Exploring the past, illuminating the future.
Postgraduate studies in Archaeology
Introducing Archaeology at Southampton

Studying for your masters in Archaeology at Southampton gives you the opportunity to develop your professional skills, lay foundations for doctoral research, and develop your expertise, in an environment that’s friendly, dynamic and challenging.

The University offers a wide range of programmes across the spectrum of archaeology and related disciplines and is one of the largest academic units in the UK. Approximately fifty masters students each year study subjects that include human origins; spatial technologies; advanced computer modelling; maritime archaeology; the archaeology of Rome; and social theory and representation in the modern world.

As a member of Archaeology you will mix with staff and research students in an active postgraduate community located in Humanities where interdisciplinary collaboration is actively promoted. We also have strong links with the National Oceanography Centre, Electronics and Computer Science, Medicine and Engineering.

You’ll benefit from research-led teaching led by academics and researchers who are leaders in their field, and in many cases you will have the opportunity to become involved in this research through taught modules, practicals or fieldwork.

Archaeology at the University of Southampton is highly regarded for its staff, research, teaching and facilities. This is why we also rank highly for student satisfaction - something we take immense pride in and regard as a key indicator of a successful academic unit.

Professor Simon Keay | Head of Archaeology

“My career in the cultural heritage sector would not have been possible without the theoretical underpinning and technical skills that I gained from Archaeology. Archaeology strives to understand the human present and future, as well as the past. This drive to better predict humanity’s condition is at the centre of my research, and Archaeology provides the multi-disciplinary approach essential to my work.”

Visit www.southampton.ac.uk/Archaeology/postgraduate/our_students to see what our other students have to say.

Nicole Beale | PhD in Web Science & Archaeology | Museums Professional
In collaboration with the Herculaneum Conservation Project, the Soprintendenza Speciale per i Beni Archeologici di Napoli e Pompeii, the British School at Rome, and the University of Warwick, we are restoring a 2,000-year-old painted Roman statue to its original glory using state-of-the-art technology.

The head of the statue, believed to represent a wounded Amazon warrior, was discovered in 2006 - preserved complete with painted hair and eyes - in the ancient ruins of Herculaneum during works by the Herculaneum Conservation Project in the area of the Roman Basilica. The beautiful red and brown pigments are exceptionally well preserved because of the particular nature of the Herculaneum’s burial under volcanic ash.

Our team is now digitally re-modelling and repainting the head of the statue using techniques derived from the film industry and our world-leading computing expertise and facilities. Through creating a polynomial texture map of the sculpture, and visualisation of the scan data it has been possible to examine the surfaces and understand its underlying geometry. The team will also use computer modelling to reproduce the exact lighting and environmental conditions under which the statue would have been displayed in the first century.

Our work with the Herculaneum Conservation Project is just one example of how our technology and expertise is helping to illuminate the future. You can find many more examples in the pages that follow. We hope you will be inspired to join us in our work.
Archeology at Southampton is a part of Humanities, one of the country’s leading centres for research and a multidisciplinary grouping of Archaeology, English, Film Studies, History, Modern Languages, Music and Philosophy. Together these present our postgraduate students with a wealth of opportunities for interdisciplinary study.

Every year, we receive applications from students with a wide range of motivations and interests. Some have recently graduated and seek intellectual stimulation to complement their job, while others are looking to change career direction or wish to explore a new area of knowledge after a career. Whatever your situation, you will find postgraduate study an enriching experience.

Many postgraduate students study on a part-time basis so they can successfully balance home life with study, and continue in employment.

We offer a number of alternative study routes at masters level through a portfolio of taught programmes including Master of Arts (MA), Master of Science (MSc) and Master of Research (MRes). We also offer an international distance learning programme for international students who wish to study for their PhD in their own country.

If you are considering doctoral study in Archaeology or on an interdisciplinary basis, the outcome will be an MPhil or PhD. Typically, you can expect to spend up to four years studying for your PhD on a full-time basis or up to seven years if you choose to study part-time. When you begin your research you will be supported by your supervisor, who will help you develop your personal knowledge within your chosen research area. As you progress, you will begin to make an independent contribution to knowledge. After two years full-time study you will usually have completed the requirements for the MPhil and you will make the transfer to your PhD.

**The Graduate School**

When you join us to study Archaeology you will become a member of the Humanities Graduate School.

