



University
of Glasgow

Archaeology

Undergraduate study



Founded in 1451, the University of Glasgow has inspired thinkers from the father of economics, Adam Smith, to the pioneer of television, John Logie Baird.



Choose Glasgow

Introduction

The University of Glasgow is rated as one of the top 100 universities in the world (*Times Higher Education QS World University Rankings*).

All of our students study for degrees that are recognised and respected by employers throughout the world, but we can guarantee you will receive a lot more besides. Some of the key benefits of student life at Glasgow are

Satisfied students

Our students report high levels of satisfaction with their studies. According to the independent National Student Survey, an impressive 90% of the University's final-year students rated themselves as satisfied with their course in 2009, well above the national average of 81%.

Flexible course choices

We offer more than 900 degree programme combinations and our flexible system allows you to study a broad range of subjects during your time at university and, in many cases, makes it possible to delay choosing specialist subjects until the end of second year.

Teaching based on research

Glasgow is a research-led university, which means that you will be taught by academics at the forefront of knowledge in their subject areas.

A student experience worth having

You will take away more than a degree from Glasgow. Over the last 550 years our students have built up a fantastic array of initiatives to keep you engaged, entertained and energised. The result is a student experience to be proud of. We have

- four award-winning student media teams
- over 100 clubs and societies
- two undergraduate student unions
- sporting facilities for all levels of fitness
- a study abroad and exchange programme that offers opportunities to study across the world as part of your undergraduate degree.

‘Glasgow is an exciting place, rich in culture, groaning with history, but most of all I found it to be welcoming.’

Laura Sayers graduated in 2001 and is a BBC Radio 1 producer

Our campus

The University's compact main campus combines grand historical buildings with up-to-the-minute facilities. It's centred on a neo-gothic building with a spire offering breathtaking views across the city.

Come and visit us

Open Day

www.glasgow.ac.uk/openday

In June and September we hold an Open Day to allow you, your family and teachers to visit us on campus and see a little of the city.

Open Day allows you to speak to academic staff, find out more about courses, tour the facilities, visit student accommodation and see for yourself what life would be like as a student at Glasgow. If you have a long way to travel you can also stay in one of our student residences.

Alternative visiting arrangements

Open Day is the best way for you to get a comprehensive picture of what being a student here would be like. However, if for any reason you can't make it on that date, then we will be able to make alternative arrangements.

To find out more visit:

www.glasgow.ac.uk/afternoonvisits.

Applicants' Visit Day

At Glasgow we go the extra mile. If you receive an offer of a place at Glasgow, we will invite you to visit us before making your final decision. Applicants' Visit Day usually takes place in March. Details will be sent to you together with your offer of a place.

Where can I find out more?

Our website has more information:
www.glasgow.ac.uk/archaeology.

We are happy to help you with further questions. Please contact us by email:
enquiries@archaeology.arts.gla.ac.uk.



Students excavating a prehistoric and Early Christian burial ground at St Ninian's Isle on Orkney.

www.glasgow.ac.uk/archaeology

Archaeology

Degree: MA, MA (Soc Sci), BSc

Typical offer for BSc

Highers	ABBB, preferably with two science subjects
A-levels	ABB, preferably with two science subjects
IB	32 points including three science subjects

Typical offer for MA, MA (SocSci)

Highers	AABB (first sitting) AAAB (two sittings)
A-levels	AAB (first sitting) AAA (two sittings)
IB	34 points

For entry requirements visit www.glasgow.ac.uk/undergraduate/degrees/entryrequirements

Archaeology is the study of human history and its impact on the wider environment through the systematic identification, recovery and analysis of material remains such as houses, burial monuments, pottery, seeds and stone tools.

What can I expect in first year?

In the first year, you can take two courses

- The archaeology of Scotland
- Archaeology in the modern world.

If you intend to study Honours in Archaeology you must take both these courses.

The **Archaeology in the modern world** course aims to help you understand

- the relevance of archaeology to contemporary society
- the issues involved in the preservation and interpretation of the past
- how archaeology has been used as a tool for creating communities, identities and legitimacy.

The **Archaeology of Scotland** course provides

- an understanding of the cultural evolution of Scotland from the end of the last Ice Age until the modern era
- material which will enrich your understanding of other aspects of the history and culture of Scotland
- an introduction to the key archaeological methods and techniques.

These two courses differ in how they are taught, but as well as lectures and small group tutorials can include practical laboratory work and interactive computer classes, as well as field excursions to places such as the Roman Antonine Wall or a reconstructed Iron Age lake dwelling.

