

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDIES

10 Sachem Street, 203.432.3670  
<http://archaeology.yale.edu>  
 M.A.

## Chair and Director of Graduate Studies

Richard Burger [F]

**Professors** Richard Burger (*Anthropology*), Edward Cooke, Jr. (*History of Art; American Studies*), John Darnell (*Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations*), Stephen Davis (*Religious Studies; History*), Eckart Frahm (*Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations*), Milette Gaifman (*History of Art; Classics*), William Honeychurch (*Anthropology*), J.G. Manning (*Classics; History*), Roderick McIntosh (*Emeritus*), Nadine Moeller (*Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations*), Eric Sargis (*Anthropology; Ecology and Evolutionary Biology*), Anne Underhill (*Anthropology*), David Watts (*Anthropology*), Harvey Weiss (*Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations; School of the Environment*)

**Associate Professors** Oswaldo Chinchilla (*Anthropology*), Andrew Johnston (*Classics; History*)

**Lecturers, Research Associates, and Research Scientists** Ellery Frahm (*Anthropology*), Gregory Marouard (*Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations*), Lucy Salazar (*Anthropology*), Catherine Skinner (*Earth and Planetary Sciences*)

The aim of the program is to give students the academic background needed for careers in museums, cultural resource management, and teaching in community colleges and secondary schools. It also provides the opportunity for teachers, curators, and administrators to refresh themselves on recent developments in archaeology. In addition, the program enables some of our students to strengthen their background in archaeology before applying to Ph.D. programs. The program is administered by Yale's Council on Archaeological Studies, with faculty from the Departments of Anthropology, Classics, Earth and Planetary Sciences, History, History of Art, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, and Religious Studies.

## SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE M.A. DEGREE

Courses are drawn from the graduate programs of the participating departments and from those undergraduate courses that are also open to graduate students. Eight courses are required. Unless previously taken for credit, these will include the archaeological laboratory overview; at least one additional laboratory course; a course related to archaeology in two of the following three groups: (1) anthropology; (2) classics, history, history of art, Near Eastern languages & civilizations, or religious studies; (3) earth and planetary sciences, ecology and evolutionary biology, or environment; and four electives. All students are required to participate in an approved summer field project. In addition, each student will write a master's thesis. Degree candidates are required to pay a minimum of one year of full tuition. Full-time students can complete the course requirements in one academic year, and all students are expected to complete the program within a maximum period of three academic years.

For further information, visit the Archaeological Studies website, <http://archaeology.yale.edu>. Inquiries may be directed to Director of Graduate Studies, c/o Registrar, Archaeological Studies, Department of Anthropology, Yale University, PO Box 208277, New Haven CT 06520-8277, or via email, [marleen.cullen@yale.edu](mailto:marleen.cullen@yale.edu).

## COURSES

### **ARCG 500a / CLSS 808a / NELC 500a, Environmental Archaeology of West Asia, Egypt, and the Mediterranean** Harvey Weiss

The new linkages of high-resolution paleoclimate and archaeological and epigraphic records revise earlier historiography for the major disjunctions, including societal genesis, collapse, habitat tracking, and technological and ideological innovations, from 4000 to 40 BCE across west Asia, Egypt, and the Aegean. The seminar synthesizes speleothem and lake, marine, and glacial core records for abrupt climate changes and coincident societal adaptations previously unexplained.

**ARCG 559b / ANTH 559b, Introduction to Experimental Archaeology** Ellery Frahm  
Experimental archaeology is one of the most important tools to develop and test models that link human behaviors and natural forces to the archaeological record. This class explores the elements of good experimental design and procedures.

### **ARCG 645a / NELC 743a, Archaeology of Ancient Egypt: An Introduction** Nadine Moeller

This seminar examines in detail the archaeology of ancient Egypt following the chronological order of Egyptian history and covering almost 4,000 years, from the late Neolithic period to the end of the Greco-Roman period. The aim is not only to give a comprehensive overview of major sites and discoveries but also to use as much as possible information from recent excavations, discuss problems and priorities concerning this field, and offer an introduction to new fieldwork methods and approaches used in Egypt as well as a short history of this discipline.

**ARCG 701b / ANTH 701b, Foundations of Modern Archaeology** Richard Burger  
How method, theory, and social policy have influenced the development of archaeology as a set of methods, an academic discipline, and a political tool. Prerequisite: a background in the basics of archaeology equivalent to one of the introductory courses.

