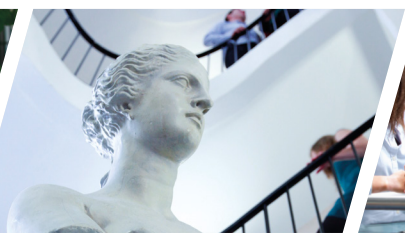


Archaeology

Undergraduate programme
and course information

SEPTEMBER 2017
ENTRY

www.ed.ac.uk/history-classics-archaeology



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH
School of History, Classics
and Archaeology



Welcome to the School of History, Classics and Archaeology at the University of Edinburgh. I am delighted that you are thinking about coming to study with us. You have come through a tough selection process and you should be rightly proud of receiving an offer.

Our School is a vibrant academic community. All three disciplines represented are concerned with the study of the human past: historians, classicists and archaeologists have much in common with each other. Together we form a diverse and international community and you will have the opportunity to meet people from all over the world.

The University was established in the sixteenth century and there are tangible benefits from having such a long history, especially when combined with our modern outlook. The School also derives much from its physical and cultural setting in Scotland's capital city. The close relationships that we have with the

libraries, museums and galleries are a unique aspect of the student experience. We hope that you will learn about many areas of the world and about themes that have global implications, whilst also learning about Scotland.

We encourage our students to be adventurous, try out new areas of study and take the chance to explore disciplines and languages that they have not studied before. The Scottish degree system allows breadth of study over four years and Edinburgh has a greater range of choice than most institutions – take advantage of that – your wider student life should be enriched by your experience.

The University has a very active careers service and there will be many career-related events in the School in which you can participate. Volunteering might be another way of adding to your experience. The Edinburgh University Students' Association provides information and opportunities in this area.

We are delighted that you are considering a degree programme in the School of History, Classics and Archaeology at the University of Edinburgh. Our aim today is to give you the chance to sample what we offer and give a flavour of what it might be like to be a student with us. You will have the chance to meet staff and students and to see our facilities. I hope you have an enjoyable day, and decide to join us in September.

Professor Ewen Cameron, Head of School, Sir William Fraser Professor of Scottish History



The University

Consistently ranked one of the top 50 universities in the world, the University of Edinburgh has been making its mark on the world for more than 400 years.

We are ranked 13th in the World's Most International Universities 2017 – students from two-thirds of the world's countries study here. We are 19th in the 2016/17 QS World University Rankings, 4th in the UK for research power and 32nd in the world for the employability of our graduates. By choosing to study with us you'll be investing in an education that offers the very best in teaching and research, and one that will help you build a successful future.

Our hands-on innovative approach will equip you with the skills, insights and perspectives to enhance your employability and career prospects. Our flexible programmes, world-class facilities and award winning support services combine to ensure an exceptional student experience.

Edinburgh is ranked 2nd best student city in the UK, so you'll also be living in a vibrant, historic and inspiring capital city with world-class cultural festivals and the mountains and beaches of Scotland on your doorstep.

Times Higher Education: The World's Most International Universities 2017

QS World University Rankings 2016/17

Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014

Latest Emerging Global Employability University Ranking 2016

QS Best Student Cities 2016

Studying Archaeology

Archaeology has a long tradition at Edinburgh and has been taught here for more than a century. Today, you will be introduced to the history of humankind in the Old World from its beginnings through the whole of prehistory and beyond into the early historic periods. Geographically, our range extends from the north of the British Isles through Europe to the Mediterranean Basin, the Near East and Egypt.

Our students are introduced to a wide range of scientific expertise, notably artefact and materials analysis, digital imaging techniques, visualisation and modelling, the study of human and animal remains (bioarchaeology), and forensic anthropology.

Opportunities for fieldwork

A key feature of our degrees is the amount of practical archaeological experience included in your programme. Our students often get involved in staff projects, ranging from Scotland to Egypt, during the vacations or as part of their final year dissertation project. Normally, the minimum requirement is three weeks of field experience.

Teaching format

Archaeology courses are taught through a combination of lectures, tutorials, practical exercises and field trips in first and second year. While lectures during the pre-honours years (Year 1 & 2) are taken by the whole cohort, these are augmented by weekly tutorials in smaller



Dr Ulf-Dietrich Schoop, Head of Archaeology

groups (usually around 12 students). Most Honours courses (Year 3 & 4) are taught by lectures and seminar discussion. Class sizes will usually be about 15–20 students. A number of courses also have practical elements.

Assessment

We use a range of assessment methods depending on the course, including a mix of coursework and formal examination. Exams are held at the end of each semester in years one and two, and at the end of the year in years three and four.