What can I expect in second year?

The courses you take in second year depend on whether you are studying for an MA or a BSc degree. If you studying for an MA or MA (SocSci) degree you will take three courses

- Archaeology of Europe and the Mediterranean
- Field archaeology in theory and practice
- Interpreting archaeology.

If you are studying for a BSc degree, you will take a course in **Analytical archaeology** in place of **Interpreting archaeology**.

Archaeology of Europe and the Mediterranean follows a broad chronological order and focuses on:

- the transition from mobile to sedentary life
- the growth of complex societies
- state formation
- colonialism and culture change
- the birth of the modern world.

Field archaeology in theory and practice is a combination of the study of principles and practical work. It takes a series of key sites/ excavators and uses them to explain and illustrate the background and development of field archaeology. You will also learn relevant skills in 'hands-on' practicals such as:

- plane table survey
- levelling
- carrying out and documenting a walk-over survey
- recording standing building remains
- handling soil sieve residues.

Interpreting archaeology:

- focuses on several key individuals who have shaped interpretation within archaeology
- charts the theoretical foundation of archaeology from the antiquarians to the present day
- considers how archaeology interfaces with the contemporary world through case studies in forensic archaeology and the protection of the past.

Archaeology is the study of how and where people lived in the past and how they interacted with their world. Archaeology is moving in exciting new directions, meaning that it now can include:

- looking at gender and body issues
- investigating how past people experienced their environment
- using large scale survey projects to interpret landscapes
- understanding how archaeology has an impact on modern society.

Analytical archaeology shares some content with interpreting archaeology but takes a more scientific approach to explore how science has contributed to the understanding of the age of archaeological sites, their natural environmental setting, subsistence, technology and trade in the past.

All the courses have practical/tutorial elements including field/museum classes looking at artefacts, monuments and maps. If you wish to enter Honours you have to work on an excavation for at least three weeks – we have a summer field school that runs a training excavation at Forteviot in Perthshire.

Fieldwork

Throughout the programme we emphasise that you should gain **practical experience** in field archaeology.

In addition to the compulsory field classes organised by the University, you will have to take part in **excavations and other fieldwork** during the vacation periods.

You can get some of this experience in laboratory or museum environments, and particular opportunities are afforded in Glasgow by the University's **Hunterian Museum** and the city's **Kelvingrove Museum & Art Gallery**.



Choose Glasgow

What happens next?

Honours

If you successfully complete the courses in first and second year, you may progress to Honours (third and fourth year).

You can take Archaeology as a Single Honours degree or you may choose to take Joint Honours with another subject (see table below).

You have a wide variety of taught courses to choose from at Honours level, but everyone has to take two core courses on archaeological theory and principles in their Junior Honours year.

If you are taking Single Honours, you take six other courses from a list that can include:

- Mediterranean archaeology
- Early Medieval Britain
- Viking studies
- Prehistoric Europe
- Roman archaeology
- Ceramic studies
- Landscape studies
- Computing applications
- The archaeology of religion.

Joint Honours combinations

You may study Archaeology with another subject at Honours level. Subjects which may be taken in combination with Archaeology include:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Arts & Media Informatics | • Gaelic |
| • Business & Management | • Geography |
| • Business Economics | • German |
| • Celtic Civilisation | • Greek |
| • Celtic Studies | • History |
| • Central & East European Studies | • History of Art |
| • Classics (Classical Civilisation) | • Latin |
| • Economic & Social History | • Mathematics |
| • Economics | • Politics |
| • English Language | • Psychology |
| • English Literature | • Russian |
| • Film & Television Studies | • Scottish History |
| | • Slavonic Studies |
| | • Spanish |
| | • Theatre Studies |
| | • Theology & Religious Studies. |

You also have to complete a dissertation based on an original piece of research. Lastly, you will prepare a portfolio of practical work based on your fieldwork and the field course.

If you are taking Joint Honours, you will take three courses from the list above, as well as writing a smaller dissertation and preparing a shorter, mini-portfolio.

Can I study abroad?

Our students have studied for a year at universities in Ireland, Sweden and Australia: it's a great opportunity to experience another country. You can also undertake your fieldwork abroad – recent students have worked in Cyprus, Greece, France, Iceland, Latvia and the Czech Republic.

