

Study Abroad

A semester of study abroad is encouraged if the program is approved by the department. Students who seek major credit for courses taken abroad must consult with their Major Advisor before enrolling in a program. Major credit is given on a case-by-case basis after review of the syllabus, work submitted for a grade, and a transcript. Credit will not be given for more than one course and not for courses that are ordinarily offered by the department.

Independent Research

Majors who wish to undertake independent research, especially for researching and writing a lengthy paper, must arrange with a professor who is willing to advise them, and consult with their Major Advisor. Such research normally would be conducted by seniors as a unit of supervised work (403), which must be approved by the advising professor before registration. Students planning to do such research should consult with professors in the department in the spring semester of their junior year or no later than the beginning of the fall semester of the senior year.

Additional Major Experiences: Fieldwork and Museum Internships

The department strongly encourages students to gain fieldwork experience over the summer and assists them in getting positions on field projects in North America and overseas. The department is undertaking several field projects in Egypt, China, Iraqi Kurdistan, and Lebanon. Further field projects in the eastern Mediterranean are foreseen for the future. Advanced undergraduates may participate in these projects.

Museum internships, either during the summer or during the term, also constitute valid major experiences beyond the classroom. The department is awarded annually one fully paid summer internship by the Nicholas P. Goulandris Foundation for students to work for four to six weeks in the Museum of Cycladic Art in Athens, Greece. An announcement inviting applications is normally sent by the department chair in the spring.

Opportunities to work with the College's archaeology collections are available throughout the academic year and during the summer. Students wishing to work with the collections should consult Marianne Weldon, Collections Manager for Art and Artifacts.

Funding for Summer Learning Opportunities

The department has two funds that support students for summer internships, summer fieldwork projects, and archaeological summer projects of their own design. One, the Elisabeth Packard Fund for internships in Art History and Archaeology, is shared with the Department of the History of Art, while the other is the Anna Lerah Keys Memorial Prize. Any declared major may apply for these funds. An announcement calling for applications is normally sent by the chair to majors in the spring, and the awards are made public at the annual college awards ceremony in April. To help cover expenses related to archaeological learning opportunities, which can be expensive, the department encourages majors to consider applying for funding offered by Bryn Mawr College and external funding sources.

Bryn Mawr College

Classical and Near Eastern Archaeology

2024 - 2025



Faculty

Jennie Bradbury
Assistant Professor, Graduate Advisor, and Co-Chair
Prehistory of the ancient Near East; survey methodologies; mortuary ritual; GIS

Shannon Dunn
Visiting Assistant Professor

Astrid Lindenlauf
Associate Professor and Co-Chair
Classical art and archaeology; practices of disposal and recycling; fortifications and urban development; intellectual history of archaeology

Rocco Palermo
Assistant Professor and Major Advisor (A-J)
South-West Asia from Iron Age to Roman Period; ancient empires; Landscape Archaeology; Digital Archaeology; GIS

Wu Xin
Assistant Professor and Major Advisor (K-Z)
Achaemenid Empire; Central Asian art and archaeology; cultural interactions between the East and West.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Department Office: Old Library 235
Alex Dooley (adooley@brynmawr.edu) 610.526.5053
Margaret Kelly (mkelly01@brynmawr.edu) 610.526.5334

<http://www.brynmawr.edu/archaeology>

Courses Fall 2024

ARCH 101 Introduction to Egyptian and Near Eastern Archaeology, Jennie Bradbury, MWF 11:10am-12:00pm
A historical survey of the archaeology and art of the ancient Near East and Egypt.

CITY 201 Introduction to GIS for Social and Environmental Analysis, Dirk Kinsey, TTh 11:40am-1:00pm
This course is designed to introduce the foundations of GIS with emphasis on applications for social and environmental analysis. It deals with basic principles of GIS and its use in spatial analysis and information management. Ultimately, students will design and carry out research projects on topics of their own choosing.

ARCH 203 Building the Polis: Ancient Greek Cities and Sanctuaries, Shannon Dunn, MW 2:40pm-4:00pm
A study of the co-development of the Greek city-states and their sanctuaries. The political formation of the city-state and the role of religion is presented.

ARCH 212 Visual Culture of the Ancient Mediterranean Shannon Dunn, MW 1:10pm-2:30pm
This course explores the visual culture of the ancient Mediterranean world from the second millennium BCE to early Roman times.

ARCH 233 Topics in Archaeological Principles and Methods: Fieldwork, Rocco Palermo, TTh 10:10am-11:30am
This course covers the innovative changes that have been brought about in Archaeology and Heritage Studies by new technologies and methodological approaches.

ARCH 253 Gender Archaeology in Pre-Islamic Western Asia, Wu Xin, TTh 2:40pm-4:00pm
This course explores the intersections of gender and archaeology in Western Asia during the pre-Islamic periods. It examines how diverse social groups use multiple means to construct, perform, and negotiate gender, sex, and identities.

ARCH 345 The Archaeology of Inequality Rocco Palermo, F 9:10am-12:00pm
Archaeology offers a unique perspective to study and analyze how past inequalities developed over time, how they were maintained, negated, or transformed, and how societies responded to them or rejected them.

