



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)



Introduction

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.

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 include:

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

Graduate Dissertation (30 credits, MSc only)

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

Optional modules include:

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
- Experimental Archaeology & Material Culture
- World Heritage Management

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

Why study at UCD?



Graduate Education

12,000 graduate students; 17% graduate research students; structured PhDs



Global Careers

Dedicated careers support; 2 year stayback visa to work in Ireland



Graduate Employability

Ranked no. 1 in Ireland in QS Graduate Employability ranking



Global Community

8,500 international students and 300,000 alumni network across 165 countries





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



Experimental hazelnut roasting

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 & Tourism
- State sector bodies
- NGOs
- Education

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.

Applicant Profile

- 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.

Fees and Scholarships

Tuition fee information is available on www.ucd.ie/fees. Please note that UCD offers a number of graduate scholarships for full-time, self-funding international students, holding an offer of a place on a UCD masters programme. Please see www.ucd.ie/global/scholarships/ for further information.

Related Graduate Programmes

- MSc/GradDip Archaeology
- MSc/GradDip Experimental Archaeology and Material Culture
- 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/

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."

CONTACT US

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W: www.ucd.ie/global

SCHOOL INFORMATION ON FUNDING & SUPPORTS

W: www.ucd.ie/archaeology/study/graduateprogrammes

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W: www.ucd.ie/global/apply