



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

## International Hunter-Gatherer Opportunity CHAGS

In 2022 UCD will host the biggest conference on hunter-gatherers in the world! CHAGS13 (June 2022) is the Conference on Hunting and Gathering Societies organized by the International Society for Hunter Gatherer Research (ISHGR). CHAGS meetings trace their origin to the 'Man the Hunter' meeting in Chicago 1966, often considered foundational to hunter-gatherer studies. The conference will bring c. 500 anthropologists, archaeologists, activists and members of hunting and gathering communities to Dublin. See [www.ucd.ie/archaeology/chags13/](http://www.ucd.ie/archaeology/chags13/)

## 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



## 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

**Martin Moucheron,**  
MLitt scholar, UCD School of  
Archaeology

"I chose archaeology in UCD because of my particular interest for hunting-gathering societies, and I have found an environment where students are encouraged to follow their curiosity, explore, and question. We engage in cutting-edge science, experimental archaeology and fieldwork in Ireland and overseas. But above all, students are made to feel included with exciting opportunities to participate in active research groups and in the organisation of CHAGS. We are considered as valid contributors to archaeology in-the-making; and the proactive policy of inclusiveness makes sure that we are valued as human beings."

**Fees** Fee information at [www.ucd.ie/fees](http://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](http://www.ucd.ie/archaeology)  
[archaeology@ucd.ie](mailto:archaeology@ucd.ie)  
+353 1 716 8312

### International Students

[www.ucd.ie/global](http://www.ucd.ie/global)  
[internationaladmissions@ucd.ie](mailto: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/](http://www.ucd.ie/archaeology/study/)

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