It’s your adventure. Make it a great one.

RANKED 13TH IN THE WORLD FOR ARCHAEOLOGY.
QS World University Rankings® 2016.
As a student here, you’re involved in real research right from the start.

This department is a family.

Our staff and students come from all kinds of backgrounds, from every corner of the world. We work together, support each other, and encourage each other to achieve great things.

We’re united by our love of archaeology. A fascination with history. A sense of awe at the complexity of human life. And a desire to uncover the facts.

As a student here, you’re involved in real research right from the start: analysing evidence, evaluating theories, writing history as you go.

Through fieldwork, you get to explore an ancient landscape of huge archaeological importance, right on our doorstep. There are opportunities to study abroad and take part in important projects.

Our students are adventurous. They’re also deep thinkers. In the field, and in the lab, they’re diligent and methodical. In their writing, they’re disciplined and creative, capable of making intellectual connections that advance our understanding of human life.

By the time they graduate, they’re skilled researchers in their own right.

If that sounds like your kind of archaeology degree, come and join us!
For the 21st-century archaeologist, Sheffield has it all.

The city’s unique topography of hills, woodland and rivers once powered industry on a massive scale and made Sheffield world famous for innovations in manufacturing. That same topography could also hold the key to its future, as a high-tech city dealing in knowledge and creativity.

One third of the city is inside the Peak District National Park. Formed from rock dating back to the carboniferous period, the park’s plants and geological formations are strictly conserved. It has Roman landscapes, medieval villages, Bronze Age and Neolithic monuments and a network of caves, at Creswell Crags, decorated by ice-age hunters.

A city with a rich industrial heritage. And 555 square miles of ancient landscape. Two living, breathing examples of how the past speaks to the future. Two compelling reasons to choose Sheffield for your archaeology degree.

A major city in an ancient landscape – it’s an archaeologist’s dream.

It has Roman landscapes, medieval villages, Neolithic monuments, and ice-age caves.
What can archaeology do? Well, it helps address big existential questions: How did we get to where we are? Where do we go next? It can also help us to understand different cultures and different points of view.

Our belief in archaeology’s potential to bring people together provides the context for everything we teach.

Archaeology can debunk myths, reveal truths and challenge prejudices. It can help protect the environment, our heritage, and our sense of identity.

So our students work closely with communities on projects that are important to them, for example through our second-year Archaeology Matters module.

Archaeology boosts tourism, culture and urban regeneration by helping us understand what makes a place special. It supports sustainable development by providing evidence that influences the decisions made by governments and businesses.

This is why we take an interdisciplinary approach, bringing in science, the humanities and other related areas.

We also place an emphasis on developing your communication skills. You need to be able to work closely with other experts and get your ideas across in various media, for lots of different audiences.

Archaeology at Sheffield is about the process of interpreting evidence. It’s an intellectual process. One that requires mental agility, imagination, and flair.

Lab skills, field skills, data analysis – these are all part of the archaeologist’s toolkit. But they’re just the methods we use to generate our evidence.

Then the real work begins: writing history from the evidence, communicating our ideas, engaging with people. Thinking about the future.

How we teach. And why.
If you choose a full-time course, you can apply to spend a year studying abroad or on a work placement. There are opportunities for fieldwork, here and overseas. You can also volunteer for department research projects in the UK, Europe and South Africa.

BA or BSc Archaeology
When you choose Sheffield, you get a thorough grounding in the theory and techniques from one of the world’s top 15 archaeology departments*. The long list of optional modules – and the chance to take some in other departments – means you can specialise in just about anything that captures your imagination.

The BSc option
The BSc Archaeology gives you the same excellent all-round education as the BA, with slightly more emphasis on scientific techniques. The Science in Archaeology module is compulsory. Some of your third-year choices would have a science element. As would your dissertation. You don’t need science A Levels to take the BSc.

BA Archaeology with a Foundation Year
We want to encourage more applications from mature students. So we designed this four-year course in partnership with colleagues from the University’s Department for Lifelong Learning (DLL). The foundation year introduces you to archaeology, builds your confidence, and helps you develop the skills you need for degree-level study.

