Independent Research

Majors who wish to undertake independent research, especially for researching and writing a lengthy paper, must arrange with a professor who is willing to advise them, and consult with the major advisor. Such research normally would be conducted by seniors as a unit of supervised work (403), which must be approved by the advising professor before registration. Students planning to do such research should consult with professors in the department in the spring semester of their junior year or no later than the beginning of the fall semester of the senior year.

Honors

Honors are granted on the basis of academic performance as demonstrated by a cumulative average of 3.5 or better in the major.

Additional Major Experiences: Fieldwork and Museum Internships

The department strongly encourages students to gain fieldwork experience over the summer and assists them in getting positions on field projects in North America and overseas. The department is undertaking several field projects in Egypt, Lebanon, and the United Arab Emirates. Further field projects in Greece or the Near East are foreseen for the future. There will be opportunities for advanced undergraduates to participate in these projects.

Museum internships, either during the summer or during the term, also constitute valid major experiences beyond the classroom. The department is awarded annually one fully paid summer internship by the Nicholas P. Goulandris Foundation for students to work for six weeks in the Museum of Cycladic Art in Athens, Greece. An announcement inviting applications is normally sent by the department Chair in the spring.

Opportunities to work with the College’s archaeology collections are available throughout the academic year and during the summer. Students wishing to work with the collections should consult Marianne Weldon, Collections Manager for Art and Artifacts.

Funding for Summer Learning Opportunities

The department has two funds that support students for summer internships, summer fieldwork projects, and archaeological summer projects of their own design. One, the Elisabeth Packard Fund for internships in Art History and Archaeology is shared with the Department of the History of Art, while the other is the Anna Lerah Keys Memorial Prize. Any declared major may apply for these funds. An announcement calling for applications is normally sent to majors in the spring, and the awards are made public at the annual college awards ceremony in April. To help cover expenses related to archaeological learning opportunities, which can be expensive, the department encourages majors to consider applying for funding offered by Bryn Mawr College and external funding sources.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Department Office: Old Library 235
Migdalia Carrasquillo (mcarrasqui@brynmawr.edu) 610.526.5053
Margaret Kelly (mkelly01@brynmawr.edu) 610.526.5334
http://www.brynmawr.edu/archaeology

Faculty

Catherine Baker, Mellon Post-Doctoral Fellow in the Humanities
Roman archaeology and art history; Roman Republican history; ancient urbanism, imperialism, and colonialism

Jennie Bradbury, Assistant Professor, Director of Graduate Studies, and Co-Director of the Middle Eastern Studies Program
Prehistory of the ancient Near East; survey methodologies, mortuary ritual, GIS

A. A. Donohue, Rhys Carpenter Professor of Classical and Near Eastern Archaeology
History and historiography of classical art

Astrid Lindenlauf, Associate Professor and Chair
Classical archaeology

Peter Magee, Professor
Archaeology of Iran, Arabia, and Pakistan (on leave 2020-2021)

Evrydiki Tasopoulou, Visiting Assistant Professor and Undergraduate Advisor
Classical art and archaeology; Greek, Egyptian, and Near Eastern interconnections; representations of animals in Greek art

Courses Fall 2020

ARCH 104/602 Agriculture and Urban Revolution
Jennie Bradbury, MWF 11:00am-12:00pm (Hybrid)
This course examines the archaeology of the two most fundamental changes that have occurred in human society in the last 12,000 years, agriculture and urbanism, and we explore these in Egypt and the Near East as far as India. We also explore those societies that did not experience these changes.

ARCH 203 Ancient Greek Cities and Sanctuaries
Evrydiki Tasopoulou, MTh 1:10pm-2:30pm (Remote)
A study of the development of the Greek city-states and sanctuaries, exploring the political formation of the city-state and the role of religion with reference to archaeological evidence. The city-state is considered as a particular political economy of the Mediterranean and in comparison to the utility of the concept of city-state in other cultures.

ARCH 215 Classical Art
A.A. Donohue, MWF 9:40am-10:30am (In Person)
A survey of the visual arts of ancient Greece and Rome from the Bronze Age through Late Imperial times (circa 3000 B.C.E. to 300 C.E.). Major categories of artistic production are examined in historical and social context, including interactions with neighboring areas and cultures; methodological and interpretive issues are highlighted.

