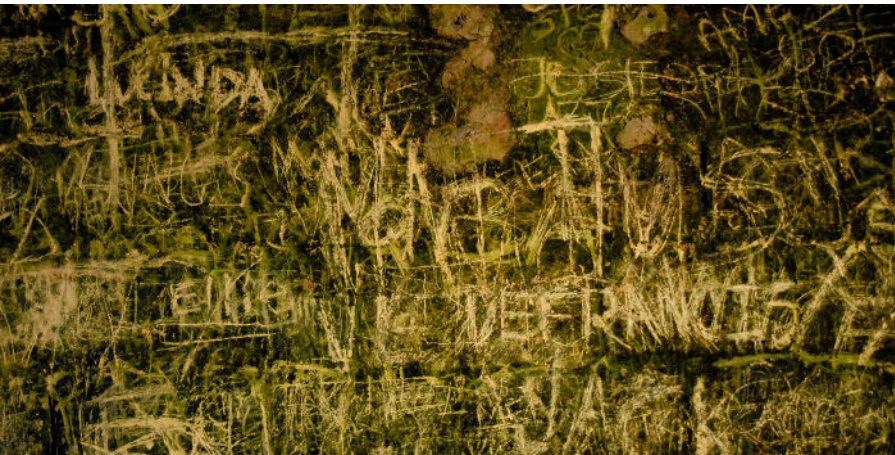




🏠 > Study at York > Undergraduate > Courses 2025/26 > Archaeology and Heritage (BA)



BA (Hons) Archaeology and Heritage

Study heritage in a city full of history

Year of entry: 2025/26

UCAS code
V404

Institution code
Y50

Length
3 years full-time

Typical offer
ABB (full entry requirements)

Start date
September 2025 (semester dates)

Department
Department of Archaeology

Apply for this course

UK (home) fees
£9,250 per year

International and EU fees
£25,800 per year

Sign up for updates

Be the first to know when new on-campus events are announced.

Book your place

8th

26th

1st

in the UK

for Archaeology and Forensic Sciences in the Times and Sunday Times Good University Rankings, 2025.

in the world

QS World University Rankings by Subject, 2024

in the Russell Group

for 'Learning resources' in archaeology, among universities included in the National Student Survey, 2024.

Discover why our past matters, and how we can protect it for the future.

Heritage is the legacies of past human activity. From buildings to cultural traditions, studying our heritage allows us to understand how we have defined ourselves throughout history.

BA Archaeology and Heritage explores the human past and understand why it's important to preserve our legacy. You'll learn to interpret our heritage, and how to communicate this to the public. Develop practical skills and engage with contemporary heritage discussions. You'll graduate with a sound understanding of how we can protect our heritage for the future.

Our department is world-renowned for the advanced study of archaeology. We're friendly and welcoming, meaning you'll get to know your lecturers, and they'll get to know you. You'll have so many opportunities to get involved. Join the Archaeology Society (<https://yusu.org/activities/view/archaeology-society>) to working abroad on a research project. We have bespoke facilities on campus.

Accreditation

This course is accredited by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), the leading professional body representing archaeologists working in the UK and overseas. Accreditation recognises the value of knowledge of working practices across the sector. It provides you with the opportunity to join CIfA to support your professional development.

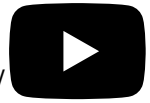


The excavation has been the highlight of my year at York. As a heritage student, I spend a lot of time working with the public. Everyone who came to the site agreed that it was amazing and it's so fulfilling to be able to share this history with the people closest to it.

Amy, BA Archaeology and Heritage

See more student profiles

Watch the video at <https://youtu.be/>



(<https://youtu.be/udUBDWgO9H4>)

Watch the video at <https://youtu.be/>



(<https://youtu.be/hnKTKitcpgg>)

Free online courses

Get a taste of university-level study on one of York's free short courses, including our subject course, 'Exploring Stone Age archaeology'.

Learn more

Course content

Our five undergraduate courses all have a common first year, so it's easy to change between them.