If you join us via the foundation degree, you can transfer to any of our other degree courses, provided you meet the module requirements, and subject to approval from the departments involved.

BA Classical and Historical Archaeology
Guided by experts, you’ll explore ancient Egypt, Greece, Rome, the medieval Mediterranean and Europe. As you become a proficient researcher in your own right, you’ll discover why archaeology is vital to our understanding of these civilizations and their legacies.

BA Prehistoric Archaeology
The origins of humanity: how people lived in ancient communities, how we evolved, and what it might tell us about our future. Our unusual breadth of expertise, and the incredible conserved landscape on our doorstep, make Sheffield a great choice if you want to specialise in this particular field.

BA Archaeology and History
If you’re interested in two subjects, why pick just one? Especially when they go together so well. Studying in two departments will enhance your understanding of both subjects, and how they inform each other. This is a flexible dual honours course. The balance between the two subjects is, to an extent, up to you. Fieldwork is optional.

PART-TIME STUDY
The BA Archaeology and the BA Archaeology with a Foundation Year can be studied part time.

ALSO AVAILABLE
BA Archaeology, Religion, Theology and the Bible
BA Archaeology and Languages with a Year Abroad

*QS World Rankings 2016© by Subject.
Fieldwork is how we generate the evidence that underpins our knowledge. Understanding it will make you a better archaeologist. So we aim to give you as much practical experience as possible. You can learn excavation techniques, geophysical surveying, and how to analyse and interpret materials. You can also see how a field project is organised, and how different specialists work together.

If you want more experience, we can help. You can apply to work on research projects during the summer holidays. We can also put you in touch with academics and professionals around the world who might be looking for volunteers.

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

All the techniques you learn are recorded in your Archaeology Skills Passport, endorsed by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. So you can show your professional credentials wherever you go.

Experience the thrill of discovery.

ONGOING PROJECTS

Vagnari, Puglia, Italy: excavating the main village of an Imperial Roman estate. The Sinop Kale Project, Turkey: investigating Greek and pre-Greek settlement on the shores of the Black Sea. Little Carlton: a recently discovered early medieval settlement in Lincolnshire, with rich evidence for trade, industry and literacy. Castleton, Peak District: the probable site of a medieval hospital.
Studying abroad for a year as part of your degree is a life-changing experience. And it could improve your job prospects.

All the coursework you do counts towards your final degree. You pay no fees to the partner university. And you only pay a reduced fee to Sheffield while you’re away.

There are lots of opportunities. Through Erasmus+, we have exchange agreements with seven European universities. Through the Study Abroad programme, we link with around 19 universities worldwide, including 10 in the USA.

Living and studying abroad is a great confidence builder. Your academic work will benefit from a different perspective on your subject. When you put it on your CV, it tells employers you’re independent, self-sufficient, able to work and socialise with people from different cultures – qualities that are very important to them.

Go international.

It tells employers you’re independent, self-sufficient, able to work and socialise with people from different cultures.
When it comes to lifestyle, three major factors give Sheffield the edge over other leading universities: our accommodation, our students’ union, and the city itself.

Our University accommodation is rated the UK’s No. 1. Most of it is relatively new, completed between 2007 and 2009. Most of it is in one of the country’s most sought-after residential areas. And there’s a lot of choice – from shared houses to deluxe apartments.

Our students’ union has been rated the best in the UK every year since 2009. And yes, that means the entertainment is excellent. But you don’t win an accolade like that – seven years in a row! – without listening very carefully to your students about all the other things that matter to them, like support services, representation, and volunteering.

And the city? It’s the greenest in the UK, with more parks and trees than any other. Its location means you can access the Peak District whenever you like. It’s also a major cultural centre: art galleries linked to the Tate and the V&A, the biggest independent cinema and the most important theatre scene outside London.

When you consider that this is also one of the safest major cities in the UK (according to the 2013 Peace Index), and your money will go further here than it would in other parts of the UK, it becomes clear: Sheffield is an inspired first choice.

