



AHIS1300

Digging up the Past: An Introduction to Archaeology

Session 1, Fully online/virtual 2021

Department of History and Archaeology

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Notice

As part of [Phase 3 of our return to campus plan](#), most units will now run tutorials, seminars and other small group activities on campus, and most will keep an online version available to those students unable to return or those who choose to continue their studies online.

To check the availability of face-to-face activities for your unit, please go to [timetable viewer](#). To check detailed information on unit assessments visit your unit's iLearn space or consult your unit convenor.

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit convenor, lecturer and tutor

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By appointment only

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit serves as a broad introduction to archaeology, where students become familiar with its fundamental principles and concepts. Students will study the emergence of archaeology as a discipline, its purpose and aims. This unit will provide students with a foundation in the various methods and analytical techniques used to study archaeological evidence by using a combination of theory and practical case studies drawn from all periods of archaeology. Students will explore the various ways of interpreting archaeological remains, taking into account the multidisciplinary nature of the discipline.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

ULO1: Acquire knowledge of the archaeological discipline

ULO2: Analyse source material, including archaeological records, ancient sources, and modern scholarship

ULO3: Identify fundamental developments, theories and techniques of archaeology

ULO4: Communicate archaeological information and concepts through oral, visual and written formats

ULO5: Demonstrate critical thinking in reading of the literature and interpretation of the data

General Assessment Information

Unit Requirements and Expectations Students must achieve an overall mark of 50% or above to complete this unit satisfactorily.

Assignment submission All written work must be submitted through the iLearn website. Please upload your assignment to the drop-box for the relevant week. Save your assignment as a pdf or a doc file (a pdf is best; please do not use docx). All assignments must include the following at the start: Student name; Student Number; Assessment Task Title or Question. Any assignment submitted without these will not be marked. All written assignments will be returned via the 'turnitin' tool on the iLearn Unit site, and will contain feedback from the marker within them.

Extensions and Special Considerations If you anticipate any difficulty in attending class for a scheduled test it is important that you contact us as early as possible. Please avoid asking for extensions as missing deadlines complicates the work of markers and puts you behind. If you have to ask for an extension or the opportunity to reschedule the date of a test please request it before the deadline, and only request the extension if you face serious crises that can be documented in some way (e.g. with a medical certificate). 'Getting behind with your work' or 'I ran out of time' are not excuses.

Special Consideration Policy: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/my-study-program/special-consideration>

Applying for Special Consideration: Students applying for Special Consideration circumstances of three (3) consecutive days duration, within a study period, and/or prevent completion of a formal examination must submit an on-line application with the Faculty of Arts. For an application to be valid, it must include a completed Application for Special Consideration form and all supporting documentation. The online Special Consideration application is found at: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/my-study-program/special-consideration> Extensions can only be granted in exceptional cases and may only be sought in consultation with the unit convenor and with support of documentary evidence. If you anticipate any difficulty in meeting assigned due dates then it is important that you contact the course's convenor as early as possible. Please avoid asking for extensions as missing deadlines complicates the work of markers and puts you behind. If you have to ask for an extension, request it before the deadline, 'Getting behind with your work' or 'I had other deadlines' do not count.

Late Assessment Penalty Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, (a) a penalty for lateness will apply – two (2) marks out of 100 will be deducted per

day for assignments submitted after the due date – and (b) no assignment will be accepted more than seven (7) days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline. No late submissions will be accepted for timed assessments – e.g. quizzes, online tests.

