Why study Archaeology?

Understanding where we have been is as important as knowing where we are today and where we want to go in the future. Archaeology allows you to access the past, to understand it in new ways, and to appreciate the millions of people who walked before us. It gives a voice to those whose lives were not recorded in our history books or who lived long before any culture had a written language. Classes in the Curriculum in Archaeology inspire you to think about the ancient world on its own terms, but also to appreciate the place of the past in understanding the present and modern societies today. Take classes with professors who have diverse cultural and regional specialties in the Americas, Europe, the prehistoric and classical Mediterranean, Egypt, the Near East, and Africa. Put learning into action with one of our many hands-on opportunities in the field or laboratory.

What can I do with Archaeology?

Archaeology prepares you for a career in any field that requires skills in analytical thinking, problem solving, written and oral communication, and teamwork — and you can have a lot of fun along the way! These transferable skills provide a strong foundation for future successes in any chosen career path or in graduate training. Carolina archaeology graduates have become teachers, translators, project managers, nurses, chefs, artists, musicians, archivists, videographers, information technology analysts, financial consultants, entrepreneurs, lawyers, professors and, of course, archaeologists. They work for state and national government agencies, local and global non-profits, and private businesses in addition to being business owners themselves. Now think about your potential with a degree in Archaeology!

Join a vibrant, interdisciplinary community.

The Curriculum in Archaeology brings together talented faculty from six units in the College of Arts and Sciences: Anthropology; Classics; Linguistics; Religious Studies; Women’s and Gender Studies; and the Research Laboratories of Archaeology. Collaborations among faculty and students create an exciting, supportive environment where you can explore your interests, hone your skills, and participate in research projects across the globe and right here at home. Our many labs offer opportunities to learn artifact processing, paleoethnobotany, human osteology, zooarchaeology, digital imaging, GIS, and much more. The Tar Heel Archaeological Society also sponsors professional development events and social activities related to your degree.

Ok, sign me up!

Ready to “dig in” to a new Major or Minor? For more information, including courses offered, visit http://archaeology.sites.unc.edu/home/ca/ or email Undergraduate Advisor Dr. Jen Gates-Foster at gatesfos@email.unc.edu.