

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 3.50 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 the eastern Mediterranean 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 by the chair 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.

Bryn Mawr College

Classical and Near Eastern Archaeology

2023 - 2024



CONTACT INFORMATION

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Faculty

Jennie Bradbury

Assistant Professor and Graduate Advisor

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

Astrid Lindenlauf

Associate Professor and Chair

Classical art and archaeology; practices of disposal and recycling; fortifications and urban development; intellectual history of archaeology

Rocco Palermo

Assistant Professor

South-West Asia from Iron Age to Roman Period; Ancient Empires; Landscape Archaeology; Digital Archaeology; GIS

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

Wu Xin

Assistant Professor

Achaemenid Empire; Central Asian Art and Archaeology; Cultural interactions between the East and West.

Courses Fall 2023

ARCH 102 Introduction to Classical Archaeology

Astrid Lindenlauf, MW 11:10am-12:00pm, breakouts F 11:10am-12:00pm and 12:10pm-1:00pm

This introductory course surveys the visual arts and material culture of the ancient Greek and Roman world and reviews past and present approaches to archaeological and art historical research in the area. We will focus on the time span of roughly 3,500 years from the Bronze Age to the Constantinian Era, c. 3,000 BCE to the 4th century CE.

ARCH 214 The Archaeology of Agricultural Revolutions in Western Asia, Jennie Bradbury, TTh 12:55pm-2:15pm

This course examines the archaeology of one of the most fundamental shifts to have occurred in human society in the last 12,000 years, the origins of agriculture. Via assigned readings, class work and lectures we will consider the varied factors which led (or did not lead) to the adoption of agriculture, questioning what the core building blocks of agricultural life were across Western Asia and exploring societies that did not experience these changes.

ARCH 233 Archaeological Fieldwork and Methods

Rocco Palermo, TTh 2:25pm-3:45pm

This course provides a detailed introduction to archaeological fieldwork methodology and practices. We will critically discuss different discovery and recording techniques and explore data mapping (e.g., aerial/satellite imagery, drone-based photography), collecting (using cloud-based smartphones and tablet apps, GPS-enabled artifacts collection, etc.), and processing (e.g., databases, 3D modeling, GIS-based maps).

ARCH 246 Classical Antiquity in Movies

Rocco Palermo, MW 2:40pm-4:00pm

This course explores the visual representations and the narratives of the Graeco-Roman times on screen. From silent films to modern Hollywood productions through Netflix, Amazon, and other streaming services

productions, students will discuss the impact of classical antiquity in the film-making industry. We will be looking into how the depiction of different aspects of the Greek and Roman past (literature, history, art, archaeology) are used (and misused) on screen and in which way these productions influence the way we understand the ancient world.

ARCH 254 Cleopatra

Evrydiki Tasopoulou, MW 1:10pm-2:30pm

This course examines the life and rule of Cleopatra VII, the last queen of Ptolemaic Egypt, and the reception of her legacy in the Early Roman Empire and the western world from the Renaissance to modern times.

ARCH 314/514 Ancient Greek Seafaring and Shipwrecks

Evrydiki Tasopoulou, Th 9:10am-12:00pm

This course examines the diverse evidence for ancient Greek seafaring and shipwrecks in the Mediterranean Sea from prehistory to the beginning of the Roman Empire. By focusing on archaeological, literary, iconographic, and epigraphic evidence, the course explores ancient Greek, Phoenician, Etruscan, and Roman interconnections in the Mediterranean Sea, through special attention to trade routes, commerce, colonization, economy, naval and maritime technology, cultural interactions, sea exploration, and piracy.

ARCH 355/555 The Achaemenid Empire

Wu Xin, F 9:10am-12:00pm

This course explores the art, history, and archaeology of the Achaemenid Empire. Between 550 and 330 BCE, the Achaemenid kings of Iran controlled the largest and greatest empire the world has seen up until that time. By studying the art, architecture, politics, religion, burial customs, administration, economy, and warfare of Achaemenid Persia, the course offers a unique insight into the wealth, splendor, and diversity of one of the most powerful empires of the ancient Near East.