We emphasise flexibility - there's very little restriction on the modules you can choose to study.

Study abroad

There are opportunities for you to spend time abroad during your course:

- Explore global opportunities

ClfA accreditation is not applicable to credit-replacing exchanges abroad where only two years are spent at York. Additional year abroad programmes, where three years are spent at York, are still accredited.

Archaeology also offers plenty of opportunities during vacation breaks to get involved with research abroad.

Placements

There are opportunities to spend time in industry as part of this course.

- Work while you study

Year 1

Core modules

In your first year, your modules will cover:

- **Prehistory to the Present**
- **Artefacts and Materials**
- **Archaeological Theory**
- **Introduction to Archaeological Science**
- **Discovering Archaeology**
- **Exploring Archaeology**

You'll also take part in an **excavation**. This will give you hands-on experience in all aspects of assessing, collecting and analysing primary excavation data. It is a unique opportunity to be part of a really exciting phase of a research project.

It is taught during the academic year, so you won't be required to find an excavation placement during the summer vacation. If you are interested in taking part in further excavations during the vacation, we can help you find volunteering and paid opportunities to do further excavations - sometimes abroad!

Academic integrity module

In addition to the above you will also need to complete our online Academic Integrity module.

This module covers some of the essential skills and knowledge which will help you to study independently and produce work of a high academic standard which is vital for success at York.

This module will:

- define academic integrity and academic misconduct
- explain why and when you should reference source material and other people's work
- provide interactive exercises to help you to assess whether you've understood the concepts
- provide answers to FAQs and links to useful resources.

Year 2

Core modules

- **Post-Excavation**

- **Interpreting Prehistory OR Interpreting Historical Archaeology**

You will choose two **Practical Skills** modules from examples including:

- **Archaeobotany**
- **Archaeogaming**
- **Artefacts Analysis**
- **Biomolecular Archaeology**
- **Buildings History**
- **Computational Archaeology**
- **Experimental Archaeology and Material Culture**
- **Field Archaeology Survey Skills**
- **Human and Animal Bones**
- **Illustration**
- **Object Conservation**

Option modules

You will choose two option modules from examples including:

- **Issues in Archaeology and Heritage**
- One **World Archaeology** module:
 - **Alpine Landscapes**
 - **Late Prehistory of Egypt and the Fertile Continent**
 - **Settlements and Society**

Some option modules combinations may not be possible. The option available to you will be confirmed after begin your course.

Elective modules

You may be able to replace one option module with an elective module, studying a complementary subject, a language or an interdisciplinary topic.

Year 3

Core modules

You'll complete an 8,000-word **dissertation** on your research.

You will receive support, advice and guidance from your dissertation supervisor throughout your project. The range of expertise of our staff means we can provide you with guidance on a wide range of topics.

- **Presenting Archaeology and Heritage**

- **Assessed Seminars**, you will choose ONE of the following:
 - **Archaeologies of the Contemporary World**
 - **Archaeology of British Christianity**
 - **Debates in Archaeological Science**
 - **Debates in Computational Archaeology**
 - **Digital Futures in Archaeology**
 - **Neanderthals**
 - **Palaeodiet**
 - **Past Environments**
 - **Prehistoric Funerary**
 - **The Modern Landscape**
- **Special Topics**, you will choose ONE of the following:
 - **Ancient DNA**
 - **Archaeology and Mythology of the Greek and Roman Mediterranean**
 - **Archaeology of Disease and Health**
 - **Historic Houses**
 - **Human Evolution**
 - **The Neolithic of Britain and Ireland**

Option module

You will choose one further option, from examples including:

- **Approaching Global Challenges: Archaeology and Heritage**

Some option module combinations may not be possible. The options available to you will be confirmed after you begin your course.

Elective modules

You may be able to replace one option module with an elective module, studying a complementary subject, a language or an interdisciplinary topic.

Our modules may change to reflect the latest academic thinking and expertise of our staff, and in line with Department/School academic planning.

