



## ***Interested in archaeology? Want to work on an excavation?***



### **FAQs concerning archaeological opportunities for undergraduate students at UR:**

#### ***What is a 'field school'?***

A field school is a program of instruction in archaeological methods that takes place on an actual excavation. Students pay tuition and earn summer school credit through whatever institution offers the program, just as with other summer academic programs, in the US or abroad.

#### ***Are there other ways to get started in archaeology?***

Yes. Students may work as unpaid volunteers or as research interns on excavations accepting applications for such positions.

#### ***Should I attend a field school or work as a volunteer/intern?***

Answering this question depends on a few different things:

- 1.) *How much knowledge of archaeology do you have?* If you have taken no courses on archaeology and have no prior experience, a field school is advisable. Although there are some excavations that will take as volunteers anyone willing to lift a bucket, you will probably not receive any formal instruction in methods and concepts of archaeology. And research interns will be expected to have a base of knowledge on which to build.
- 2.) *Do you want or need university credit for your work?* If you are considering graduate school for archaeology, it would be a good idea to look at some of the program qualifications. Some programs may require record of a 'field school' on your undergraduate transcript. Others may require simply 'field experience,' for which either a field school or volunteer/intern situation would suffice. And multiple summers of work as an intern on the same project would probably be considered as equivalent to (if not better than) a field school.
- 3.) *Do you prefer step-by-step instruction or 'trial by fire'?* As a volunteer or intern, you may not be given much formal instruction; you will of course learn by doing and have many opportunities for learning from team leaders and more experienced students, but how much you learn will really depend on your own initiative and engagement.

#### ***How do I find an excavation to work on?***

There are opportunities all over the world!

- For a searchable database updated every year, go to the on-line Archaeological Fieldwork Opportunities Bulletin (AFOB), offered by the Archaeological Institute of America (AIA): AFOB—<http://www.archaeological.org/webinfo.php?page=10016>
- Or do your own Google search for "field school" and a region or type of archaeology you're interested in, such as "field school" and "classical archaeology."
- There are some good field schools right here in Virginia, for instance:  
Jamestown— [http://www.preservationvirginia.org/rediscovery/page.php?page\\_id=2](http://www.preservationvirginia.org/rediscovery/page.php?page_id=2)  
Monticello— <http://www.monticello.org/archaeology/fieldschool/index.html>

- Students who have taken or are currently taking Classics 220 (Introduction to Archaeology) are eligible to apply to work as interns at Hacimusalar Höyük, Turkey. For more information, please contact Professor Baughan ([ebaughan@richmond.edu](mailto:ebaughan@richmond.edu)).

***How do I find funding to support participation in a dig abroad?***

There are a number of scholarships and grants that can support archaeological fieldwork, offered by UR and other organizations:

- The AIA now offers the Jane C. Waldbaum Archaeological Field School Scholarship (\$1000) to help undergraduates and first-year graduate students to participate in an excavation abroad: <http://www.archaeological.org/webinfo.php?page=10400a>
- Members of Eta Sigma Phi (the national classics honor society) are eligible for the new Eta Sigma Phi Summer Scholarship for Fieldwork in Classical Archaeology (\$500): <http://department.monm.edu/classics/esp/Scholarships.html>
- Some field schools offer their own scholarships to their most qualified applicants, such as the UCLA Archeology Field Program: <http://www.archaeology.ucla.edu/GeneralInfo/Scholarships.htm>
- Students who will be working as research interns are eligible to apply for A&S Summer Fellowships and Weinstein International Grants.
- The Department of Classical Studies offers the Ancient World Gallery Summer Travel Fellowship, for students going abroad to do archaeology (or to study classics abroad, see below): <http://classics.richmond.edu/collections/museum/travel.html>

***What other opportunities are there to study classics and archaeology abroad in the summer?***

- The American School of Classical Studies in Athens (ASCSA) offers a six-week intensive summer program (with three weeks in Athens and three weeks traveling around Greece) for enthusiastic undergraduates, graduate students, and teachers: <http://www.ascsa.edu.gr/index.php/programs/Summer>
- The American Academy in Rome offers several similar summer programs, one focusing on the city of Rome, one on archaeology (including a short time on a dig), and one on Roman pottery: <http://www.aarome.org/>

***Is it possible to major or minor in archaeology at UR?***

There is now an interdisciplinary minor in Archaeology, with courses drawn from Classical Studies, Art History, Anthropology, and Geography:

<http://undergradcatalog.richmond.edu/artscience/department/archaeology.html>