



University College Dublin  
Ireland's Global University



## MSc/GradDip Experimental Archaeology and Material Culture (One Year Full Time or Two Year Part Time)

The MSc and Graduate Diploma in Experimental Archaeology and Material Culture are designed for students interested in learning about past peoples and their worlds through experimental archaeological and material culture studies. You will learn innovative archaeological and scientific approaches to understanding things - both buildings and objects - from the past, and you will investigate them through practical and scientific projects. You will learn about different materials and how they were worked - and you will work them yourself using your body, your hands, touch, smell, sight, and hearing. You will learn about exciting ways of communicating your knowledge and understanding of people and their material culture in museums, archaeological

open-air museums, in Living History and reenactment, online through blogs, videos and social media, and in traditional publication. You will develop employable skills in project design, project and time management, in data analysis and interpretation, writing, photography and illustration, and in the design and implementation of educational and public outreach programmes in museums and beyond.

Students in the MSc and the GradDip take the same courses for 60 credits over two semesters from September, with the MSc having an additional semester from May and 30 credits for a research dissertation you design. During the year you can apply to transfer from the GradDip into the MSc - and visa versa.



Athena  
SWAN  
Bronze Award



### Why study at UCD?



#### Tradition

Established 1854, with 160 years of teaching & research excellence



#### Global profile

UCD is ranked in the top 1% of higher education institutions worldwide



#### Global community

Over 6,000 international students from over 120 countries study at UCD



#### Global careers

Degrees with high employability; dedicated careers support; 2 year stay-back visa

### UCD Centre for Experimental Archaeology and Material Culture

This programme is based at the UCD Centre for Experimental Archaeology and Material Culture, one of the only university campus facilities dedicated to experimental archaeological scientific and practical research, teaching and public outreach in the world. We are a member of EXARC, the ICOM-affiliated global network of Archaeological Open Air Museums and experimental archaeologists.

## Course Content and Structure

90 credits  
taught masters

60 credits  
taught modules

30 credits  
dissertation

or

60 credits  
graduate diploma

A strong emphasis is placed on students developing reflective, practical, creative, and intellectual strengths in understanding past societies and their material culture.

#### Core modules:

- Practical experimental archaeology
- Research project skills (MSc only)
- Dissertation (MSc only)
- Material culture
- Experimental archaeology: making, understanding, storytelling
- Ancient materialities

#### Indicative optional modules:

- Archaeology and the public
- Practical experimental archaeology
- Heritage management
- Early Medieval Europe
- Archaeology of Minoan Crete
- Feudal castles and Gothic cathedrals
- Communicating heritage
- Experimental archaeology & ancient technologies
- Hunter-gatherers
- Managing landscape heritage
- Irish archaeological landscapes
- Intro to GIS and spatial methods
- Advanced GIS
- World heritage and sustainable development

#### Graduate Dissertation (30 credits, MSc only)

Modules and topics shown are subject to change and are not guaranteed by UCD.





## Career Opportunities

Graduates may progress to careers in further research (e.g. PhD), in academia, state or commercial archaeology, in cultural heritage studies, in education and public outreach, in traditional and archaeological open-air museums, in cultural tourism and heritage management, amongst many other options.



- Further research, whether academic or professional
- Professional archaeological practice
- Museums, Living History and re-enactment
- Communicating heritage
- Heritage and education policy and practice



## Graduate Profile

Brendan O'Neill, Irish Research Council-funded PhD scholar 2018; Lecturer, UCD School of Archaeology

"Archaeology is essentially the discipline of things, the only discipline that focuses like a laser-beam on how it is as human beings we make our own worlds, and interact with each other through material culture. It is obvious to me that the best way of starting to understand material culture is to engage with it ourselves through our hands, as well as our minds. UCD's Centre for Experimental Archaeology and Material Culture provides a superb and unique opportunity to study things, to make things, to develop skills in interpreting archaeological materials, and to start to tell new stories about the people of the past."

**Fees** Fee information at [www.ucd.ie/fees](http://www.ucd.ie/fees)

## Entry Requirements

- This programme is intended for applicants with a degree in archaeology, or cognate disciplines such as geography, history, environmental studies, architecture, art history, classics, history, sociology, or professionals working in museums, living history, crafts and material culture studies areas. Contact us for advice and information.
- An upper second class honours, or international equivalent is required.
- Applicants whose first language is not English are also required to submit evidence of their English Language proficiency. It is expected that applicants will normally have reached an overall 7.0 in IELTS or equivalent.

## Contact Us

### EU Students

[www.ucd.ie/archaeology](http://www.ucd.ie/archaeology)  
[archaeology@ucd.ie](mailto:archaeology@ucd.ie)  
 +353 1 716 8312

### International Students

[www.ucd.ie/international](http://www.ucd.ie/international)  
[internationaladmission@ucd.ie](mailto:internationaladmission@ucd.ie)

*Visas / Funding / Scholarships / Accommodation*

### School information on funding & supports

<http://www.ucd.ie/archaeology/study/graduateprogrammes>

## Related Programmes

MA/GradDip Archaeology

MSc/GradDip World Heritage Management and Conservation

MSc World Heritage Conservation (part time online)

PhD in Archaeology

H Dip in Archaeology  
[www.ucd.ie/archaeology/study/graduateprogrammes/hdip\\_archaeology/](http://www.ucd.ie/archaeology/study/graduateprogrammes/hdip_archaeology/)

**Apply Now** Online applications at: [www.ucd.ie/apply](http://www.ucd.ie/apply) (search for Archaeology)