Final Marks Please note with respect to the marks you receive for work during the session: that the marks given are indicative only; final marks will be determined after moderation. See further the note on Results in the Policies and Procedures section below: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/exams/exam-results>

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Weekly quiz	30%	No	Every week from Week 2 to Week 12
Encyclopedia entry	10%	No	Weeks 3-13
Artefact study	20%	No	Week 6 (04/04/2021)
Final examination	40%	No	Examination period

Weekly quiz

Assessment Type ¹: Quiz/Test

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **Every week from Week 2 to Week 12**

Weighting: **30%**

10 short, weekly questions related to content covered in lectures and tutorials.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Acquire knowledge of the archaeological discipline
- Identify fundamental developments, theories and techniques of archaeology
- Communicate archaeological information and concepts through oral, visual and written formats

Encyclopedia entry

Assessment Type ¹: Non-academic writing

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **Weeks 3-13**

Weighting: **10%**

Write a short encyclopedia entry (approximately 200 words)

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Acquire knowledge of the archaeological discipline
- Analyse source material, including archaeological records, ancient sources, and modern scholarship
- Communicate archaeological information and concepts through oral, visual and written formats
- Demonstrate critical thinking in reading of the literature and interpretation of the data

Artefact study

Assessment Type ¹: Case study/analysis

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **Week 6 (04/04/2021)**

Weighting: **20%**

Describe, analyse and document an artefact

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify fundamental developments, theories and techniques of archaeology
- Communicate archaeological information and concepts through oral, visual and written formats
- Demonstrate critical thinking in reading of the literature and interpretation of the data

Final examination

Assessment Type ¹: Examination

Indicative Time on Task ²: 40 hours

Due: **Examination period**

Weighting: **40%**

A two-hour examination on all course content

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Acquire knowledge of the archaeological discipline
- Analyse source material, including archaeological records, ancient sources, and modern scholarship
- Communicate archaeological information and concepts through oral, visual and written formats
- Demonstrate critical thinking in reading of the literature and interpretation of the data

¹ If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this

type of assessment

- the [Learning Skills Unit](#) for academic skills support.

² Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

Delivery and Resources

Delivery

Lecture: Tuesday 9-11am

Location: Classes are online - consult iLearn for further detail

Online units can be accessed at: <https://ilearn.mq.edu.au> PC and Internet access are required for those who wish to access iLearn. Basic computer skills (e.g., internet browsing) and skills in word processing are also a requirement. Please consult teaching staff for any further, more specific requirements.

Resources The unit will be based on the following text books:

Required Texts:

- Gamble, C. (2015), *Archaeology. The basics*, London, New York, 3rd ed.
- Renfrew, C. and Bahn, P. (2020), *Archaeology: Theories, Methods and Practice*, London, 8th ed.

Recommended Texts:

- Bahn, P. (2012), *Archaeology: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford, New York.
- Cullen, J. (2013), *How to Read, Write, and Think about History*, Malden, Oxford.
- Scarre, C. (2018), *The Human Past*, London, 4th ed.

Unit Schedule

Week	Lecture	Tutorial	Assessment
1	Introduction. What is Archaeology?	Seminar forum 1	No assessment
2	History of Archaeology. From Ancient to Modern Archaeology	Seminar forum 2	Online quiz 1
3	Archaeological theory. Methodology and philosophy of Archaeology from 19 th century to present	Seminar forum 3	Online quiz 2
4	Archaeological Fieldwork 1 - Research design and survey	Seminar forum 4	Online quiz 3
5	Archaeological Fieldwork 2 - Excavation	Seminar forum 5	Online quiz 4

6	Archaeological data. Culture and context	Seminar forum 6	Artefact Study due (4 April 2021) No online quiz
<i>MID-SESSION BREAK</i>			
7	Dating sites and artefacts: relative vs absolute chronology	Seminar forum 7	Online quiz 5
8	Material culture: significance of artefacts for Archaeology	Seminar forum 8	Online quiz 6
9	Art, Rock Art and Archaeology of ritual	Seminar forum 9	Online quiz 7
10	Archaeology of social complexity	Seminar forum 10	Online quiz 8
11	Archaeology at Macquarie University (National Archaeology Week)	Seminar forum 11	Online quiz 9
12	Funerary Archaeology	Seminar forum 12	Online quiz 10
13	Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	Seminar forum 13	No online quiz

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Grade Appeal Policy](#)
- [Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit [Student Policies \(https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies\)](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au) and use the [search tool](#).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to help you improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Getting help with your assignment](#)
- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module](#)

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- [Subject and Research Guides](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

Student Enquiry Service

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Equity Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#).

The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.