ARCH 347 Ancient Artifacts in the Bryn Mawr Special Collections, TBA, Th 1:10pm-4:00pm
Centered on the question, how we can learn from and through objects, this course explores a selected corpus of artifacts from the ancient Mediterranean in the Bryn Mawr Special Collections with the aim to uncover how these objects were made and used and what they might have meant to their ancient users.

ARCH 398 Senior Seminar Jennie Bradbury, F 2:10pm- 4:00pm
A weekly seminar on common topics with assigned readings and oral and written reports.

Courses Spring 2025

ARCH 102 Introduction to Classical Archaeology Rocco Palermo, MW 11:10am-12:00pm, breakout discussions Friday 11:10am-12:00pm and 12:10pm-1:00pm
A historical survey of the archaeology and art of Greece, Etruria, and Rome.

CITY 201 Introduction to GIS for Social and Environmental Analysis, Dirk Kinsey, MW 10:10am-11:30am
This course is designed to introduce the foundations of GIS with emphasis on applications for social and environmental analysis. It deals with basic principles of GIS and its use in spatial analysis and information management. Ultimately, students will design and carry out research projects on topics of their own choosing.

ARCH 240 Archaeology and History of Ancient Mesopotamia Wu Xin, TTh 1:10pm-2:30pm
A survey of the material culture of ancient Mesopotamia, modern Iraq, from the earliest phases of state formation (circa 3500 B.C.E.) through the Achaemenid Persian occupation of the Near East (circa 331 B.C.E.).

ARCH 249 The Archaeology of Urban Revolutions in Western Asia, Jennie Bradbury, MW 2:40pm-4:00pm
This course examines the archaeology of one of the most fundamental developments to have occurred in human society in the last 6,000 years, the origins of cities.

ARCH 250 Digital Archaeology Rocco Palermo, MW 10:10am-11:30am
This course covers the innovative changes that have been brought about in Archaeology and Heritage Studies by new technologies and methodological approaches.

ARCH 252 Pompeii TBA, MW 1:10pm-2:30pm
Introduces students to a nearly intact archaeological site whose destruction by the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius in 79 C.E. was recorded by contemporaries. Informs students in classical antiquity, urban life, city structure, residential architecture, home decoration and furnishing, wall painting, minor arts and craft and mercantile activities within a Roman city.

ARCH 312 Bronze Age Internationalism Jennie Bradbury, F 1:10pm-4:00pm
This course explores the rise and fall of the first international age in the eastern Mediterranean. We will focus on the cultural and diplomatic connections between Egypt, Syria, Anatolia and the Aegean during the Bronze Age, c. 2000-1200BCE..

ARCH 399 Senior Seminar Wu Xin, MW 10:10am-12:00pm
A weekly seminar on common topics with assigned readings and oral and written reports.

Major Requirements

The major requires a minimum of 10 courses. Core requirements are two 100-level courses distributed between the ancient Near East and Egypt (ARCH 101) and ancient Greece and Rome (ARCH 102), as well as a course on Archaeological Principles and Methods (ARCH 233), and two semesters of the senior conference (ARCH 398 and 399). At least two upper-level courses should be distributed between Classical and Near Eastern subjects. Additional requirements are determined in consultation with the Major Advisor. A Praxis Independent Study or additional coursework in allied subjects may be presented for major credit but must be approved in writing by the Major Advisor; such courses are offered in the Departments of Anthropology, Geology, Greek, Latin and Classical Studies, Growth and Structure of Cities, and History of Art. In consultation with the Major Advisor, one course taken in study abroad may be accepted for credit in the major after review of the syllabus, work submitted for a grade, and a transcript. Credit will not be given for a course that is ordinarily offered by the department. Students can also take courses at the University of Pennsylvania in consultation with the Major Advisor.

The writing requirement for the major consists of two one-semester Writing Attentive courses offered within the department.

Each student's course of study to meet major requirements will be determined in consultation with the Major Advisor in the spring semester of the sophomore year, at which time a written plan will be designed. Students considering majoring in the department are encouraged to take the introductory courses (ARCH 101 and 102) early in their undergraduate career and should seek advice from departmental faculty. Students who are interested in interdisciplinary concentrations or in study abroad during the junior year are strongly advised to seek assistance in planning their major early in their sophomore year.

Minor Requirements

The minor requires six courses. Core requirements are two 100-level courses distributed between the ancient Near East and Egypt and ancient Greece and Rome, in addition to four other courses selected in consultation with the Major Advisor. Study abroad courses do not count toward the minor.

Languages

Majors who contemplate graduate study in Classical fields should incorporate Greek and Latin into their programs. Those who plan graduate work in Near Eastern or Egyptian may take appropriate ancient languages at the University of Pennsylvania, such as Middle Egyptian, Akkadian and Sumerian. Any student considering graduate study in Classical and Near Eastern archaeology should study French and German.

Honors

Honors are granted on the basis of academic performance as demonstrated by a cumulative average of 3.50 or better in the major.