

The MSc Archaeological Practice is a world-leading archaeology course which equips you with the tools for a career in archaeology.

The course combines the essential practical skills with a critical study of the advanced theoretical and methodological concepts underpinning the discipline.

We stress the acquisition of vocational skills through practical experience using Orkney — home to some of the world's most renowned archaeological monuments — as our “laboratory”.

Core modules introduce the principles, philosophy and theory of cultural heritage management and practical archaeological techniques including: excavation; non-intrusive field archaeology; digital archaeology; environmental archaeology; and post-excavation analysis.

There is flexibility to pursue an interest in period-based modules, which reflect the research specialisms of the Archaeology Institute staff, or focus entirely on the professional skills modules.



UHI Archaeology Institute

UHI Orkney, East Road
Kirkwall, Orkney KW15 1 LX

t: +44 (1856) 569000

e: studyarchaeology@uhi.ac.uk

w: www.uhi.ac.uk/en/archaeology-institute

Blog: www.archaeologyorkney.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/UHIArchaeology



- Acquire practical experience and professional skills.
- Study in the outstanding archaeological landscape of the Orkney Islands.
- Develop skills in desk-based assessment, post-excavation analysis, data handling, and project management.
- Contribute to cutting-edge research lead by internationally renowned academics, and professional archaeologists.
- The three-month placement offers the opportunity to expand your professional experience and knowledge, or the dissertation can lead to further academic research.



Course content

Core modules

- Cultural heritage management.
- Practical archaeology.
- Professional practice.
- Placement or dissertation.

Optional modules

Examples include:

- Environmental archaeology in the Anthropocene.
- Scottish historical archaeology.

- Early Medieval archaeology.
- Vikings and Norse in the North Atlantic.
- The Iron Age in the Atlantic World.
- Practical archaeobotany.
- Artefacts and technology.
- Practical zooarchaeology.
- Human remains in archaeology.
- Excavation: includes a field school in the summer at a site location off-campus.
- Digital Analysis in Archaeology.

- Archaeology of the Highlands & Islands.
- Runology and Old Norse Studies.

Entry requirements

2:2 Honours degree or above in archaeology or a relevant subject, or equivalent academic or professional qualifications.

You may also be considered if you can demonstrate significant professional experience in the field of archaeology.



How will I study?

You will be based at UHI Orkney, where you will learn through face-to-face lectures and tutorials. Additional video conference sessions will be contributed by experts at other UHI campuses, and from the commercial heritage and archaeology sectors. Additional material will be provided via the university's virtual learning environment.

There are regular fieldtrips and museum visits open to all students.

You will also undertake lab-based workshops and a significant amount of fieldwork, involving excavation, non-intrusive survey, environmental sampling, and artefact handling and curation, in one of the world's best archaeological classrooms, the Orkney Islands.

For full details, including how to apply, see www.uhi.ac.uk/en/courses/msc-archaeological-practice