ARCH 398 Senior Seminar in Near Eastern Archaeology

Wu Xin, F 1:10pm- 3:00pm

A weekly seminar on topics to be determined with assigned readings and oral and written reports.

CITY 201 Introduction to GIS for Social and Environmental Analysis, TBA, 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.

Courses Spring 2024

ARCH 101 Introduction to Egyptian and Near Eastern Archaeology, Jennie Bradbury, MWF 11:10am-12:00pm

This course introduces the art and archaeology of the ancient Near East and Egypt. We will explore some of the most significant archaeological sites, artifacts, and monuments of Egypt and the Near East and study the historical figures and cultural and social developments that spurred these inventions and transformations over the period from ca.10,000 to 330 BCE.

ARCH 204 Animals in the Ancient Greek World

Evrydiki Tasopoulou, MW 1:10pm-2:30pm

This course focuses on perceptions of animals in ancient Greece from the Geometric to the Classical periods. It examines representations of animals in painting, sculpture, and the minor arts, the treatment of

animals as attested in the archaeological record, and how these types of evidence relate to the featuring of animals in contemporary poetry, tragedy, comedy, and medical and philosophical writings. By analyzing this rich body of evidence, the course develops a context in which participants gain insight into the ways ancient Greeks perceived, represented, and treated animals.

ARCH 237 Art and Archaeology of Central Asia

Wu Xin, TTh 9:55am-11:15am

Exploring the rich and vibrant cultural heritage of Central Asia, this course delves into the region's history, art, and archaeology spanning from the third millennium BCE to the eighth century CE. Central Asia, constituting the territory between western China and eastern Iran, served as the heartland of the ancient Silk Road. Despite its significance, the region's history and culture often remain shrouded in mystery, largely unknown to the academic community. This course sheds light on topics related to Central Asia, such as state formation, nomadism, religious beliefs, trade, and arts and crafts production of Central Asia, while emphasizing the region's interconnectedness with the broader world.

ARCH 247 The World of Gilgamesh

Wu Xin, MW 2:40pm-4:00pm

This course explores how the people of ancient Mesopotamia perceive and comprehend the fundamental questions of human existence, such as the intricacies of life and death, gender and sexuality, the relationship between humans and the divine, and the definition of self-identity in relation to the outside world, through an examination of the literary works and archaeological remains from the ancient Near East. Guided by the epic tale of Gilgamesh, the legendary king of Uruk in Mesopotamian mythology, we will journey back to the mesmerizing world of the fourth and third millennium BCE, when human civilizations first emerged and thrived. This course offers an immersive experience, enabling students to unleash their intellectual creativity through dramatic performances and curation of a digital exhibit showcasing early Mesopotamian civilization.

ARCH 260 Daily Life in Ancient Greece and Rome

Evrydiki Tasopoulou, TTh 12:55pm-2:15pm

The often-praised achievements of the classical cultures arose from the realities of day-to-day life. This course surveys the rich body of material and textual evidence pertaining to how ancient Greeks and Romans -- famous and obscure alike -- lived and died. Topics include housing, food, clothing, work, leisure, and family and social life.

ARCH 328/528 The Roman Empire in South West Asia

Rocco Palermo, T 1:10pm-4:00pm

This course examines the impact -- or lack thereof -- the Roman Empire had on the visual and material culture in the Eastern Mediterranean and South-West Asia from the 2nd century BCE to the 5th century CE. To understand the local response to Rome's expansion, we study the complex political and social structures that were in place in these regions long before the arrival of Rome as well as the agents that continuously negotiated between Rome, local polities, and external factors (i.e., nomadic tribes). We will explore the multi-faceted world of the easternmost provinces of the Roman Empire with reference to archaeological, visual, and textual sources and adopt counter-narrative approaches to critically discuss the nature of colonial and imperial encounters.

ARCH 399 Senior Seminar in Classical Archaeology

Rocco Palermo, Th 2:10pm-4:00pm

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

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 (ARCH 101) 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. A Praxis Independent Study or 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 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.

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. Study abroad courses do not count toward the minor.

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 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.

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