



University College Dublin
Ireland's Global University

MSc/GradDip Hunter-Gatherer Archaeology

One Year Full-Time or Two Year Part-Time

(Non-EU/EEA students full-time only due to immigration regulations)

The MSc and Graduate Diploma in Hunter-Gatherer Archaeology is for students interested in the fascinating and remarkable world of hunter-gatherers. It is often claimed that humans have spent 90-99% of their existence as hunter-gatherers. Understanding these ways of life provides vital perspectives on human identity and the challenges and opportunities societies face today. Archaeology is the only discipline that can provide this information. Our programme will introduce students to key themes in the archaeology of past hunter gatherers, the relationship between past and present hunting and gathering communities, and the contemporary context of knowledge production about

hunter-gatherers. Our primary focus is the archaeology of *Homo sapiens* hunter-gatherers: we will include some discussion of non-*Homo sapiens*, but this is not a course on human evolution.

You will develop skills in project design and independent research, data analysis and interpretation, communicating the past to different stakeholders, as well as how to different perspectives on the past. You will be part of a dynamic, friendly and international postgraduate community in a School with a 160-year history of exceptional archaeological research and you will form part of the UCD Hunter Gatherer Research Group.



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 8,000 international students from over 136 countries study at UCD



Global careers

Degrees with high employability; dedicated careers support; 2 year stay-back visa for Non-EU students

Fieldwork and Research Opportunities

The MSc Hunter-Gatherer Archaeology programme feeds into active field-work, lab and practical research projects carried out by members of the UCD Hunter-Gatherer Research Group. This will include excavations of Mesolithic site(s) in the Cairngorm Mountains of Scotland as well as Mesolithic sites in Ireland. Students will have the opportunity to join these projects in the field or in post-excavation and to work on related materials for their dissertation.

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 understanding past hunter-gatherers.

Core modules:

- Hunter Gatherer Archaeology 1: key themes
- Hunter Gatherer Archaeology 2: knowledge production in the present
- Material Culture
- Research Project Skills

Optional modules:

In discussion with the Programme Coordinator, students will be advised to choose their options from one thematic area available in our other graduate programmes:

- Archaeology
- European Prehistories
- Experimental Archaeology & Material Culture
- World Heritage Management

Graduate Dissertation
(30 credits, MSc only)

Students have the opportunity to undertake voluntary fieldwork on one of our hunter-gatherer projects.

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





Rock crystal from Belderrig Mesolithic site, Ireland (© johnsunderland.com)



Career Opportunities

The MSc and Graduate Diploma will provide you with the skills required to develop a career in the archaeological profession or the heritage sector, or to go on to further academic study. Transferable skillsets such as critical thinking and project management will also provide you with an excellent grounding for future employment in other sectors. Graduates of this programme may progress to careers in:

- Further research, whether academic or professional
- Commercial archaeology and cultural resource management
- The heritage sector and tourism
- State sector bodies
- NGOs
- Education



Graduate Profile

Deborah Buchanan,
MSc Hunter-Gatherer
Archaeology student,
UCD School of Archaeology

"I can honestly say that the Hunter-Gatherer Archaeology programme has far exceeded my expectations. The practical side of things really surprised me- we've spent a lot of time doing, not just sitting listening to lectures.

The style of teaching at UCD has also been a pleasant surprise to me. In the past I didn't feel like I could approach lecturers, but at UCD I feel like everyone is trying to help me learn and genuinely wants me to do well."

Fees Fee information at www.ucd.ie/fees. A fee reduction is available for returning US Study Abroad students: <https://www.ucd.ie/global/scholarships/>

Entry Requirements

- The MSc and GradDip programmes are intended for applicants with a degree in archaeology, anthropology, or cognate disciplines such as geography, history, environmental studies, or professionals working in museums, heritage management or related areas. Contact us for advice and information, especially to consider relevant archaeological experience.
- An upper second class honours degree, or international equivalent is required for entry to the MSc.
- Candidates who possess a lower second class honours degree are encouraged to consider the Graduate Diploma programme. Subject to performance in the first trimester, students may transfer to the full MSc programme.
- 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
archaeology@ucd.ie
+353 1 716 8312

International Students

www.ucd.ie/global
internationaladmissions@ucd.ie
Visas / Funding / Scholarships / Accommodation

School information on funding & supports

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

Related Programmes

MSc/GradDip Archaeology

MSc/GradDip/GradCert Experimental
Archaeology and Material Culture

MSc/GradDip European Prehistories

MSc/GradDip World Heritage
Management and Conservation

MSc/GradDip/GradCert World Heritage
Conservation (part-time online)

PhD in Archaeology

H Dip in Archaeology
www.ucd.ie/archaeology/study/

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