The Graduate School provides you with additional help and support during the course of your studies. We have a broad focus, providing not only essential skills training and development, but also pastoral support, connections to funding opportunities, student-led activities and a social network.

We are particularly proud of our doctoral training programme. We offer PhD students an opportunity to take part in our Skills Development Training Programme to enhance their research experience, life skills and employability. Now in its sixth year, the programme meets all of the Research Councils’ criteria for training provision, and is delivered face-to-face and online.

You can undertake as many sessions as you like, and concentrate on developing the skills that are important to you. You can learn how to plan your research project; raise funding; give a research paper; organise a conference to present your research; and turn your thesis into a book.

Our Graduate School encompasses a variety of student-led activities including regular social gatherings, a seminar series and a number of reading groups focusing on research areas across our seven disciplines. The highlight of the year for the Graduate School is the student-led annual conference that gives all postgraduates the chance to present their work to peers and staff. We also invite paper and poster submissions from students at other institutions, so you have an opportunity to network with others in your field. The best papers from the conference are published in our peer-reviewed Graduate School journal, *Emergence*.

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Our postgraduate students are invited to attend weekly term-time seminars arranged by our Research Centres, academic disciplines and cross-disciplinary research groups. These events provide an invaluable opportunity to find out about other areas of study within Humanities.

We encourage you to be an active member of our Graduate School making your own contribution to our development. You will be regarded as a researcher in your own right and we expect you to apply for funding to run your own seminars, workshops and conferences; to take research trips when possible; and to attend relevant conferences in your area of interest. Your contribution is likely to be featured on our website and be included in our annual Graduate School newsletter which is written, edited and published by our students.

www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/postgraduate/graduate_school

Wet sieving soil samples to extract artefacts such as plant remains through flotation
Research centres

Centre for Maritime Archaeology (CMA)
The Centre for Maritime Archaeology provides a focus for our maritime archaeological research. We undertake projects at local and international levels, and draw on the skills and resources from a wide range of disciplines throughout the University. Our research areas are:

- Maritime technology and infrastructure through time
- Maritime ethnography
- Climate and environmental change with special reference to land/ocean interaction
- Inter-tidal and underwater survey, excavation, recording and methodological advancement
- Material culture recording and analysis
- Trade and interaction across the world oceans, seas and rivers.

The Centre provides services to government and private bodies in a number of different areas including: interpreting and presenting material for television programmes; environmental and cultural impact assessment; culture resource management, and the provision of continued professional development.

Centre for the Archaeology of Human Origins (CAHO)
The Centre for the Archaeology of Human Origins is dedicated to exploring and promoting all aspects of Palaeolithic Archaeology and the study of human origins. It brings together specialists in skeletal evolution with influences of climate on where and how people lived; when did we become a predominately right-handed species; dating the spread of modern humans in different parts of the world; and many other critical topics in the evolution of our species.

Our members have excavated in South Africa, Eastern Europe, North America and Britain. We also look at old museum collections so that old data will contribute to the answers to the most up-to-date research questions.

Archaeological Computing Research Group
The Archaeological Computing Research Group provides a focus for all computational research within Archaeology. The focus of the Group is both multi- and interdisciplinary and it has strong links with other institutions and academic units both in Humanities, and Electronics and Computer Science, Geography, Ocean and Earth Science. Our mission is to encourage information technology innovations relevant to cultural heritage research that will help to answer archaeological questions.

Our current research focuses on the methods for integrating dispersed and complicated archaeological data such as excavation archives and ceramic assemblages. The so-called ‘Semantic Web’ has considerable potential for making archaeological data more assessable and for developing new research tools. Geographic Information Systems form a further core area of research involving all aspects of spatial analysis. We are currently working on research projects with a range of partners from all over the world including the British Museum and English Heritage, with a focus on data acquisition, using techniques such as laser scanning and photographic imaging in order to obtain more information from archaeological objects and sites. Finally, we have a range of research projects working with partners from industry and academia in the area of archaeological computer graphics. This work focuses on animation and digital representation theory, simulation of built environments, and physically accurate rendering of archaeological artefacts and spaces.

Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Culture
The Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Culture offers you a unique opportunity to study the intellectual history, literature, politics, music, material culture, buildings, and landscape of the Medieval and Renaissance periods. We offer a wide and varied opportunities for doctoral research and two masters programmes: the MA in Medieval and Renaissance Culture; and for those who already have a clear idea of their dissertation topic, an MRes in Medieval and Renaissance Studies.

The Centre reflects the research interests of more than twenty members of staff across the various disciplines within Humanities who work in the period between antiquity and 1700. We work in diverse and complementary ways in the histories of Europe and the wider world from the early Middle Ages to the end of the 17th century. Many of us are involved in providing the raw materials for research through the preparation of scholarly editions of archival material, plays, and music. We have particular research strengths in church history, poetry and song, early theatre, literature and politics, and material culture. We develop our research through interdisciplinary thematic study days, recent examples of which include ‘monasticism’, ‘the house’, and ‘law and culture’, and invite visiting speakers to our lively fortnightly research seminar series. We regularly mount national and international conferences, some of which have been devised and led by our own postgraduate students.

“I chose Southampton specifically to study for my PhD under the supervision of Professor Stephanie Moser. Her research into the significance of imagery for the discipline of archaeology is world leading, completely unique, and a perfect match for my interests. There is arguably no other university that could have provided me with access to the people, ideas, and resources that Southampton has offered to me.”

Visit www.southampton.ac.uk/archaeology/postgraduate/our_students to see what our other students have to say.

Sara Perry | PhD Archaeology
The University of Southampton

The University is a member of the prestigious Russell Group of 20 major UK research universities and is a top 15 UK research university with a global reputation for leading-edge research and innovation.

World-class reputation
The University of Southampton was established in 1952, and since then it has continued to grow and flourish. We now have over 22,000 students including more than 5,700 postgraduates and approximately 5,000 international students from 130 countries. Furthermore, we are ranked in the top 75 universities in the world according to the most recent QS World Rankings. In the latest assessment by the Quality Assurance Agency, which monitors the standards for teaching in the UK, we were awarded the highest level of achievement for the standard of our educational provision.

Outstanding facilities
Archaeology students have access to some of the best facilities in the country, which over the last four years have received more than £200 million of investment. The Hartley Library on the Highfield Campus is one of the leading research libraries in the UK and recently underwent a £12 million extension and refurbishment. Facilities include a state-of-the-art learning centre with consultation rooms, ‘walk-in’ internet access, a language study area, a popular café and a lounge for more relaxed study. Additionally, it houses specialist collections including the Broadland Archives, the papers of the Duke of Wellington, world renowned collections relating to Jewish history and culture, and the Ford Collection of British Parliamentary Publications.

Three of the south of England’s leading arts venues are located on the Highfield Campus: the Nuffield Theatre, Turner Sims Concert Hall and John Hansard Art Gallery. There are also branches of the major high street banks, a bookshop, post office, a choice of cafés and restaurants, a convenience store, travel centre, and a day nursery for children on campus. Postgraduate students also enjoy the facilities of the Staff Social Centre on site.

The £8.5 million Jubilee Sports Centre on the Highfield Campus has swimming, badminton, squash and fitness facilities. In addition, our £4.3 million outdoor sports facilities include tennis courts and synthetic and grass pitches.

The Students’ Union, known as SUSU, is one of the leading students’ unions in the country. Run by students for students, they are vocal on political matters and a number of ex-SUSU presidents have gone on to have political careers, with several of them currently serving as MPs. The recently refurbished Union building offers a range of places to eat good food, listen to live music, see the latest films, and get information and advice.

A few minutes’ walk from Highfield is Avenue Campus, which houses most disciplines within Humanities and the Centre for Language Study. With its welcoming atmosphere, Avenue is a self-contained campus with its own library, lecture theatres, focused postgraduate study spaces and catering amenities.

For more information on our facilities please visit www.southampton.ac.uk/Archaeology/postgraduate/study/facilities

Excellent accommodation
Our 20 halls of residence vary in size, character and facilities, but all provide the same high-quality accommodation in a safe, diverse, inclusive environment. We have accommodation specifically for postgraduates, from standard packages to self-catered studio flats. We can also give you help and advice on securing private rented accommodation. Accommodation in a University hall of residence is guaranteed (subject to terms and conditions) to all international postgraduate students without dependents, outside the EU, for the first year of their programme. Please see our website for further details: www.southampton.ac.uk/accommodation
Southampton and the south coast

Southampton is a thriving modern city steeped in history and culture. Just over an hour south of central London, Southampton also has excellent transport links with the rest of the UK and Europe.

