Archaeology, Minor

The interdisciplinary minor in Archaeology offers rigorous academic study of the archaeological record and its interpretation from cultures of great antiquity through the modern period. The curriculum engages students with methodological training in archaeological recovery and analysis, as well as the theoretical underpinnings of how we know what we know about past societies through the material traces of human activity.

Students also grapple with the ways in which archaeology is experienced and shaped through the heritage industry, popular culture, museums, as well as political, social, and cultural movements. As they prepare for careers or graduate study, Archaeology minors are encouraged to explore these problems while gaining foundational knowledge in the archaeology of a wide variety of cultures throughout the Old and New worlds, including ancient Anatolia, Mesopotamia, and Iran, the ancient and medieval Mediterranean, the Islamic world, South Asia, Pre-Columbian North and South America, as well as archaeology in and of the contemporary world.

Upon completion of the minor, students are equipped to think critically about the archaeological record and as educators, museum professionals, researchers, lawyers, as well as policy makers and employees of cultural institutions and heritage sites in various roles across multiple government agencies (forestry, BLM, state parks, etc.) who manage our shared cultural resources. The minor’s curricular structure consists of an introduction to archaeology (category A), one or more geographically- or historically-focused surveys to gain foundational knowledge in the archaeology of a specific region, time period, or culture (category B), and upper-division lectures or seminars that explore specific archaeological problems in greater depth (category C). To ensure an interdisciplinary course of study, students are allowed to take no more than five courses from any single academic unit.

Requirements for the Minor in Archaeology

Completion of seven courses (28 units) as specified below. At least four courses must be upper-division.

A. Complete:
   ANTHRO 2C  Introduction to Archaeology

B. Select one of the following:
   ART HIS 40A  Ancient Greek and Roman Art, and Architecture
   ART HIS 42A  History of Asian Art: Arts of India
   ART HIS 42D  History of Asian Art: Arts of Islam
   ART HIS 42E  Art and Archaeology of Ancient Persia, Egypt, and Mesopotamia
   ANTHRO 141A  Ancient Civilization of Mexico and the Southwest

C. Select five additional elective courses chosen from Areas B or C

   ANTHRO 48  Archaeology or Aliens?: Conspiracy, Pseudoscience, and the Emergence of Civilizations
   ANTHRO 147  Egyptomania
   ANTHRO 147A  Archaeology of the Islamic World
   ANTHRO 147B  Archaeology, Politics, and Identity
   ANTHRO 148  I Dig UCI
   ANTHRO 149  Special Topics in Archaeology
   ANTHRO 162B  Indian North America
   ANTHRO 169  Special Topics in Area Studies
   ART HIS 100  Studies in Ancient Art
   ART HIS 103  Studies in Greek Art
   ART HIS 107  Studies in Roman Art
   ART HIS 111B  Byzantine Art: 650-1450
   ART HIS 155A  Ancient India
   ART HIS 181  Topics in Museum Studies
   ART HIS 198  Advanced Seminar: Topics in Art History

Residence Requirement for the Minor

Four upper-division courses required for the minor must be completed successfully at UCI. Two of the four may be taken through the UC Education Abroad Program provided course content is approved in advance by the Humanities Undergraduate Study Office.

1 No more than three of the five electives can be taken from a single department.
2 With the approval of the director of the minor, other relevant courses may satisfy the requirements for the minor. Possibilities include a course with archaeological content not already listed, credit earned from the completion of an accredited field school, or courses imparting training relevant to
digital archaeology, geology, remote sensing, CAD, GIS, etc. (e.g. from COMPSCI, EARTHSS, EECS, ENGRCEE, I&C SCI, IN4MATX, etc.). In such cases, students must fulfill any prerequisites required by the program offering the course.

3 Course must be on an approved topic. A list of approved topics can be viewed on the Archaeology Minor webpage on the Department of Art History website (https://www.humanities.uci.edu/archaeology/).

• Art History, B.A.
• Art History, Minor