### **ARCG 716La / ANTH 716La, Introduction to Archaeological Laboratory Sciences** Ellery Frahm

Introduction to techniques of archaeological laboratory analysis, with quantitative data styles and statistics appropriate to each. Topics include dating of artifacts, sourcing of ancient materials, remote sensing, and microscopic and biochemical analysis. Specific techniques covered vary from year to year.

### **ARCG 726b / ANTH 726b, Ancient Civilizations of the Eurasian Steppes** William Honeychurch

Peoples of the steppe zone, stretching from Eastern Europe to Mongolia, have played a pivotal role in Old World prehistory, though much about their societies and lifeways is still shrouded in mystery. The archaeology of this macro-region has developed rapidly since the 1990s, and this course presents an overview of major topics and debates in the region based on what archaeologists currently know about Eurasian steppe societies of the past.

**ARCG 750a / ANTH 750a, Analysis of Lithic Technology** Oswaldo Chinchilla  
Mazariegos

This course provides an introduction to the analysis of the chipped and ground stone tools found on archaeological sites. As a laboratory course, it includes hands-on instruction: we learn how to manufacture chipped stone tools out of obsidian. We begin by reviewing the development of chipped and ground stone tool technology from the earliest simple pebble tools to historical period tools. We discuss the relevance of lithics research to issues of subsistence, craft specialization, and trade. We also discuss how these artifacts are recorded, analyzed, and drawn, and we review related studies such as sourcing and use-wear analysis.

**ARCG 754b / ANTH 754b, Statistics for Archaeological Analysis** William  
Honeychurch

An introduction to quantitative data collection, analysis, and argumentation for archaeologists. Lectures, readings, and exercises emphasize the exploration, visualization, and analysis of specifically archaeological data using simple statistical approaches. No prior knowledge of statistics is required.

**ARCG 756a / ANTH 756a, The Archaeology of Trade and Exchange** Richard Burger

This seminar focuses on archaeological approaches to exchange and trade. As background, we review some of the principal theories of exchange from anthropology and sociology, such as those of Mauss, Malinowski, and Polanyi. The role of trade and exchange in different kinds of societies is examined by contextualizing these transactions within specific cultural configurations and considering the nature of production and consumption as they relate to movement of goods. We consider methods and models that have been used to analyze regions of interaction at different spatial scales and the theoretical arguments about the social impact of inter-regional and intra-regional interactions involving the transfer of goods, including approaches such as world systems, unequal development, and globalization. In addition, we examine the ways that have been utilized in archaeology to identify different kinds of exchange systems, often through analogies to well-documented ethnographic and historic cases. Finally, we consider the range of techniques that have been employed in order to track the movement of goods across space. These sourcing techniques are evaluated in terms of their advantages and disadvantages from an archaeological perspective, and in terms of how the best technical analyses may vary according to the nature of natural or cultural materials under consideration (ceramics, volcanic stone, metals, etc.). The theme for this year's seminar is obsidian; students select some aspect of obsidian research for their final paper and presentation.

**ARCG 762b / EPS 562b, Observing Earth From Space** Xuhui Lee

A practical introduction to satellite image analysis of Earth's surface. Topics include the spectrum of electromagnetic radiation, satellite-borne radiometers, data transmission and storage, computer image analysis, the merging of satellite imagery with GIS and applications to weather and climate, oceanography, surficial geology, ecology and epidemiology, forestry, agriculture, archaeology, and watershed management.

**ARCG 785a / ANTH 785a, Archaeological Ceramics I** Anne Underhill

Ceramics are a rich source of information about a range of topics including ancient technology, cooking practices, craft specialization, regional trade, and religious beliefs. This course provides a foundation for investigating such topics and gaining practical experience in archaeological analysis of ceramics. Students have opportunities to focus

on ceramics of particular interest to them, whether these are low-fired earthen wares, or porcelains. We discuss ancient pottery production and use made in diverse contexts ranging from households in villages to workshops in cities. In addition we refer to the abundant ethnoarchaeological data about traditional pottery production.

**ARCG 864b / ANTH 864b, Human Osteology** Eric Sargis

A lecture and laboratory course focusing on the characteristics of the human skeleton and its use in studies of functional morphology, paleodemography, and paleopathology. Laboratories familiarize students with skeletal parts; lectures focus on the nature of bone tissue, its biomechanical modification, sexing, aging, and interpretation of lesions.