

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.

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 China, Iraqi Kurdistan, and Lebanon. Further field projects in the eastern Mediterranean are foreseen for the future. Advanced undergraduates may participate in these projects, provided that it is deemed safe by the college.

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 in good academic standing 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

2025 - 2026



CONTACT INFORMATION

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Faculty

Jennie Bradbury

Associate Professor [on leave 2025-2026]

Prehistory of South-West Asia; survey methodologies; mortuary ritual; GIS

Henry Colburn

Visiting Assistant Professor

Art and archaeology of ancient Iran; ancient imperialism; seals and coins; history of archaeology; museum studies

Astrid Lindenlauf

Associate Professor, Chair, Graduate Advisor, and Major Advisor (K-Z)

Classical art and archaeology; practices of disposal and recycling; intellectual history of archaeology

Rocco Palermo

Assistant Professor, Major Advisor (A-J)

South-West Asia, from Iron Age to Roman Period; ancient empires; Landscape Archaeology; Digital Archaeology; GIS

Robyn Price

Visiting Assistant Professor

Ancient Egyptian archaeology and language; Bronze and Iron Age Mediterranean; sensory studies; body politics in the past and present; historiography of Egyptology and Egyptomania

Wu Xin

Assistant Professor [on leave 2025-2026]

Achaemenid Empire; Central Asian art and archaeology; cultural interactions between the East and West

Courses Fall 2025

ARCH 101 Introduction to Egyptian and Near Eastern Archaeology, Henry Colburn, MWF 10:10am-11:00am

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,

Dirk Kinsey, TTh 10:10am-11:30am, 1:10pm-2:30pm

Basic principles of GIS and its use in spatial analysis and information management with emphasis on applications for social and environmental analysis.

ARCH 257 Aromas of Antiquity: The Politics of Smell, Past and Present, Robyn Price, TTh 2:40pm-4:00pm

Have you ever wondered how something as unassuming as scent can shape entire civilizations? This course explores the silent power of smell and its influence on how societies interpret concepts like power and being.

ARCH 228 The Archaeology of Iran: From the Neolithic to Alexander the Great

Henry Colburn, MWF 11:10am-12:00pm

This course examines the archaeology of Iran from circa 6000 BCE to the coming of Alexander the Great at the end of the fourth century BCE.

ARCH 233 Topics in Archaeological Principles and Methods: Fieldwork

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

This course covers the innovative changes that have been brought about in Archaeology and Heritage Studies by new technologies and methodological approaches.

ARCH 265 Landscape Archaeology

Rocco Palermo, TTh 10:10am-11:30am

Through a combination of archaeological and historical evidence, students will investigate the cultural, economic, religious, and social practices that influenced landscape organization and the construction and maintenance of space in the ancient world.

ARCH 301 Greek Vase Painting

Astrid Lindenlauf, TTh 10:10am-11:30am

This course explores the world of painted pottery of the Greek world, from the 10th to the 4th centuries BCE.

ARCH 335 Sensory Worlds, Material Lives: Archaeology and the Senses, Robyn Price, W 1:10pm-4:00pm

We examine how sensory experiences shaped ancient lifeways and how archaeologists today reconstruct - or invent - those experiences through theory, method, and imagination.

ARCH 357 The Hellenistic Age: Art in a Multicultural World, Henry Colburn, F 1:10pm-4:00pm

In this course we shall examine the art of the Hellenistic period, from ca. 300 to 30 BCE. It is organized geographically, beginning in the Greek mainland and moving across the Middle East, North Africa and Europe to Iran, Central Asia and India. We will focus especially on themes of interaction and identity, as well as on the roles of power and resistance.

ARCH 398 Senior Seminar in Classical Archaeology

Astrid Lindenlauf, Th 2:10pm-4:00pm

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

Courses Spring 2026

ARCH 102 Introduction to Classical Archaeology

Rocco Palermo, MW 11:10am-12:00pm, breakout discussions Friday 10:10am-11:00am & 12:10pm-1:00pm

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

CITY 201 Introduction to GIS for Social and Environmental Analysis

Dirk Kinsey, MW 10:10am-11:30am

Basic principles of GIS and its use in spatial analysis and information management with emphasis on applications for social and environmental analysis.

ARCH 2xx From Pharaoh to Hollywood: Egyptomania Then & Now, Robyn Price, MW 2:40pm-4:00pm

ARCH 2xx Magic, Medicine, and Science: Health in the ancient Mediterranean, Robyn Price, TTh 10:10am-11:30am

ARCH 229 Visual Culture of the Ancient Near East

Henry Colburn, TTh 2:40pm-4:00pm

We will explore how a variety of surviving art, artifacts,

sculpture, monuments, and architecture deriving from geographically distinct areas of the ancient Near East may have been viewed and experienced in their historical contexts.

ARCH 256 Classical Myth in Art and in the Sky

Astrid Lindenlauf, TTh 11:40am-1:00pm

This course explores Greek and Roman mythology using archaeological and art historical approach, focusing on the ways in which the traditional tales of the gods and heroes were depicted, developed and transmitted in the visual arts, as well as projected into the natural environment.

ARCH 328 The Roman Empire in South West Asia

Rocco Palermo, W 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.

ARCH 358 Amarna in Context: City, Landscape, Ideology, Robyn Price, Th 1:10pm-4:00pm

This seminar explores the ancient Egyptian city of Amarna - often hailed as a city of radical reform - as a case study in how we construct, contest, and sometimes overstate claims about the ancient past.

ARCH 354 Money in the Ancient World

Henry Colburn, F 1:10pm-4:00pm

We will learn about different types of ancient money, such as coinage, bullion, grain and credit, the various coins used by the Greeks and Romans, as well as other groups, and about the different methods used to study them.

ARCH 399 Senior Seminar in Near Eastern

Archaeology, Rocco Palermo, T 2:10pm-4:00pm

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

Archaeology Lecture Series

Majors, minors, and graduate students are strongly encouraged to attend the archaeology lecture series. Lectures take place on Mondays throughout the semester, 12:30-2pm, with refreshments beforehand. Join the department to hear about some of the exciting archaeological research being carried out by researchers from the US and abroad.

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), a course on Topics in Archaeological Principles and Methods (ARCH 233), 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 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 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.

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 Southwest Asian or Egyptian fields 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.

Honors

Honors are granted on the basis of academic performance as demonstrated by a cumulative average of 3.50 or better in the major.

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 registration. Students planning to do such