

# ARCHAEOLOGY

## Overview

A Historic England report found that there is a growing need for Archaeologists in the coming years, particularly in the preparation of sites for large scale developments, where environmental, scientific dating, excavation and reporting skills will be required. An Archaeology degree can prepare you for working in a broad range of industries including local authorities, advising on the archaeological implications of planning applications, commercial planning and development consultancies and archaeological field units or trusts.

You could also be employed by a museum or heritage centre, assisting with the conservation, display and interpretation of artefacts or in a national organisation like Historic England or the National Trust. Highly transferable skills gained during your degree, such as research, report writing, analysis and attention to detail, teamwork, reasoning and time management can be useful in other sectors such as business, finance, journalism, research and law.

## Roles

Here are some examples of job roles which can be found on the [prospects.ac.uk](http://prospects.ac.uk) and [targetjobs.co.uk](http://targetjobs.co.uk) websites:

[Archaeologist](#)  
[Heritage Manager](#)  
[Historic Buildings Inspector](#)  
[Museum Education Officer](#)  
[Lecturer](#)  
[Operational Researcher](#)  
[Town and Country Planner](#)  
[Archivist](#)  
[Environmental Consultant](#)  
[Project Manager](#)  
[Quality Assurance Manager](#)  
[Health and Safety Adviser](#)  
[Solicitor](#)

Archaeological research and academic careers will usually require post graduate qualifications, [findamasters.com](http://findamasters.com) provides details of masters programmes in the UK and abroad and [findaphd.com](http://findaphd.com) and [jobs.ac.uk](http://jobs.ac.uk) provide details of available PhD and post-doctoral opportunities.

## Finding Opportunities

[Chartered Institute for Archaeologists \(CIFA\) \(archaeologists.net/gettingstarted\)](http://archaeologists.net/gettingstarted) (archaeology careers and work experience)

[British Archaeological Jobs and Resources \(bajr.org\)](http://bajr.org) (employment and training news)

[Training Online Resource Centre \(training.archaeologyuk.org\)](http://training.archaeologyuk.org)

[Wessex Archaeology \(wessexarch.co.uk\)](http://wessexarch.co.uk) (a network of archaeology services, work experience opportunities available)

[Prospects.ac.uk](http://prospects.ac.uk) (options with an Archaeology degree)

[University of Leicester Museum Studies Job Desk](#)

[jobs.theguardian.com](https://jobs.theguardian.com) (museum, arts, heritage and charity jobs)  
[Earthworks-jobs.com](https://earthworks-jobs.com) (environmental and geoscience jobs)  
[Local Government Jobs \(lgjobs.com\)](https://localgovernmentjobs.com) (local authority opportunities)  
[Museum Jobs](#) museum jobs in the UK and abroad  
[National Museums](#) jobs in museums and galleries

## Building Experience

Most jobs will ask for experience and you should aim to get as much practical experience as possible. Volunteering is an excellent way to get started and archaeological societies and associations such as the [Chartered Institute of Archaeologists](#), [British Archaeological Association \(thebaa.org\)](https://thebaa.org) and [Council for British Archaeology \(new.archaeologyuk.org\)](#) provide support and resources, local museums such as [Ure Museum of Greek Archaeology](#), [Reading Museum](#) may also provide opportunities, [do-it.org](https://do-it.org) advertising volunteering opportunities nationally. This means getting involved with as many tasks as possible from planning the project, cleaning, recording, investigating and conserving finds, writing up notes and reports. Volunteering also demonstrates your interest and commitment.

Work experience and volunteering are great for your CV as well as being a valuable networking opportunity to develop useful links and contacts with people working in the sector.

[University of Reading's Undergraduate Research Opportunities Programme \(UROP\)](#) offers paid research experience over the summer and can enhance your experience and skills.

Record your skills and experience in the [Archaeology Skills Passport](#).

## Exploring Further

[Chartered Institute for Archaeologists \(archaeologists.net\)](https://archaeologists.net)  
[British Archaeological Association \(thebaa.org\)](https://thebaa.org)  
[Council for British Archaeology \(archaeologyuk.org\)](https://archaeologyuk.org)  
[Current Archaeology \(archaeology.co.uk\)](https://archaeology.co.uk) news and articles

The skills and knowledge you've developed in your degree will be valuable in a wide range of roles and sectors. If you're thinking of looking further afield but aren't sure where to start, why not visit the Explore pages of our website or book an appointment with one of our Careers Consultants?