Learning by design

Every course at York has been designed to provide clear and ambitious learning outcomes. These learning outcomes give you an understanding of what you will be able to do at the end of the course. We develop each course by designing modules that grow your abilities towards the learning outcomes and help you to explain what you can offer to employers. Find out more about our approach to teaching and learning.

Students who complete this course will be able to:

- Engage critically in debates around scholarship that inform current archaeological and heritage issues applicable to multiple periods of human society, using evidence from the UK and elsewhere in the world.

- Design, execute and evaluate archaeological and heritage research projects to a standard informed by key theoretical, scientific, legal and professional principles and methodologies in an international context.
- Generate, document and manage primary archaeological and heritage data from diverse sources of evidence and contexts and conduct analysis using a range of digital technology.
- Operate effectively as constructive and inclusive leaders and confident participants in teamwork in challenging environments and using data from multidisciplinary field projects.
- Apply critical and creative approaches to problem-solving in complex situations with diverse, fragmentary datasets that reflect biases in their generation, survival, identification and documentation.
- Resolve challenges in interpretation and presentation from an interdisciplinary perspective with agility and awareness of ethical issues.
- Confidently explain, communicate and debate ideas through written, visual, and oral forms of presentation to a wide range of public and professional audiences using print and digital media.
- Contribute as independent scholars in the field of archaeological heritage practice through rigorous and imaginative inquiry in multidisciplinary contexts.



I love archaeology because it combines history and practical skills. The location, facilities and staff make York the perfect place to study it! You can try everything and see what you are interested in while building a broad foundation of knowledge.
Louise, BA Archaeology. [Read Louise's blog post.](#)

Fees and funding

Annual tuition fees

UK (home)	International and EU
£9,250	£25,800

Fees for students starting in the 2025/26 academic year.

UK (home) or international fees?

The level of fee that you will be asked to pay depends on whether you're classed as a UK (home) or international student. Check your fee status.

Fees for subsequent years

- **UK (home) fees** may increase within the government fee cap in subsequent academic years. We will notify you of any increase as soon as we can.
- **International fees** are subject to increase in subsequent years in line with the prevailing Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation rate (up to a maximum of 10%).

Living costs

You can use our living costs guide to help plan your budget. It covers additional costs that are not included in your tuition fee such as expenses for accommodation and study materials.

More information

For more information about tuition fees, any reduced fees for study abroad and work placement years, scholarships, tuition fee loans, maintenance loans and living costs see undergraduate fees and funding.

Funding

We'll confirm more funding opportunities for students joining us in 2025/26 throughout the year.

- UK government loans
- UK scholarships and bursaries
- International scholarships
- Country-specific funding
- US loans



Gold-standard education

Our teaching, learning and student experience is outstanding, recognised by a Gold rating from the Office for Students in the 2023 national assessment (Teaching Excellence Framework).

Why we're gold-rated

Teaching and assessment

You'll study and learn with academics who are active researchers, experts in their field and have a passion for their subjects. Our approach to teaching will provide you with the knowledge, opportunities, and support you need to grow and succeed in a global workplace. Find out more about our approach to teaching and learning.

Teaching format

You'll be taught through a range of lectures, seminars, workshops, practicals, and independent learning projects. All our teaching is research-led, meaning our lecturers are teaching the subjects they're fascinated about, and ensuring you get the most current specialist knowledge.



We have always been passionate about small group teaching - we feel it is the best way to learn. You'll start off with a variety of teaching formats and as the course progresses you'll spend more time on intensive small group teaching and individual study.

We provide training in presentation skills throughout your course, helping you to prepare for your Assessed Seminar and Assessed Lecture.

Find out more about our teaching.

Timetabled activities

In your first year, you can expect:

Lectures	2 hours per week
Seminars	2 hours per week
Workshops	2 hours per week
Practicals	2 hours per week
Excavation	2 weeks in Semester 2
Field trips	1 full day and 7 mini trips
Feedback sessions	1-2 hours

These figures are representative of a typical week. Your contact hours will vary throughout the year due to your module choices, non-compulsory classes, exam periods and changes to scheduled activities.