Dissertation

All final-year students write a dissertation on a topic of their choice. Archaeology dissertations may be based on library or archive work, or on some aspect of fieldwork. In the latter case, you may carry out work associated with a staff research project that you have worked on as part of your practical work experience.

For many students, the dissertation is the most personally fulfilling part of their programme.

“I was drawn to Edinburgh because the University offers many different courses so I could get a wide knowledge and understanding of Archaeology. Edinburgh is a great place to be situated for archaeology, with the National Museum and numerous other museums just a short walk from central campus, as well as many commercial archaeology firms located here too.”

Emily Johnston
4th year MA Archaeology



A flexible four-year degree

As a Scottish university, Edinburgh offers a four-year honours degree, which gives you the benefit of developing a breadth as well as depth of knowledge. In your first two years you can study subjects outside of your core discipline, before specialising in your third and fourth years.

Among the advantages of the four-year degree are:

- **Breadth of Study.** The flexible nature of our degrees enables you to expand your academic range by studying subjects outside your major discipline during the first two years.
- **Joint Degrees.** A huge range of joint degrees offers you the opportunity to study two disciplines in real depth.
- **Third Year Abroad.** An extensive network of reciprocal exchanges with major international universities gives you the chance to study overseas for an entire year, and still spend a full three years in Edinburgh.
- **Final-Year Dissertation.** A feature of the fourth year is a dissertation undertaken by all students. This piece of original research, of up to 12,000 words, represents the culmination of your undergraduate career and the demonstration of your abilities as an independent scholar.
- **MA (Hons).** On completion of the four-year honours degree you will be awarded an MA.
- **Academic Maturity.** The added experience and intellectual depth that you will gain over the course of four years is widely recognised and greatly valued by employers.



Study abroad

The University of Edinburgh offers students the opportunity to undertake a wide variety of international experiences. Living and studying abroad can broaden your horizons, transform your academic perspective, and help you to get the very most from your undergraduate career.

Meeting people with different views and lifestyles gives you new insights and widens your frame of reference. Studying abroad provides you with a different perspective on your degree subject and this is your chance to see something of the world, and to find out who you are!

You can apply to study overseas during Year 3 of your degree programme. We have partnerships with a large number of prestigious universities across Europe, North and South America, Australasia and Asia from which you may choose.

For further information on studying abroad visit:

www.ed.ac.uk/global/go-abroad



Archaeology degree programmes

Your archaeology degree will cover a comprehensive range of subjects, giving you the flexibility to study topics within and outside it.

Archaeology offers four Master of Arts (MA) degree programmes:

- Archaeology (single honours)
- Ancient Mediterranean Civilisations (joint honours)
- Archaeology and Ancient History (joint honours)
- Archaeology and Social Anthropology (joint honours)

In addition the following joint honours programmes are also available:

- History and Archaeology
- Architectural History and Archaeology
- Celtic and Archaeology
- Geography and Archaeology
- Scottish Ethnology and Archaeology

About your degree structure

For more detailed and the most up-to-date information on each programme and our archaeology courses, visit our website: www.shca.ed.ac.uk/ug-archaeology



Courses available to study in archaeology

Our course offerings vary from year to year but may include some of the following courses.

First year courses

Archaeology 1A

A basic introduction to archaeology for those who may or may not have studied the subject before. The course, after first outlining what archaeology is and how it is practised, looks at human evolution and early hunters of the Palaeolithic (Stone Age) period.

Archaeology 1B

You will be introduced to archaeology through key themes and case studies drawn mainly from Mediterranean and European contexts, which will help you to understand the nature of archaeological evidence as well as a range of methods, practices and perspectives.

Archaeological Fieldwork

Fieldwork is a fundamental part of archaeology. During the summer after your first year you will undertake a minimum of three weeks of archaeological fieldwork, either on a project run by staff within the School, or an approved project outside the School.

Second year courses

Archaeology 2A: Scotland before History

You will study the archaeology and prehistory of Scotland from the very earliest human settlement in the tenth millennium BC until the end of the Iron Age and the Roman Occupation in the first millennium AD.

Archaeology 2B: Archaeology in Action

You will be introduced to the approaches, techniques, concepts and real-world applications that archaeologists use to reconstruct the past.

You will develop an understanding of professional archaeological methods and the use of scientific techniques to further your understanding of the human past.

The Human Skeleton in Archaeology and Forensic Science: Investigating Death and the Dead

You will study archaeological and forensic human skeletal remains and become familiar with various topics associated with this discipline. You will be introduced to skeletal anatomy and gain insight into the methods used by osteologists in assessing demographic information.

