



# Archaeology & Anthropology

COLLEGE OF ARTS, SOCIAL SCIENCES, AND HUMANITIES

## Undergraduate Programs

### Major:

- Archaeological Studies
- Archaeological Studies: Cultural Anthropology Emphasis

### Minor:

- Anthropology
- Archaeology

## Sample Courses

- World Archaeology
- Physical Anthropology
- Cultural Anthropology
- Linguistic Anthropology
- Archaeology of the Andes
- European Prehistory
- Midwest Archaeology
- Peopling of the Americas
- Underwater Archaeology
- Pyramids, Temples, Towns: The Archaeology of Ancient Egypt
- Origins of Cities
- Bones for the Archaeologist
- Archaeological Lab Methods
- Cultural Resource Management
- Field Methods in Archaeology (Summer Field School)
- Experimental Archaeology & Ethnoarchaeology
- Geoarchaeology
- Anthropology of the Andes
- Anthropology of Food
- Medical Anthropology
- Peoples & Cultures of SE Asia
- Peoples & Cultures of Africa
- Peoples & Cultures of Latin America
- Hmong Americans
- Social Transformations in Eastern Europe
- Anthropology of Ritual
- Visual Anthropology
  - International Programs in Egypt, Tanzania, the South American Andes, Great Britain, Eastern Europe, and the Dominican Republic

## Department Overview

Archaeology is the study of the human past and anthropology is the broader, holistic scientific study of humanity.

Our Archaeological Studies program is among the top comprehensive undergraduate programs in archaeology in the U.S. and the only one offered in the Midwest. The uniqueness of our Archaeological Studies Major lies in the fact that it is an interdisciplinary major that integrates the fields of New World and Old World archaeology, cultural anthropology, physical anthropology, geoarchaeology, and cultural resource management. We provide our students with practical experience unmatched by other programs of its kind for three primary reasons: 1) Our close relationship with the Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center (MVAC), the research arm of our program, which conducts extensive research and public education activities throughout the Midwest; 2) Our impressive array of intensive international experiences designed to provide students with practical anthropological, archaeological, and ethnographic methods; 3) Our focus on providing students with training in cutting edge technologies that very few programs in the U.S. offer including: geophysical and remote sensing technologies (ground penetrating radar, magnetometer, resistivity meter); precision laser mapping equipment; a complete photogrammetry array; 3-D scanning, photo, printing, and video equipment; photographic drone for aerial photography and video.

## Archaeology & Anthropology Department

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## Program Overview

The Cultural Anthropology Emphasis Major at UWL is designed for students interested in learning more about cross-cultural international issues and gaining employment in international settings and diverse settings in the US. This major program of study combines the holistic, cross-cultural, and comparative perspective of Anthropology to the study of human diversity and focuses on concepts, theories, and methods students use to understand contemporary peoples and cultures based upon others' rationales. This major program also provides students with the knowledge and skills needed to work in diverse environments in the US, and to recognize the ways that our own beliefs and practices here in the US are just as cultural as others' beliefs and practices around the world.

Because our major programs are built around close student-instructor interaction and intensive experiential opportunities, our students are given ample opportunity for in depth participation in field and laboratory research, community-based volunteer work, and a variety of internship opportunities which ensures that they graduate with both academic and practical job preparation

We also offer minors in both anthropology and archaeology. The anthropology minor provides students with a broad background in one of the most fascinating of social sciences - the scientific study of humanity. Required curriculum in the minor exposes students to all four subdisciplines of anthropology - cultural anthropology, physical anthropology, archaeology, and linguistics – and students are able to round out the minor with a range of elective courses that satisfy their particular interests. The anthropology minor is an excellent pairing with a number of disciplinary majors including archaeology, sociology, communications, women's studies, disciplines in the health sciences, and more.

The archaeology minor is for students who have an interest in the anthropological subdiscipline of archaeology but who are majoring in another discipline. Common majors that are paired with the archaeology minor include history, geology, geography, biology, and physics. The minor in archaeological studies provides students with a strong foundational understanding of the discipline while at the same time allowing for the selection of elective courses that particularly suit the student's interests.

## Occupational Outlook

Anthropologists pursue a wide variety of careers related to the sciences, social sciences, education, politics, and economics. Anthropology is also the most important discipline in the social sciences for the health care industry. Anthropology is the third most common disciplinary background of students entering medical school, close behind biology and chemistry. . In fact, US News & World Report regularly ranks both "Anthropologist" and "Archaeologist" on their annual Top Ten Best Jobs in Science listing. This ranking is based on expected job growth by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, a competitive average salary, and the growing need for broader cross-cultural understanding in our globalized society.

There are three main areas of employment opportunities for archaeologists: research and government employment, teaching, and cultural resources management.

Research archaeologists may be hired by federal agencies such as the Bureau of Land Management, the Corps of Engineers, the National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, etc.; state agencies such as the Department of Transportation, historical societies and offices of historic preservation, state burial sites preservation programs, etc.; and museums and research institutes such as the Smithsonian, the Chicago Museum of Natural History, the Science Museum of Minnesota, and the Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center.

Teaching positions are usually at universities and colleges and always require an advanced degree. Teaching specialties include classical, biblical, environmental, historical or prehistoric archaeology, geoarchaeology, Egyptology, and human skeletal anatomy.

Cultural resources management (CRM) is a product of historic preservation legislation, which has created the fastest growing area of archaeology careers. Frequently, archaeologists work for (or own) private consulting companies that help developers and public agencies meet the requirements of preservation legislation by contracting out their services.

Frequently, professional archaeologists have careers that involve work in more than one of these major areas. For example, an archaeologist who is primarily a university or college teacher during the school year will likely be doing research or consulting work during the summer.

Many undergraduates also choose archaeology as a major not because it is a career choice, but because it is an interesting, broad based, and challenging liberal arts major. These students go on to careers in business, communication, legal or medical professions, teaching, etc.