Great value, superb facilities and an extraordinary city.

Sheffield is an inspired first choice.
With a degree from Sheffield, a career in archaeology is achievable. But you could do anything you set your mind to. Our graduates work in financial services, the media, healthcare, IT, journalism, teaching and law.

There are around 5,000 professional archaeologists in the UK, in universities, museums, commercial archaeology units, heritage parks and government departments. So the jobs are there. Take advantage of everything Sheffield has to offer, and you’ll be able to compete for international opportunities too.

WHAT WE OFFER
- Workplace Learning module in Year 3.
- Optional year in industry as part of your degree.
- Opportunities for work experience during vacations.
- Tailored careers advice throughout your course.
- Access to the Careers Service for up to three years after you graduate.
- Support from the department – always!

Degree with Employment Experience
Spend a year in industry as part of your course and we’ll amend your degree title to reflect it. We’ll do everything we can to help you find a placement. You don’t have to choose this option when you apply – you can decide after your first year.

You could do anything you set your mind to.

Careers and work experience.

90% of BA Archaeology students in work or further study six months after they graduate.

HEFCE data

“ Sheffield has taught me never to underestimate all the fascinating possibilities of archaeology, and never to assume that the most obvious explanation is the right one.

“The research and writing skills I developed at university have proved incredibly useful. Being able to sift through a range of sources and create and share the information in clear, accurate manner...is an essential part of my job.”

Rosalind Buck
Historic Environment Record Officer
BA Archaeology and Prehistory
Mature students

We do everything we can to encourage applications from mature students (over 21). That includes running a BA Archaeology with a Foundation Year for students who don’t have the usual A Levels. See page 6 for details. If you think this might be for you, please get in touch with us to discuss.

Open days

Between June and October each year, the University holds four open days. For the dates, and to book, see our website.

Once you’ve applied for a course, and if we offer you a place, we’ll invite you to a special Department of Archaeology open day, so you can meet staff and students, and see the facilities.

What next?

If you’d like to know more about our courses, please see the University’s website. The online prospectus has detail on individual modules, information about bursaries, how to apply, and much more:

www.sheffield.ac.uk/undergraduate

For more information about us – our teaching staff, fieldwork and community projects – please see the Department of Archaeology webpages:

www.sheffield.ac.uk/archaeology

Contact

If there’s anything you’d like to ask, please give us a call or drop us an email anytime. We’d love to hear from you.

Natalie Barks
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T: +44 (0) 114 222 2900
E: archaeology@sheffield.ac.uk

We do everything we can to make sure the information in our prospectus is correct when it goes to press. But courses and modules are subject to review, so things can sometimes change between the time you read this and when you apply. For the very latest information, see our website.

Course | Entry Requirements | A-level Subject requirements | English Language requirements (International Students)
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All Archaeology Undergraduate courses (except those below) | A Levels .......................................................... BBB | None | IELTS 6.5 with a minimum of 5.5 in each component
| International Baccalaureate ........................................... 32 | | |
| BTEC ....................................................................... DDM | History | IELTS grade of 7.0 with a minimum of 6.5 in each component
| Scottish Highers ........................................... AAAAB | Welsh Baccalaureate + 2 A Levels ........ B+BB |
| BA Archaeology and History | A Levels .......................................................... ABB | An appropriate modern foreign language | IELTS grade of 7.0 with a minimum of 6.5 in each component
| International Baccalaureate .................................... 34 | | |
| BTEC ....................................................................... DDD | | |
| Scottish Highers ........................................... AAAAB | Welsh Baccalaureate + 2 A Levels ........ B+AB |
|钨 | | |
| BA Archaeology and Languages with a year abroad | A Levels .......................................................... BBB | | |
| International Baccalaureate .................................... 33 | | |
| BTEC ....................................................................... DDM | | |
| Scottish Highers ........................................... BBBOBB | Welsh Baccalaureate + 2 A Levels ........ B+BB |

Contact

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