Third and fourth year courses

All third year students will take the following compulsory courses:

Archaeology in Practice

Aims to increase your understanding and experience of the contemporary practice of and issues in archaeology within the United Kingdom and internationally and to introduce you to the range of research resources available to you in Edinburgh and elsewhere.

Theoretical Archaeology

Explores the diverse and changing nature of the discipline of archaeology from the 19th century to the present day. You will study the construction of chronologies, data recovery, classification and interpretation and the developing role of archaeological and environmental sciences.

Other courses taught outside the School may also be available such as Principles of Geographical Information Science and approved courses in Classical Art / Classical Archaeology.

Archaeology honours course options

You will choose option courses in your third and fourth (honours) years from a wide selection available across the subject area. Our courses vary from year to year but may include some of the following.

Course name
Archaeological Fieldwork (available annually)
Archaeological Illustration
The Archaeology of Animal Remains
Archaeology of Architecture
Bronze Age Civilisations of the Near East & Greece
Byzantine Archaeology: The Archaeology of the Byzantine Empire and its neighbours AD 500–850
Conflict Archaeology
Death, Decay and Reconstruction: Discovering Past Lifeways through Archaeological Human Remains
Etruscan Italy 1000–300 BC
From Foraging to Farming: the Beginnings of Agriculture in the Mediterranean and Europe
Gallia from the Third Century BC to Augustus
Human Origins
The Hittites: The Archaeology of an Ancient Near Eastern Civilisation
The Iron Age of Western Temperate Europe Until the Third Century BC
Island Worlds: Prehistoric Societies in the Western Mediterranean from Malta to Minorca
Late Hunter-Gatherers in Europe
Ritual and Monumentality in North-West Europe: mid-6 th to mid-3 rd Millennium BC
Scientific Methods in Bio-Archaeology
The Scottish Lowlands: Archaeology and Landscape Before the Normans
Villains, Victims and Forensic Evidence
Visualising the Past



The School of History, Classics and Archaeology

About our building

We are located in the west wing of the Old Medical School quadrangle on Teviot Place, known as the William Robertson Wing.

Our building was designed by Robert Rowand Anderson, a noted Scottish architect, and was completed in 1886. Constructed in the Northern Italian Renaissance style, incorporating details like palazzoid frontages and a corbelled stair turret, Rowand Anderson believed the building would inspire students and staff to “inquire into the nature of all things”.

Prior to the School of History, Classics and Archaeology moving into the building in 2010, the interior was completely refurbished at a cost of £14 million, providing state-of-the-art facilities for staff and students. Additionally, a wide selection of artworks and artefacts from each subject area are on display, decorating the hallways, study spaces and meeting areas throughout the building.

Undergraduate Common Room

The School provides our Undergraduate Students with a dedicated Common Room. This large attractive social space overlooks Middle Meadow Walk and offers a mix of comfy seating, lunch tables, computers and a range of kitchen facilities.

Student Research Room

All members of the School of History, Classics and Archaeology benefit from the facilities offered in our Student Research Room. This split-level space on the top floors of the William Robertson Wing provides a tranquil and airy environment in which to study. It contains computer terminals, houses seven large collections of books covering all our disciplines, and is filled with statues from the School's cast collection.

Laboratories

Archaeology uses a number of dedicated laboratories for teaching and research. Our computer lab helps with the teaching of digital skills, e.g. in quantitative analysis, modelling or visualisation. Other labs serve the handling of human or animal remains, and the analysis and processing of diverse archaeological materials.



Some of the School's key rooms and facilities

Jim McMillan Room – room 1.31

A common room for staff and postgraduate students named in honour of the first Head of School. The room also houses a kitchen with vending machines.

Rosalind Mitchison Room – room 2.30

A common room for undergraduate students named in honour of the former Professor of Social History, Rosalind Mitchison. This social space offers comfy sofas, lunch tables, a snack machine, a tea preparation area with fridges and kettles, laptop tables and lockers.

Postgraduate Study Room – room 2.35

A study space with flexible hot-desks and specialist software/hardware. It has colour printing and copying facilities.

