Careers and Employability Service
Additional resources and information for

Archaeology
Welcome:

We have developed this recourse pack to help you research specific job sectors which may be of particular interest to Archaeology students.

- [Prospects.ac.uk](https://www.prospects.ac.uk) - Options with Archaeology
- [Prospects.ac.uk](https://www.prospects.ac.uk) - Options with Anthropology

The Prospects site includes information and advice covering:
Your skills, job options, career areas, further study, what next, case studies, contacts and job search sites.

- [The Archaeological Association](https://www.thearchaeologicalassociation.org/) - Professional Development Opportunities
- [Council for British Archaeology](https://www.britarch.ac.uk/) - Professional Development Opportunities

Whatever your needs, the AA and CBA offer CPD suitable for you and provides insight in to a range of archaeological related news.

SKILLS:

Many employers value the skills acquired from an Archaeology degree which is widely accepted to develop a breadth of key transferable skills. Within your degree you will develop:

- The ability to analyse and interpret diverse sources of information including numerical data
- The expertise to write clearly, concisely and to tight deadlines
- An aptitude for producing logical and structured arguments
- Participation in field work shows your ability to transfer theory into practice, work as a team, communicate with a wide range of people and make effective decisions based on changing circumstances
- Knowledge of social reactions and relations i.e. how factors influence groups and individuals.

For more information about the skills gained within your degree programme please view the [QAA Benchmark Statement for Archaeology](https://www.qaa.ac.uk/students/benchmark-statements/54/24) and exploring our webpages on [Understanding your Skills](https://www.britarch.ac.uk/understanding-your-skills).
**Finding Job Vacancies:**

As a graduate from Archaeology you can go into a wide range of occupations, some open to all graduates, and some particularly relevant to your degree. Information and advice about how to find out about employment opportunities can be found on our [Job Hunt webpages](#) and on the [Prospects](#) website.

When applying for vacancies you may need support in constructing a CV, filling out an Application Form, drafting a Cover Letter or preparing for Interview. We offer support on all of these areas via our [Job Application Resources webpages](#).

**Employability destination examples:**

Currently, about 4792 people in Britain earn their living as archaeologists (Landward Research 2012/13) however other related occupations where your degree would be of specific value include; heritage manager; curator; conservation officer; lecturer; museum education officer; archivist etc. There are also many other career pathways open to a graduate from Archaeology including occupations within; accountancy; retail management; civil service; banking; finance; IT; police; teaching and many more.

Below are a number of examples giving a sense of the range of jobs which graduates from Archaeology at the University of Southampton were pursuing six months after leaving (data collected from 2011 onwards).

- Sales Assistant
- Bar Staff
- Archaeologist
- Retail Assistant
- Administration Assistant
- Postdoctoral Researcher
- Lecturer
- Teaching Assistant
- Research Assistant
- Customer Service Assistant
- Retail Supervisor
- Supervisor
- Cover Supervisor
- Office Administrator
- Bookseller
- Account Executive
- Meter Reader
- Project Archaeologist
- Trainee Publisher
- Visitor Reception Assistant for the National Trust
- Trainee Commercial Archaeologist
- Archaeological Assistant
- Forensic Laboratory Technician
- Historic Environment Record Assistant
- Archaeology Geological Supervisor
- Heritage Events Intern
- Visitor Services Assistant
- Maritime Archaeologist and Hydrographic Data Processor
- Retail
- Archaeologist and Tour Planner
- Assistant Wardrobe Supervisor
- Farm Hand
- Maritime Archaeology Museum Curator

Employers

- University of Southampton
- Sainsbury's
- English Heritage
- Hampshire and Wight Trust for Maritime Archaeology
- Hampshire County Council
- Mazars
- Waterstones
- Abercrombie & Fitch
- AC Archaeology
- Academia Sinica
- Ace Karting
- Archaeological Museum, University of Stavanger
- Archaeological Prospection Services of Southampton
- Archaeological Solutions
- ASDA
- Bournemouth University
- British Army
- British Museum
- Cambridge Archaeological Unit
- Capita
- Caveliers
- Cellmark Forensics
- Channel Coastal Observatory
- CHI and Partners
- Christie's
- City of Columbia
- Claybrooks
- Client Server
- Creative Interior Contracts Limited
- Eastside Community Heritage
- EGS International
- Elevate Education
It can take time for students and graduates to decide what to do next. Be aware that some careers require further study, relevant work experience or volunteering experience.
Further Study destination examples:

- MA Maritime Archaeology
- MA Social Archaeology
- MSc Maritime Archaeology
- MA History
- MA Archaeology
- MSc Conservation of Historic Buildings
- PhD Archaeology
- Archaeology Computing Virtual Path
- Archaeology PhD
- BSc Astronomy
- Digital Humanities
- DTC in Complexity Science
- Forensic Archeology And Anthropology
- Forensic Osteology
- Human Osteology and Funerary Archaeology
- MA Archaeology
- MA Ceramic and Lithic Analysis for Archaeologists
- MA in Ceramic and Lithic Analysis for Archaeologists
- MA in Osteoarchaeology
- MA Osteoarchaeology
- MA Palaeolithic Archaeology and Human Origins
- MA Paleolithic Archaeology and Human Origins

Archaeology Related Jobs and Internships:

The information below can be used to find job vacancies or work experience opportunities that are related to your programme, and/or to build understanding of relevant roles. Quite often Archaeology graduates who wish to enter a career directly related to the degree programme take on a selection of short term project and contract roles to gain experience and form connections in the industry or seek further study opportunities within a related programme e.g. MA Palaeolithic Archaeology and Human Origins etc. It can take several months to get your career moving in the direction you want it to be going but it is possible to make it. Make the most of the opportunities provided by the University to meet and network with alumni from Archaeology at the University of Southampton and learn from their experiences.

- ArchaeologyFieldwork.com – Employment listings and voluntary opportunities in the UK and overseas. [www.archaeologyfieldwork.com/AFW](http://www.archaeologyfieldwork.com/AFW)

- Archaeological Institute of America – Promotes archaeological inquiry of the material record of the human past. The site provides
useful information on career pathways and a database of fieldwork opportunities in the USA and internationally. [www.archaeological.org](http://www.archaeological.org)

- **Archaeo-Volunteers** – The world guide to archaeological and heritage volunteering. [www.greenvolunteers.com/arkeo](http://www.greenvolunteers.com/arkeo)

- **British Archaeological Jobs & Resources** – Employment, training courses, advice and guidance as well as a list of every course, contractor and society in the UK. [www.bajr.org](http://www.bajr.org)

- **Earthworks** – A useful resources for finding vacancies related to archaeology and anthropology. [www.earthworks-jobs.com/archaeology.html](http://www.earthworks-jobs.com/archaeology.html)

- **English Heritage** – Championing historic places and advising the Government and others to help today’s generation get the best out of our heritage and ensure that it is protected for future generations. [https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/about/jobs/](https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/about/jobs/)

- **Institute of Historic Building Conservation** – The principle professional body for building conservation practitioners and historic environment specialists working in the UK. [www.ihbc.org.uk](http://www.ihbc.org.uk)

- **Museum Association** – The MA is a membership organisation for everyone working in museums, galleries and heritage and includes a job search facility. [http://www.museumsassociation.org/careers/find-a-job](http://www.museumsassociation.org/careers/find-a-job)

- **Online Archaeology** – An online community including connections to discussion boards, blogs and a variety of archaeology resources and jobs. [www.online-archaeology.co.uk](http://www.online-archaeology.co.uk)

- **Passport in Time** – The volunteer preservation programme of the US Forest Service established to support archaeological work including survey and excavation, rock art restoration, archive research, historic structure restoration and oral histories. [www.passportintime.com](http://www.passportintime.com)

- **The National Trust** – Protect and open to the public over 350 historic houses, gardens and ancient monuments. The work also includes looking after forests, fens, beaches, farmland, archaeological remains and castles etc. [www.nationaltrust.org.uk](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk)


- **UNESCO World Heritage Sites** – Protecting and conserving our world heritage the site is inclusive of a jobs and voluntary opportunities board. [http://whc.unesco.org](http://whc.unesco.org)