
Archaeological Studies Major

32-35 credit hours required.

Contact Person:

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SUNY Potsdam has been training students in archaeology since at least 1970. Archaeology in recent years has become much more interdisciplinary than it has ever been in the past. Therefore, it is critical that students pursuing careers in archaeological studies receive this interdisciplinary experience. The program we offer provides many of the same components as the larger specialized university programs. The major requires introductory work in American archaeology (from the Department of Anthropology), survey of art and architecture from the ancient to modern periods (from the Department of Art) and physical and historical geology (from the Department of Geology). Upper-division requirements include courses dealing with Old World archaeology, New World archaeology and applied technical areas. Historical sciences, such as archaeology, deal with incomplete knowledge from the past. Successful archaeologists, therefore, must develop acute problem solving and critical thinking skills. The interdisciplinary nature of the proposed major assures that our students will be familiar enough with the appropriate related disciplines to accomplish this. The major will also provide the appropriate knowledge and skills for more specialized careers in conservation, museology and service in government agencies such as the National Park Service.

Required Courses:	Credits
ANTH 204 Archaeology	4
ARTH 101 Survey of Art: Ancient to Early Renaissance	3
ARTH 102 Survey of Art: Renaissance to Modern	3
or	
ARTM/ANTH 270 Museum Studies	3
GEOL 103 Physical Geology	3
GEOL 104 Historical Geology	3
ANTH 417 Archaeological Procedures	4

In addition, archaeological field experience is required and can be fulfilled by ANTH 315, Field Archaeology, or other field experience approved by archaeological studies faculty
3-6

Elective Courses:

9-10 credit hours; one from each group. Additional courses, as available, may be used with approval from the Archaeological Studies Coordinator.

Group A: The Old World

ANTH 356 Neanderthals: Fact, Fiction or Fantasy	3
ANTH 395 The Prehistory of Europe	3
ARTH 310 Greek Art and Archaeology	3
ARTH 311 Roman Art and Archaeology	3
ARTH 351 Late Antique Art	3
ARTH 385 Art and Archaeology of the Classical World (same as ANTH 352)	3

ARTH 451 Ancient Painting	3
HIST 301 Ancient and Medieval Europe	3
HIST 322 Ancient Middle East	3
HIST 395 Ancient Greece and Rome	3
HIST 395 Egypt in Late Antiquity	3
HIST 495 Magic in Antiquity	3

Group B: The New World

ANTH 350 Archaeology of Mexico and Central America	3
ANTH 359 African American Archaeology	3
ANTH 362 Historical Archaeology	3
ANTH 395 Archaeology of Eastern USA	3
HIST 311 Indians and Iberians	3

Group C: Applied Sciences

GEOL 301 Sedimentology-Paleontology 1	4
GEOL 395 Geoarchaeological Problems	3
GEOL 405 Structural Geology	4
GEOL 406 Geomorphology	4
GEOL 407 Geophysics	4
ANTH 316 Archaeological Lab Techniques	3
ANTH 319 Public and Private Archaeology	3
ANTH 347 Humans, Disease & Death	3
ANTH 354 Environmental Archaeology	3
ANTH 365 Archaeology of Death	3
ANTH 380 Human Osteology	3
ANTH 395 Public and Private Archaeology	3
ANTH 402 Forensic Anthropology	3
ANTH 410 Advanced Archaeological Research	4
ANTH 450 Zooarchaeology	3
ANTH 455 Cannibalism	4
ANTH 495 Dental Anthropology	3

Recommended Coursework Outside the Major:

The Archaeology faculty encourages majors to work closely with their advisers in planning coursework to satisfy postgraduate objectives.

Special Notes:

1. Students must earn at least a 2.0/S grade for all courses to be counted for the major.
2. Students may only "double-count" two courses for an additional major or minor.