Teaching Computer Lab – room 2.36

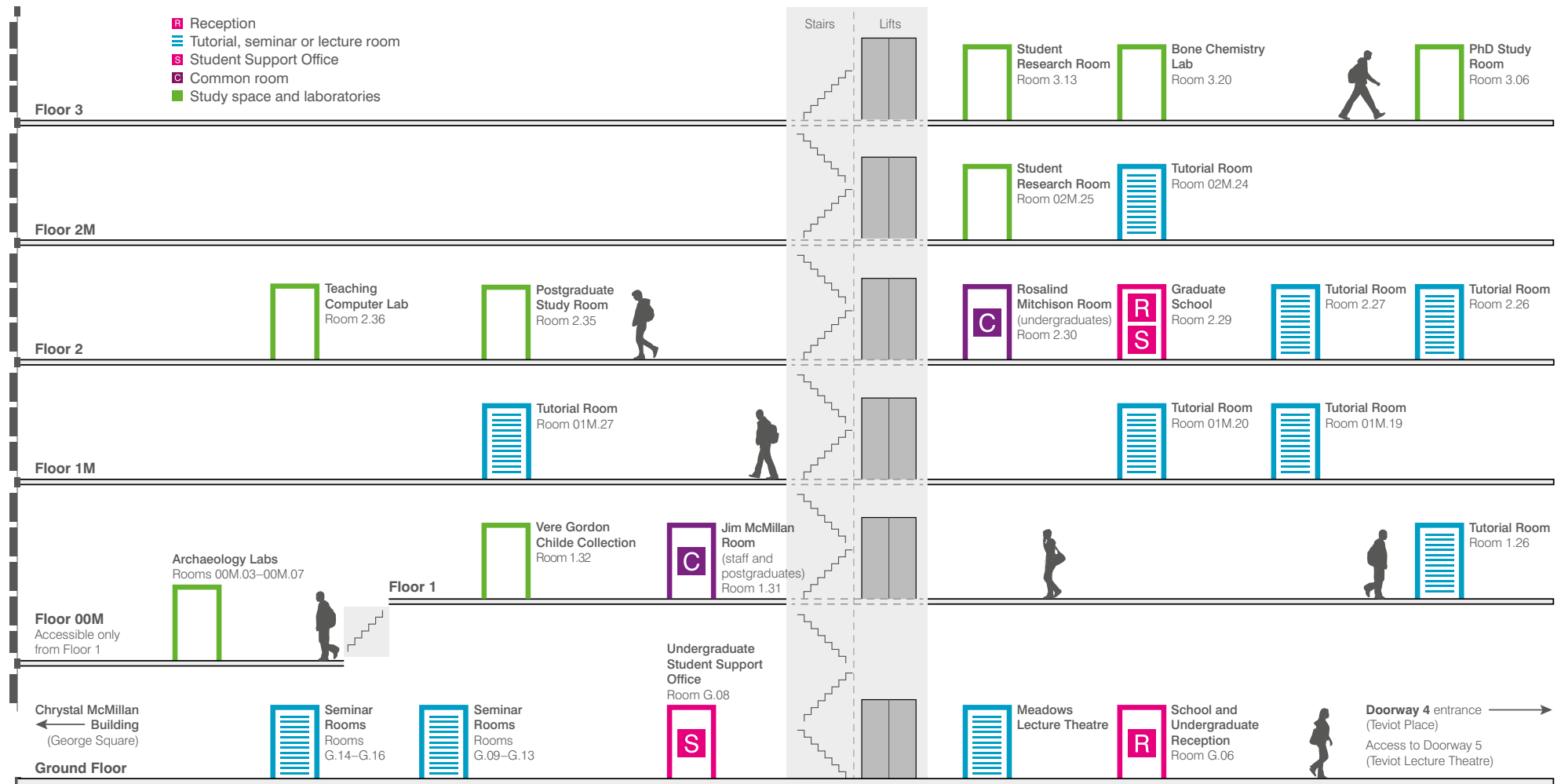
A dedicated teaching room for computer-based classes.

Student Research Room – room 02M.25

This large airy room is used for study and houses seven book collections and computing/printing facilities.

PhD Study Room – room 3.06

A large study room with both hot-desks and allocated desks for PhD students.



This is a schematic diagram, designed to show the approximate location of the most commonly used rooms. Rooms which appear next to each other here may be on opposite sides of the same corridor.

Drawn to
EDINBURGH
by our world-class city

You are in good company. Our 23,000-strong undergraduate community call Edinburgh home. Learn more at www.ed.ac.uk

Join us

For further information about studying archaeology at Edinburgh, email:

**HCA-prospective-UG
@ed.ac.uk**

For further information about your application, email:

**CAHSS.UGAdmissions
@ed.ac.uk**

Tel: **+44 (0)131 650 3565**

We have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the information in this handbook before going to print. However please check online for the most up-to-date information:
www.ed.ac.uk/hca/archaeology



©The University of Edinburgh 2017

No part of this publication may be reproduced without written permission of the University. The University of Edinburgh is a charitable body, registered in Scotland, with registration number SC005336