ARCH 222 Alexander the Great
Evrydiki Tasopoulou, W 1:10pm-4:00pm (Remote)
This course examines the life, personality, career, and military achievements of Alexander the Great, as well as the extraordinary reception of his legacy. It uses historical, archaeological and art-historical evidence to reconstruct a comprehensive picture of Alexander both during his life and after his death.
Archaeology of Anatolia

Evyrdiki Tasopoulou, TF 11:00am-12:30pm (Remote)

Anatolia witnessed the rise and fall of many cultures and states throughout its ancient history. This course approaches the ancient material remains of pre-classical Anatolia from the perspective of Near Eastern archaeology, examining the art, artifacts, architecture, cities, and settlements of this land from the Neolithic through the Lydian periods.

Archaeology of Syria

Jennie Bradbury, TTh 2:40pm-4:00pm (Hybrid)

This course will explore human settlement and interaction within Syria over the longue durée. Using a selection of key sites, inhabited for thousands of years, we will explore several major themes including the archaeology of inequality, the role of urban life, and the importance of ritual and religion. This course also considers the impact that the deep and recent past of this region has on our understanding of its present and its future.

Arch 305/505 Topics in Ancient Athens

Astrid Lindenlauf, S 1:10pm-4:00pm (Remote)

This course offers a comprehensive overview of the archaeology and history of Athens and Attica, from the earliest prehistoric settlement through to the demise of the city in Late Antiquity.

Arch 317/517 Cultural Heritage & Endangered Archaeology

Jennie Bradbury, Th 9:40am-12:30pm (Hybrid)

Primarily focusing on the Near East and North Africa (the MENA region), we will examine how and why archaeological and heritage sites are ‘endangered’. We will consider how different interest groups and stakeholders view, value and present historical and archaeological sites to the general public, as well as the success of modern initiatives and projects to safeguard the heritage of the MENA region.

Arch 398 Senior Seminar

A.A. Donohue, Th 4:10pm-6:30pm (Hybrid)

A weekly seminar on topics to be determined with assigned readings and oral and written reports. The topic this semester is “Archaeology in Society: The Rational and the Irrational”.

Courses Spring 2021

Arch 102/603 Introduction to Classical Archaeology

Astrid Lindenlauf, MWF 10:10am-11:00am

A historical survey of the archaeology and art of Greece, Etruria, and Rome.

Arch 110 The World Through Classical Eyes

A.A. Donohue, MW 12:10pm-1:00pm

A survey of the ways in which the ancient Greeks and Romans perceived and constructed their physical and social world. The evidence of ancient texts and monuments will form the basis for exploring such subjects as cosmology, geography, travel and commerce, ancient ethnography and anthropology, the idea of natural and artificial wonders, and the self-definition of the classical cultures in the context of the oikoumene, the “inhabited world.”

CSTS 207 Early Rome and the Roman Republic

Catherine Baker, TTh 11:25am-12:45pm

This course surveys the history of Rome from its origins to the end of the Republic, with special emphasis on the rise of Rome in Italy and the evolution of the Roman state. It also examines the Hellenistic world in which the rise of Rome takes place. The methods of historical investigation using the ancient sources, both literary and archaeological, are emphasized.

CHEM 208 Topics in Art Analysis

Marianne Weldon, Alicia Walker, F 9:10am-12:00pm, 1:10pm-4:00pm

Using both completed case studies and their own analysis of objects in the Bryn Mawr College Collection, students will investigate a number of instrumental methods of obtaining both quantitative and qualitative information about the manufacture, use and history of the objects.

HART 218 Byzantine Textiles in Life and Death

Alicia Walker, TTh 9:55am-11:15am

This course explores the manifold uses and meanings of textiles in early Byzantine visual and material culture as well as their afterlife as objects of collection and display in the modern era. Students will undertake original research on early Byzantine textiles.