A connected city
Situated on the south coast of England in the county of Hampshire, Southampton boasts excellent transport links with the rest of the UK and internationally by road, rail, sea and air. The city is serviced by two mainline train stations with direct trains to London Waterloo and within easy reach of the Eurostar at St Pancras International. An international airport offers regular flights to UK and major European destinations and the University’s own award-winning Uni-link bus service connects all Southampton campuses, halls of residence, the City Centre, airport and both railway stations.

More locally, the nearby towns and cities of Bournemouth, Poole, Winchester and Portsmouth offer a wealth of cultural and leisure attractions for any visitor. Bournemouth and Poole’s award-winning Blue Flag beaches are just down the coast, and Winchester, once the country’s capital city is perhaps best known for its 11th century cathedral and the Great Hall, which houses the mysterious Round Table of King Arthur. Portsmouth is 20 miles to the east of Southampton and home to historic ships including Lord Nelson’s flagship HMS Victory, and Henry VIII’s Mary Rose. The Isle of Wight is England’s largest island and is located just off the Hampshire coast. It is easily accessible, and each summer hosts Cowes Week, the world’s largest and most prestigious international sailing regatta.

A historic city
Once the home to the writer Jane Austen, Southampton also has a fascinating maritime and aviation history. It was from here, in 1415 that Henry V set sail for Agincourt, the Pilgrim Fathers began their historic journey to the New World in 1620 and the ill-fated Titanic departed on its maiden voyage in 1912. The Spitfire, the fighter aircraft that won the Battle of Britain, was developed in the region in the 1930s. And it was here in Southampton that British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and US President Eisenhower planned the D-Day landings during World War II. Southampton is also known for having the longest surviving run of medieval walls in England.

Less than half an hour from Southampton is the New Forest National Park, with vast open heathland and beautiful forest. Created by William the Conqueror in 1079 as a royal hunting area, it is now a unique area of historical, ecological and agricultural significance. Today the forest retains many historical rural practices, such as pasteurising of ponies, cattle, pigs and donkeys in the open forest by local inhabitants.

A modern city
Today Southampton is a truly multicultural city and is home to one of Europe’s largest commercial ports, which handles in excess of 42 million tonnes of cargo annually. It is also the cruise capital of northern Europe and is renowned across the world as the home of the giant cruise liners, Queen Mary 2 and Queen Victoria. The city’s coastal location means it offers a vast range of opportunities for sport and leisure, with waterfront marinas and a focus on water sports and sailing.

Southampton is also home to West Quay, one of the south coast’s best shopping centres, as well as a superb array of entertainment venues that cater for all tastes including the ever popular Oxford Street with its seemingly endless choice of good quality restaurants.

The city’s five Grade II listed central parks together with its huge 326 acre common make it the greenest city in the south of England. Throughout the year an abundance of events are arranged for the general public including guided walks, arts in the park, live music and a Thai food festival to name but a few.

Southampton is packed with exciting places to go. So whether you want to see the latest blockbuster film, visit an award-winning art gallery or fancy a night at the theatre, then Southampton is the city for you.

Southampton has a rich maritime heritage so it is unsurprising that today there is growing interest in water sports, sailing and ocean racing. For more information and a short video please visit: www.southampton.ac.uk/visitus/cityandregion

Within a short walk of the waterfront is Southampton’s Old Town, with its historic buildings and museums. It was near here the Pilgrim Fathers set sail for America in 1620 before their unscheduled stop at Plymouth.
How to apply

Entry requirements
We accept recognised qualifications from a wide range of UK and international universities.

