ExploRE
Career options with your degree

Archaeology

An interest in the past could mean a career in the heritage sector, perhaps in a museum or archive. Others might focus on making a contribution in the Charities and Voluntary sector, or in Teaching and Education where making a difference matters. Teaching and the media would give you the chance to utilise communication skills gleaned by speaking with the public whilst on digs. Publishing on the other hand, demands a level of detail you achieve through examining artefacts - see more on Media and Publishing. Tourism may be of interest as it demands knowledge of parts of the world which your subject provides. Others may choose to branch away and discover opportunities in the Public Sector; such as the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, where you could potentially be positioned overseas. Also consider opportunities which rely upon data handling, such as Accountancy, Banking and Finance.

Roles

Each job title links through to a broad job description, salary and conditions, entry requirements, typical recruiters and links to further, pre-assessed useful information.

- Archaeologist
- Archivist
- Tourist Information Centre Manager
- Historic Buildings Inspector/Conservation Officer
- Museum Education Officer
- Cartographer
- Higher Education Lecturer
- Records Manager
- Social Researcher
- Curator
- Heritage Manager

There are hundreds of unrelated roles that Archaeologists may choose to pursue, a small selection of alternative careers that may be worth investigating are: Forensic Scientists gather and interpret evidence in criminal cases. Chartered Loss Adjusters look at insurance claim incidents and decide whether compensation should be paid based on the evidence available. Barristers develop and articulate legal arguments based on facts. Health Service Managers use data to ensure health provision is efficient and effective.

Finding Opportunities

Some of the roles above require no further study; however there are clear exceptions in the fields of Forensic Science, and Law, where specific postgraduate study would be essential. Other roles, such as Health Service Management would provide professional training on the job. For Archaeological roles; fieldwork experience gained within and beyond the curriculum is essential in order to gain the competitive edge. Archivist roles can require a postgraduate qualification endorsed by the Archives and Records Association, and also extensive work experience/placement.

Access this page and more options at reading.ac.uk/careers/resources

EXPLORE career options with your subject
Some of these areas are highly competitive; both in terms of jobs and post-graduate programmes. For many opportunities, speculative applications are required as many jobs are not advertised. Placements can make a significant difference to your employability in most areas. For additional information and advice on finding work experience, post graduate study, speculative applications and anything else careers related arrange a Quick Query with one of our Careers Consultants via MyJobsOnline.

The links below can help you with finding work experience and jobs:

- [British archaeology jobs and resources](#) is useful for those looking for directly linked vacancies, or postgraduate study options.
- [Leicester University School of Museum Studies Jobs Desk](#) advertises voluntary work, internships and jobs in museums and galleries both in the UK and abroad.
- [The Archives and Records Association](#) has an up-to-date list of accredited courses.
- The Museums Association has a [jobs database](#), and information and guidance for those interested in gaining experience and doing voluntary work.
- The [NHS Leadership Academy](#) gives all information for the graduate management training scheme.

**Further Reading**

- [The Institute for Archaeologists](#) provides information on careers and professional development.
- Look at [English Heritage](#), [National Trust](#) and [Historic Houses Association](#) for heritage and conservation information.
- For charity sector information explore the [National Council for Voluntary Organisations](#), and [Charity Choice](#) gives a searchable list of charity organisations.
- The [Get into Teaching](#) website gives all the relevant information for pursuing a career in education.
- You can explore government careers via the [Civil Service](#) and [Local Government](#).