Arch 224 Women in the Ancient Near East

Evyrdiki Tasopoulou, TTh 9:55am-11:15am

A survey of the social position of women in the ancient Near East, from sedentary villages to empires of the first millennium B.C.E. Topics include critiques of traditional concepts of gender in archaeology and theories of matriarchy. Case studies illustrate the historicity of gender concepts: women’s work in early village societies; the meanings of Neoilthic female figurines; the representation of gender in the Gilgamesh epic; the institution of the “Tawannana” (queen) in the Hititte empire; the indirect power of women such as Semiramis in the Neo-Assyrian palaces.

Arch 355/555 The Achaemenid Empire

Evyrdiki Tasopoulou, W 1:10-4:00pm

This course offers the unique insight into the wealth and ideology of one of the most powerful empires of the ancient Near East by exploring its art, history, and archaeology. The conflict between ancient Greece and Persia is also examined in order to understand how the ancient Greek view of it shaped the representation of Achaemenid Persia in Western imagination.

Arch 359 Topics in Classical Art and Archaeology

A.A. Donohue, T 1:10pm-3:30pm

A research-oriented course taught in seminar format, treating issues of current interest in Greek and Roman art and archaeology.

Arch 399 Senior Seminar

Jennie Bradbury, M 10:40pm-4:00pm

A weekly seminar on common topics with assigned readings and oral and written reports.

Minor Requirements

The minor requires six courses. Core requirements are two 100-level courses distributed between the ancient Near East and Egypt and ancient Greece and Rome, in addition to four other courses selected in consultation with the major advisor.

Major Requirements

The major requires a minimum of 10 courses. Core requirements are two 100-level courses distributed between the ancient Near East and Egypt (either Arch 101 or 104) and ancient Greece and Rome (Arch 102), and two semester of the senior conference (Arch 398 and 399). At least two upper-level courses should be distributed between Classical and Near Eastern subjects. Additional requirements are determined in consultation with the major advisor. Additional coursework in allied subjects may be presented for major credit but must be approved in writing by the major advisor; such courses are offered in the Departments of Anthropology, Geology, Greek, Latin and Classical Studies, Growth and Structure of Cities, and History of Art. In consultation with the major advisor, one course taken in study abroad may be accepted for credit in the major after review of the syllabus, work submitted for a grade, and a transcript. Credit will not be given for a course that is ordinarily offered by the department. Students can also take courses at the University of Pennsylvania in consultation with the major advisor.

The writing requirement for the major consists of two one-semester Writing Attentive courses offered within the department.

Each student’s course of study to meet major requirements will be determined in consultation with the undergraduate major advisor in the spring semester of the sophomore year, at which time a written plan will be designed. Students considering majoring in the department are encouraged to take the introductory courses (Arch 101 or 104 and 102) early in their undergraduate career and should also seek advice from departmental faculty. Students who are interested in interdisciplinary concentrations or in study abroad during the junior year are strongly advised to seek assistance in planning their major early in their sophomore year.

Languages

Majors who contemplate graduate study in Classical fields should incorporate Greek and Latin into their programs. Those who plan graduate work in Near Eastern or Egyptian may take appropriate ancient languages at the University of Pennsylvania, such as Middle Egyptian, Akkadian and Sumerian. Any student considering graduate study in Classical and Near Eastern archaeology should study French and German.

Annual Field Trip

Since 2015/16 the department has organized an annual field trip for registered majors in good standing in their Junior Year. This voluntary trip involves a city (e.g., Athens or Rome) which features in our teaching program, or a city which contains relevant museums (e.g., London, Paris, Berlin). The airfare and lodging expenses are covered by the Department. Details for the upcoming trip will be made available at the beginning of the Fall Semester. Owing to the ongoing health crisis the Spring trip 2021 may have to be cancelled.

Study Abroad

A semester of study abroad is encouraged if the program is approved by the department. Students are encouraged to consult with faculty, since some programs the department may approve may not yet be listed at the Office of International Programs. Students who seek major credit for courses taken abroad must consult with the major advisor before enrolling in a program. Major credit is given on a case-by-case basis after review of the syllabus, work submitted for a grade, and a transcript. Credit will not be given for more than one course and not for courses that are ordinarily offered by the department.