Outside your timetabled hours, you'll study independently. This may include preparation for classes, follow-up work, wider reading, practice completion of assessment tasks, or revision.

In the UK, full-time students are expected to spend 1,200 hours a year learning. That's about 40 hours of classes and independent study each week during semesters. Everyone learns at a different rate, so the number of hours you spend on independent study will be different to other students on your course.

Facilities

At York, you'll have access to a huge range of facilities.

In the department we have:



- teaching rooms and a state-of-the-art lecture theatre
- dedicated study spaces
- a large lab space for working with artefacts, soil and environmental samples, and skeletal remains
- computer labs with printers, scanners and specialised photo software, digital drawing and mapping software

On Campus West, we also have Bioarchaeology labs and the York Experimental Archaeology Research (YEAR) Centre. You'll have access to the library and other University resources, including the Borthwick Institute for Archives.

You'll also have access to a wide range of archaeological equipment, including:

- drones
- fieldwork tools
- Total Station theodolites
- geophysical survey equipment (resistivity, magnetometry, ground penetrating radar)
- handheld GPS systems
- a laser scanner
- a variety of photo and imaging technology

Explore our facilities

Teaching location

You will be based on Campus West. Our BioArCh and Palaeo facilities are located in or near the Environment Building.

About our campus

Our beautiful green campus offers a student-friendly setting in which to live and study, within easy reach of the action in the city centre. It's easy to get around - everything is within walking or pedalling distance, or you can use the fast and frequent bus service. Take a campus tour.

Assessment and feedback

You'll be assessed using a variety of methods, including essays, exams, assessed presentations and team projects.

During your degree, we'll help you to develop the skills you'll need to approach your assessments,

from presentation skills to designing a research study. We'll take the time to provide detailed and personalised feedback on your work, allowing you to improve and refine your work.

Your course will culminate with the exciting challenge of leading and chairing a seminar, organising and presenting a lecture, and researching and writing a dissertation. You'll graduate confident in your ability to cope with challenges and able to apply your skills to many areas of work.

Careers and skills

There has never been a better time to study archaeology.

Our degrees prepare you for a range of careers; the unique combination of humanities and sciences gives you skills in everything from data analysis to essay and report writing.

If you're interested in going into the heritage sector, you'll be able to choose modules which provide you with a solid grounding in heritage studies alongside the practical skills needed to kick-start your career. You'll be able to connect with museums and heritage organisations through volunteering, internships and placement opportunities.

You'll have lifetime access to subject-specific careers support, and prepare for your future throughout your university journey through our York Futures development plan.

For more on where an archaeology degree could take you, watch our video playlist

(https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLI1HFFWIYsJtOg2l26c5exclq6HeXCS_U) .

Career opportunities

- Heritage organisations (e.g. English Heritage, National Trust, Yorkshire Museum)
- Local councils
- NHS
- Police
- Accountancy
- Media
- Marketing agencies
- Law

Transferable skills

- Critical thinking
- Data analysis and interpretation
- Structuring arguments
- Communication and presentation skills
- Team working
- Leadership skills
- Management skills
- Flexibility and adaptability
- Creativity and innovation



York is a beautiful city. It's quite a privilege to spend your days encountering that history, stumbling around incredibly long cobbled streets! I really miss it as a place. That's why I've loved coming back for the past nine years to give talks – it feels like coming full circle.

