

ARCHAEOLOGY (MA)

Graduate School

Program Website (<https://archaeology.cornell.edu/ma/>)

CIP: 45.0301 | HEGIS: 2203.00 | NYSED: 15274

Graduate Field

Archaeology (<https://catalog.cornell.edu/graduate-school/archaeology/>)

Program Description

The MA Program in Archaeology at Cornell is designed to provide students with an intensive orientation to the field, appropriate to both students with BA degrees in the liberal arts who have considerable experience in archaeology and those seeking to build a solid foundation for future work or study. The goal of the program is to offer students the intellectual resources and institutional support necessary to prepare them for successful admissions to top tier PhD programs and for careers in heritage management.

Cornell archaeology supports a diverse array of interests, ranging from material culture studies to public archaeology, historic preservation, and archaeological method and theory. Archaeology at Cornell is deeply committed to multidisciplinary studies. Faculty in Archaeology belong to the fields of Anthropology, Classics, History of Art, Landscape Architecture, and Near Eastern Studies.

The ideal trajectory toward the MA should result in the completion of all requirements within 12-18 months, although extensions to 24 months are allowed when warranted by a student's research program.

Concentrations

- Archaeological science (*minor*)
- Archaeology of Europe, the Caucasus and Eurasia
- Economy and exchange (*minor*)
- Identity (*minor*)
- Intercultural engagement (*minor*)
- Landscape and environment (*minor*)
- Latin American and Caribbean archaeology
- Materiality
- Mediterranean and Near Eastern archaeology
- Museums and heritage (*minor*)
- North American archaeology
- Politics and complexity (*minor*)
- Ritual and religion (*minor*)
- South and East Asian archaeology
- Visual culture (*minor*)

Program Information

- Instruction Mode: In Person
- Location: Ithaca, NY
- Minimum Credits for Degree: 72

Program Requirements

- Minimum Semesters for Degree: 2

Graduate School Milestones

- Responsible Conduct of Research Training: Required
- Open Researcher and Contributor ID (ORCID): Required
- Student Progress Reviews (SPR) begin: First Year
- Masters Exam (M Exam): Spring of second year

Course Requirements

Additional course requirements may be set by the student's Special Committee. Program specific requirements that apply to all students are included below.

Year 1 (Fall)

- ARKEO 7000 CIAMS Core Seminar in Archaeological Theory and Method
- ARKEO 7200 Field Methods in Community-Engaged Archaeology
- Course in the Archaeology of a Region
- Elective or language course

Year 1 (Spring)

- ARKEO 6100 The Craft of Archaeology
- ARKEO 6250 Archaeological Research Design or ARKEO 8901 Master's Thesis

University Graduation Requirements Requirements for All Students

In order to receive a Cornell degree, a student must satisfy academic and non-academic requirements.

Academic Requirements

A student's college determines degree requirements such as residency, number of credits, distribution of credits, and grade averages. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of the specific major, degree, distribution, college, and graduation requirements for completing their chosen program of study. See the individual requirements listed by each college or school or contact the college registrar's office (<https://registrar.cornell.edu/service-resources/college-registrar-directory/>) for more information.

Non-academic Requirements

Conduct Matters. Students must satisfy any outstanding sanctions, penalties or remedies imposed or agreed to under the Student Code of Conduct (Code) or Policy 6.4. Where a formal complaint under the Code or Policy 6.4 is pending, the University will withhold awarding a degree otherwise earned until the adjudication process set forth in those procedures is complete, including the satisfaction of any sanctions, penalties or remedies imposed.

Financial Obligations. Outstanding financial obligations will not impact the awarding of a degree otherwise earned or a student's ability to access their official transcript. However, the University may withhold issuing a diploma until any outstanding financial obligations owing to the University are satisfied.

Learning Outcomes

- Demonstrate commitment to advanced archaeological scholarship:
 - Show understanding of the history and current methods and theories in archaeology

- Keep abreast of current advances in one's field and related areas
- Show commitment to professional development through engagement in professional societies and other modes of knowledge exchange
- Show commitment to sustaining a productive learning environment through teaching, collaboration, mentoring, and/or other means
- Learn advanced research skills:
 - Master and apply current research methodologies, technical skills, and/or languages
 - Perform critical analysis of one's own and others' findings
 - Communicate research appropriately
- Demonstrate professional skills:
 - Adhere to ethical standards of archaeological work
 - Apply suitable methods and theories; Write and speak effectively in a style (or styles) appropriate to the field; Prepare professional CV
- Make a contribution to the field of archaeology:
 - Identify and pursue a suitable project
 - Develop the project using suitable resources
 - Complete and write up the project