The benefits are huge. You will not only be able to gain an entirely new perspective on your academic subject and enhance your employability, you will also find out new things about yourself, increase your independence, develop self-confidence, learn to live and work with people from different backgrounds and cultures and form a large circle of international friends.

Students who have studied abroad describe it as a life-changing experience – 'the best year of my life'.

Studying in Europe

You can study at more than 250 universities all over Europe under the Erasmus programme. Erasmus is an EC exchange programme that enables students in 31 European countries to study for part of their degree in another European country. Exchanges can last from 3-10 months and study credit is transferred to your home university.

Beyond Europe

The International Exchange Programme allows you to spend a year at institutions in Australia, Canada, Central & South America, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Singapore and the USA. All the institutions teach in English except Chuo University in Japan and those in Central & South America.

The University holds a Study Abroad Fair every November. Information is also available on our website: www.glasgow.ac.uk/studying/exchange.

What are my career prospects?

Our stress on the practical elements of archaeology means that many of our graduates find employment as professional archaeologists. Recent graduates have positions in:

- Historic Scotland
- the Royal Commission for Ancient and Historic Monuments
- local authority planning departments
- museums, including the National Museum of Scotland
- heritage organisations such as the National Trust.

The wide range of transferable skills covered in our courses are valued by many employers, and former graduates enter a wide range of occupations, from marketing and the civil service to media.

‘The degree course is fantastic and I’ve done a lot of good fieldwork.’

Juliet Robinson, Archaeology student

www.glasgow.ac.uk/archaeology



‘Scotland at its artsy, riotous, high-octane, good-time best.’

Lonely Planet



City of Glasgow

What is it like living and studying in Glasgow?

Named as one of the world’s top ten cities by independent travel guide *Lonely Planet*, Glasgow attracts the largest student population in Scotland. The city’s reputation for friendliness means that wherever you come from, you’ll soon treat it as your second home.

Music and nightlife

In an average week Glasgow hosts 123 bands, 72 classical composers, 49 choirs, 38 orchestras and 21 jazz bands. Renowned for discovering acts from Franz Ferdinand to Primal Scream, the city has fantastic venues for live music including King Tut’s Wah Wah Hut – voted UK’s best live venue by listeners of Radio 1 three years in a row.

More than 700 bars, pubs and nightclubs mean no two nights in Glasgow are the same. Whether you’re after a record-breaking 100-foot long bar where everyone can be a barfly (the Horseshoe), or a pub with a log fire, stuffed stags’ heads and kilted staff that’s as appealing as it is unpronounceable (Uisge Beatha), Glasgow has a venue to suit. Dance until you drop at the Subclub, or travel back to 1920s America at the Vegas clubnight on the Renfrew Ferry, it’s up to you.

Festivals

At least one festival every month of the year shows Glasgow loves to celebrate. Some of our favourites include Glasgow International Comedy Festival, Celtic Connections folk music festival, Glasgay, Piping Live!, Glasgow Film Festival and Aye Write!, the city’s book festival.

Culture

The city of Glasgow owns one of the richest collections in Europe, displayed in 13 museums and art galleries – and admission is free. You are spoilt for choice, with the city’s famous Burrell collection vying for attention beside Scotland’s most visited attraction, the Kelvingrove Art Gallery & Museum, located next door to the University.

Sport

The city will host the Commonwealth Games in 2014. Across the world people know Glasgow as home of Celtic and Rangers football clubs, but with no fewer than 27 public fitness centres including swimming pools, running tracks, 11-a-side pitches and tennis courts, you’re guaranteed to find something to get involved with, whatever your level of fitness.

Campus culture

Are you craving cosy campus living or do you prefer big city excitement. Whichever is your style, you’ll be impressed by the University’s excellent location in the compact West End. Just two miles from the city centre, with great bus and underground links, the West End has a reputation as the bohemian, trendy and cosmopolitan quarter of Glasgow.



What our students say

‘Glasgow is such a diverse and vibrant city with lots to offer and a great social scene with a fantastic range of bars, clubs and music venues.’

Alexander Hutchison

‘I chose Glasgow because compared to the other cities I visited it just seemed like a much more lively place. I think the high student population makes it a very young city.’

Elizabeth Ritz

‘The campus at Glasgow is unbelievably beautiful. It’s hard to believe sometimes when walking down busy Byres Road and turning into University Avenue, that this Hogwarts is situated right in the heart of the West End.’

Beverley Simpson

‘Glasgow is very vibrant. The West End is like the village within the city.’

Sarah Gibson