts. Examination of the international diplomacy, solar theology, and artistic developments of the period. Reading
of primary source material in translation. HU

Advanced Research

* ARCG 471a or b and ARCG 472a or b, Directed Reading and Research in Archaeology William Honeychurch
Qualified students may pursue special reading or research under the guidance of an instructor. A written statement of the proposed
research must be submitted to the director of undergraduate studies for approval.

* ARCG 491a or b, Senior Research Project in Archaeology Staff
Required of all students majoring in Archaeological Studies. Supervised investigation of some archaeological topic in depth. The course
requirement is a long essay to be submitted as the student’s senior essay. The student should present a prospectus and bibliography to the
director of undergraduate studies no later than the third week of the term. Written approval from the faculty member who will direct the reading and writing for the course must accompany the prospectus.

* ARCG 492b / ANTH 492b / NELC 321b, Imaging Ancient Worlds  
John Darnell, Roderick McIntosh, and Agnete Lassen
The interpretation of epigraphic and archaeological material within the broader context of landscape, by means of creating a virtual model to reconstruct the sensory experiences of the ancient peoples who created those sites. Use of new technologies in computer graphics, including 3D imaging, to support current research in archaeology and anthropology.