Typical entry requirements for our masters programmes are a strong first degree. For further information: www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/postgraduate/taught_courses/our_courses

Applicants for our research degrees will be required to demonstrate a previous strong performance on a masters degree. For further information: www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/postgraduate/research_degrees/courses

International Students
Our dedicated International Office aims to make the process of joining the University as simple as possible, and is there to help you with any initial queries you may have before you make the decision to apply to Southampton. Staff members travel overseas throughout the year to meet with many of our potential students and are assisted by official University representatives in a wide variety of countries. For more information on the support services available to international students, both before and after arriving at Southampton please visit: www.southampton.ac.uk/international

English language
If English is not your first language, you will need to have already achieved a satisfactory standard in an approved test in English, such as IELTS, typically at grade 6.5 or above, by the time you start your course. You may choose to complete one of our pre-essional English language courses, which provide excellent academic preparation for study at Southampton. www.southampton.ac.uk/clsl

Fees and funding
Tuition fees vary according to the type of programme you choose. Fees charged to full time students include the full cost of tuition, examinations, Students’ Union membership and research support expenses (where applicable). For further information visit: www.southampton.ac.uk/postgraduate/feesandfunding

Up to £1 Million of scholarships and funding available
Humanities offers up to £1 million in awards to postgraduate students every year. Our awards are open to all students intending to study at masters or doctoral level including UK, EU and International applicants. The awards available vary from year to year and range from studentships from £1,000 to full scholarships that cover tuition fees at the UK/EU rate. For up to date information on funding opportunities available for all Humanities disciplines, please visit: www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/postgraduate/money_matters

More information
For an up to date list of Archaeology masters programmes available, along with detailed course descriptions please visit: www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/postgraduate/taught_courses/our_courses

For detailed information on Archaeology research degrees please visit: www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/postgraduate/research_degrees/courses

If you have any questions regarding the application process please feel free to contact us:
Email: pageapply.fh@southampton.ac.uk
Tel: +44 (0) 23 8059 8062
www.southampton.ac.uk/archaeology

“How the research atmosphere I experienced during my MSc made me believe Southampton was the right place for me to do a PhD. A number of ongoing archaeological projects really appealed to me, and some lecturers allowed me to develop my own methods to contribute to them.”
Visit www.southampton.ac.uk/archaeology/postgraduate/our_students to see what our other students have to say.

Tom Brughmans | MSc Archaeological Computing and PhD in Archaeology
Our masters courses are a product of the broad and contemporary interests of our academic research community. These subjects are wide-ranging, from human evolution to the politics of the past, embracing prehistoric to modern periods and encompassing a geographic range that includes Britain, Eastern and Western Europe, Africa, the Pacific and the Americas.

The breadth of masters programmes offered reflects our subject, period, methodological and thematic interests.

- MSc Archaeological Computing (Spatial Technologies)
- MSc Archaeological Computing (Virtual Pasts)
- MA/MSc Archaeological Survey and Landscape
- MA Archaeology of Rome and its Provinces
- MA Ceramic and Lithic Analysis for Archaeologists
- MA/MSc Maritime Archaeology
- MA/MSc Maritime Archaeology – Maritime Conservation
- MA Osteoarchaeology
- MA Palaeolithic Archaeology and Human Origins
- MA Social Archaeology

Further information
For more detailed information on our Archaeology masters programmes please visit: www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/taught_courses

The interdisciplinary nature of archaeology underpins our understanding of past societies, guided by new theoretical frameworks and investigative methods. We believe in the contemporary relevance of archaeology, and have a strong tradition of investigating the politics of the past and its representation in literature and other media.

Our research interests include:

- Theory, representation and cultural politics
  We are distinctive in the depth of our commitment to theoretical reflection and our engagement with archaeology in its cultural, social and political context.

- Classical and historical archaeology
  We are committed to addressing the very widest questions of social and cultural change. Our work involves us considering theoretical issues such as the material expression of identity, architecture and built space, and social power and transformation in classical and historical societies.

- Maritime archaeology
  Maritime archaeology, one of the most dynamic growth areas of the discipline, is housed and structured strategically through the Centre for Maritime Archaeology. The principle that underpins our research is that, through its particularly rich source of material found from the coastal landscape to the deep sea, maritime archaeology offers new ways of addressing fundamental questions about the human past.

- Social prehistory
  Our work in social prehistory dates back to the 1970s and unites the themes of human origins and later prehistory. Both of these areas are characterised by the use of scientific and empirical techniques to address the “big questions” of humanity and social organisation.

- Archaeological science
  Archaeology uses an increasingly wide range of scientific techniques to obtain, analyse, visualise and interpret its data. Just as science is underpinned by theory, so archaeological science is embedded in the areas outlined above.

Further information
For detailed information on our Archaeology MPhil or PhD programmes please visit: www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/research_degrees