About the Bachelor of Archaeological Practice

Archaeology is a key to unlocking the mysteries of humanity’s past. By excavating the physical remains of people, the places they lived and the objects they made and used, archaeologists gain knowledge of human history and prehistory. Professional archaeologists are involved in the discovery and excavation of archaeological sites and the interpretation of the material recovered from them. The many technical and analytical skills required to undertake these tasks can be obtained through the Bachelor of Archaeological Practice at ANU.

In the Bachelor of Archaeological Practice you may choose courses from the disciplines of archaeology, geology and geography. The degree is designed to build your knowledge of theoretical, interpretive and analytical approaches to archaeology. You will learn to apply this knowledge to analyse historical artefacts found in archaeological sites. Bachelor of Archaeological Practice students learn to:

- Undertake archaeological fieldwork using different techniques and approaches to locate, map, record, collect and excavate archaeological materials
- Critically analyse archaeological materials, including human remains, artefacts, plants and animals, archaeological sediments and other materials
- Reconstruct archaeological sequences and culture histories and develop an understanding of environmental archaeology
- Identify aspects of archaeological interpretations of human evolution and culture change.
Archaeology at ANU

Archaeology at ANU was ranked as 8th in the world and 1st in Australia by the 2016 QS World University Rankings by Subject. Therefore, by choosing this program you will receive a world-class and internationally recognised degree. The Bachelor of Archaeological Practice at ANU is one of the only specialised archaeology degrees in Australia. You will receive the comprehensive training required to pursue a career in this exciting area. The ANU is a leading international centre for archaeological research. You will have the opportunity to learn from some of the leading archaeology researchers in the world. Current research is focused on Australia, the Pacific, Southeast Asia, Prehistoric Europe and Roman Britain, and includes many aspects of world archaeology and paleoanthropology. There is a mock excavation site on the ANU campus that develops students’ skills in excavating prehistoric and historic sites.

Flexible double degree

The Bachelor of Archaeological Practice can be combined with degrees in Law, Business or Science as part of the ANU flexible double degree program. For a full list of degree combinations see anu.edu.au/study/study-options/flexible-double

Career opportunities

Graduates of the Bachelor of Archaeological Practice develop the skills necessary to work as professional archaeologists and in archaeological investigation. The degree is specifically designed to prepare you for a career in archaeology; such as to work as a researcher or heritage consultant. Career opportunities in archaeology may include working in private enterprise undertaking environmental impact assessment, or in Commonwealth and State Government heritage agencies. ANU archaeology graduates also work in national parks, mining companies, as independent consultants or as advisers to Aboriginal Land Councils.

Melandri

Bachelor of Arts (Archaeology and Biological Anthropology)/Bachelor of Science

ANU stood out as the best program available in archaeology and biological anthropology. The fact that I lived in the Canberra area only made it more of a definite choice. I have always been interested in history and science and decided from a young age that I wanted to become an archaeologist. As I grew older I found an interest in forensics and ended up choosing a degree that allowed me to study and pursue all my interests.

Doing a degree at ANU has meant I have been taught by leading experts in the field and I have studied alongside students that will one day also be leaders within the field. Having gained knowledge from lecturers and tutors at ANU has provided me with the right set of skills necessary to excel in the field of archaeology.

I have attended an archaeology field school in the Philippines with the ANU. The experience I had on the field school was immeasurable and I plan on returning next year and extending research for my honours.

I am heavily involved in ABACUS which is the student society for archaeology, biological anthropology, cultural anthropology and cultural heritage at ANU. I have made great friends through the society and when I am not attending classes, studying or preparing assessments I am hanging out in the archaeology student room with other students who share similar passions.

Further information

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