Greg Jenner, BA History Alumni

Public Historian & Podcast Host

Entry requirements

	Typical offer
A levels	ABB
Access to Higher Education Diploma	30 credits at Distinction and 15 credits at Merit or higher
BTEC National Extended Diploma	DDM
Cambridge Pre-U	D3, M2, M2
European Baccalaureate	75% or higher
International Baccalaureate	34 points
T levels	We will consider a range of T Level qualifications for entry. Please visit our dedicated T Levels page for a full list of accepted T Levels.
	Scottish Highers - ABBBB
Scottish Highers / Advanced Highers	Advanced Highers - not required for entry We may also be able to consider three Advanced Highers or a combination of Highers and Advanced Highers, where an applicant does not meet the grade requirement through Highers alone. Please contact us to discuss your qualifications.
International foundation programme	Foundation Certificate (https://www.kaplanpathways.com/colleges/university-of-york-international-pathway-college/courses/) from our International Pathway College or an appropriate alternative.
Other international qualifications	Equivalent qualifications from your country

Alternative offers

Meeting the following additional criteria may qualify you for an alternative offer.

Criteria	Adjustment
Widening participation	If you successfully complete one of the following programmes, you may be eligible for an alternative offer up to two A level grades (or equivalent) below our typical offer: Black Access Programme, Next Step York, Realising Opportunities. More about widening participation.
Contextual offers	If you have experience of local authority care or live in an area with low progression to university, you may be eligible for an alternative offer up to one A level grade (or equivalent) below our typical offer. More about contextual offers.
EPQ	If you achieve C or higher at EPQ, you may be eligible for an alternative offer up to one A level grade (or equivalent) below our typical offer.
Core Maths	If you achieve B or higher in Core Maths, you may be eligible for an alternative offer up to one A level grade (or equivalent) below our typical offer.
MOOCs	If you successfully complete our online course Exploring Stone Age Archaeology: The Mysteries of Star Carr do let us know, as you may be eligible for an alternative offer up to one A level grade (or equivalent) below our typical offer. More about MOOCs.

English language

If English isn't your first language you may need to provide evidence of your English language ability. We accept the following qualifications:

	Minimum requirement
IELTS (Academic)	6.5, with a minimum of 6.0 in each component
Cambridge CEFR	176, with a minimum of 169 in each component
Oxford ELLT	7, with a minimum of 6 in each component
Oxford Test of English Advanced	136, with a minimum of 126 in each component
Duolingo	Integrated subscores: 120 overall, with a minimum of 105 in each component
GCSE/IGCSE/O level English Language (as a first or second language)	Grade C / Grade 4
LanguageCert SELT	B2 with a minimum score of 33/50 in each component
LanguageCert Academic	B2 Communicator with a minimum score of 33/50 in each component
Kaplan Test of English Language	478 Main Flight score with 444 in each component
Skills for English	B2: Merit overall, with Pass with Merit in each component
PTE Academic	61, with a minimum of 55 in each component
TOEFL	87 overall, with a minimum of 21 in each component
Trinity ISE III	Merit in all components
Other English language qualifications	We also accept other English Language qualifications, including various school-leaving certificates.

For more information see our undergraduate English language requirements.

If you haven't met our English language requirements

You may be eligible for one of our pre-sessional English language courses. These courses will provide you with the level of English needed to meet the conditions of your offer.

The length of course you need to take depends on your current English language test scores and how much you need to improve to reach our English language requirements.

After you've accepted your offer to study at York, we'll confirm which pre-sessional course you should apply to via You@York.

Applying

To apply to York, you will need to complete an online application via UCAS (the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service).

- How to apply

Mature students




We welcome applications from mature students - Archaeology is a popular degree for people coming back to education. If you're interested in studying with us, we encourage you to get in touch to talk about your experience and qualifications.

Next steps




Contact us

Get in touch if you have any questions



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Related courses

- BA Archaeology
- BSc Archaeology
- BSc Bioarchaeology
- BA Historical Archaeology

Learn more

Department of Archaeology

Discover York



Accommodation

We offer a range of campus accommodation to suit you and your budget, from economy to premium.

Student life

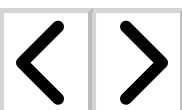
Explore campus and city life and hear what our current students have to say about living here.

The city

Lively, full of culture and beautiful, York is regularly voted one of the best places to live and visit in the UK.

Meet us

Find out more about York. Chat to staff and students and take the tour, on campus or online.



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