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 and Lebanon. Further field projects in Greece or the Near East are foreseen for the future. Advanced undergraduates may 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 four to 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

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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
Prehistory of the ancient Near East; survey methodologies; mortuary ritual; GIS

Matthew Jameson, Visiting Assistant Professor
Archaeology of the Middle East with specific focus on the Arabian Peninsula; ceramic analysis; identity and interactions in the ancient world; applications of photogrammetry; archaeology and public education.

Astrid Lindenlauf, Associate Professor and Chair
Classical archaeology

Zach Silva, Visiting Assistant Professor
Central Asia and the Near East in the first millennium BCE; Hellenistic art and archaeology; the archaeology of rural households; archaeological GIS and remote sensing methods; post-colonial theory and the intellectual tradition

J.J. Shirely, Visiting Assistant Professor
Late Second Intermediate Period and New Kingdom socio-political history and administration; manifestations of social status in art and architecture; Theban tombs; landscape archaeology; archaeological recording methodologies; site management and accessibility

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

Courses Fall 2022

ARCH 101 Introduction into Egyptian and Near Eastern Archaeology
Jennie Bradbury, MWF 10:10am-11:00pm,
A historical survey of the archaeology and art of the ancient Near East and Egypt.

CITY 201 Introduction to GIS for Social and Environmental Analysis
Zachary Silvia, TTh 9:55am-11:15am
This course is designed to introduce the foundations of GIS with emphasis on applications for social and environmental analysis. It deals with basic principles of GIS and its use in spatial analysis and information management. Ultimately, students will design and carry out research projects on topics of their own choosing.

ARCH 203 Greek Cities and Sanctuaries
Evrydiki Tasopoulou, MW 1:10pm-2:30pm
A study of the development of the Greek city-states and sanctuaries. Archaeological evidence is surveyed in its historic context. The political formation of the city-state and the role of religion is presented, and the political, economic, and religious institutions of the city-states are explored in their urban settings.

ARCH 222 Alexander the Great
Evrydiki Tasopoulou, TTh 12:55pm-2:15pm
This course examines the life, personality, career, military achievements,
and legacy of Alexander the Great. It uses historical, archaeological and art-historical evidence to reconstruct a comprehensive picture of Alexander’s cultural background and examines the real and imaginary features of his life and afterlife as they developed in Europe and Asia’s periods. Special attention is also placed on the appeal that Alexander’s life and achievements contributed to modern popular visual culture.

ARCH 235 Death and Burial in the Ancient Near East
Jennie Bradbury, MW 2:40pm-4:00pm
The Ancient Near East offers a rich corpus of textual and visual material, which can be used to explore the ways in which ancient societies conceptualized and thought about death, from the nature of the afterlife to the role of malevolent or helpful ghosts.

ARCH 242 Colonies and Colonization in the Ancient Mediterranean
Catherine Baker, TTH 9:55am-11:15am
This course focuses on the character and consequences of colonization, colonialism, and imperialism in the ancient Mediterranean. Using archaeological and textual evidence, we will examine the history, practice, and physical manifestations of colonization from the earliest Phoenician and Greek colonies through the imperial world of the Roman Empire.

ARCH 244 Great Empires of the Ancient Near East
TBD, MW 2:25pm-3:45pm
A survey of the history, material culture, political and religious ideologies of the New Kingdom, the Hittite Empire, the Assyrian and Babylonian Empires, and the Persian Empire.

ARCH 301/301 Greek Vase Painting
Astrid Lindenlauf, TTh 11:25pm-12:45pm
This course is an introduction to the world of painted pottery of the Greek world, from the 10th to the 4th centuries B.C.E. We will interpret these images from an art-historical and socio-economic viewpoint. We will also explore how these images relate to other forms of representation.

ARCH 352/552 Ancient Egyptian Architecture: The New Kingdom
Evrydiki Tasopoulou, TTh 12:55pm-2:15pm
This course introduces students to a nearly intact archaeological site whose destruction in 79 C.E. was recorded by contemporaries. Its discovery has an enormous impact on 18th- and 19th-century views of the Roman past as well as styles and preferences of the modern era. Informs students in classical antiquity, urban life, city structure, residential architecture, home decoration and furnishing, wall painting, minor arts and craft and mercantile activities within a Roman city.

ARCH 300/300 Ancient Egyptian Architecture: The New Kingdom
Jennie Bradbury, TTh 2:25pm-2:30pm
This course examines the visual culture of the Ancient Near East based on an extensive body of architectural, sculptural, and pictorial evidence dating from prehistoric times through the fifth century BCE.

ARCH 329/529 Archaeology and History of Ancient Mesopotamia
Jennie Bradbury, TTh 2:25pm-2:30pm
This course examines the visual culture of the Ancient Near East based on an extensive body of architectural, sculptural, and pictorial evidence dating from prehistoric times through the fifth century BCE.

ARCH 252 Pompeii
Evrydiki Tasopoulou, MW 1:10pm-2:30pm
This course introduces students to a nearly intact archaeological site whose destruction in 79 C.E. was recorded by contemporaries. Its discovery has an enormous impact on 18th- and 19th-century views of the Roman past as well as styles and preferences of the modern era. Informs students in classical antiquity, urban life, city structure, residential architecture, home decoration and furnishing, wall painting, minor arts and craft and mercantile activities within a Roman city.

ARCH 22X Power, Politics, and the Cityscape of Rome
TBD, MW 2:40pm-4:00pm
The city of Rome served as both a symbolic center of the Roman world and a physical space in which this symbolic role was monumentalized and negotiated. This course explores the ways in which political and social competition were inscribed on the cityscape from its earliest years through the Imperial period both in its topography and in the specific monuments constructed as the result of individual and group initiatives.

ARCH 317/517 Cultural Heritage and Endangered Archaeology
Jennie Bradbury, Th 9:10am-12:00pm
This course will examine how and why archaeological sites are ‘endangered’. Primarily focusing on the Near East and North Africa (the MENA region), we will examine the different types of archaeological and heritage sites found across this broad region, and some of the threats and disturbances affecting them. Our research will consider the ethics of cultural preservation, as well as the issues encountered by heritage specialists working in areas of modern conflict.

ARCH 329/529 Archaeology and National Imagination in Modern Greece
Evrydiki Tasopoulou, F 1:10pm-3:00pm
This course explores the link between archaeology, antiquity and the national imagination in modern Greece from the establishment of the Greek state in the early nineteenth century to present times. Drawing from a variety of disciplines, the course examines the pivotal role of archaeology and the classical past in the construction of national Greek identity. Special emphasis is placed on the concepts of Hellenism and nationalism, the European rediscovery of Greece, and the connection between classical archaeology and Philhellenism.

ARCH 399 Senior Seminar
Zach Silvia, T 10:10am-12:00pm
A weekly seminar in Near Eastern Archaeology on common topics with assigned readings and oral and written reports.

Minors 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. Study abroad courses do not count toward the minor.

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 semesters 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 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 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.

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.