

GRADUATE PROFILE



KAREN MURPHY

“ After studying at UQ, graduate Karen Murphy developed a new career in archaeology and cultural heritage following several years working for Queensland Police. Developing an interest in heritage management and Queensland's historical archaeology during her BA degree, Karen went on to research the Commissariat Store site in Brisbane for her Honours program.

That interest was developed further in her PhD project, which focused on understanding the society and community at Cootharaba Mill near Noosa. Through survey, excavation and community archaeology, the social history of the site was rediscovered and the site is now a major heritage attraction in Queensland's Sunshine Coast region.

During study and after graduation Karen developed a broad suite of archaeological and heritage experience in positions with employers such as the Queensland Government, Queensland Museum and UQ. Karen is now Senior Historical Archaeologist for a major private consultancy firm.



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Further information

Please visit our website at
www.social-science.uq.edu.au

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Archaeology

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE
St Lucia campus, Brisbane, Australia



ARCHAEOLOGY

Archaeologists study past human behaviour by searching out and excavating ancient sites and examining their artefacts to gain clues about how cultures developed and changed through the ages.

Archaeology students at UQ investigate sites in Australia and overseas, and gain skills through practical exercises at the ATARC (an outdoor site on campus), the Archaeology Laboratory, and the Anthropology Museum.

Major themes include: our early human ancestors; the development of early farming; the rise of cities and ancient civilisations; early human settlement and dispersal throughout Australia and the Pacific Islands; archaeological science and forensics; and the management of our cultural heritage.

Career Opportunities

In the modern world, most Archaeologists obtain jobs connected with cultural heritage and its conservation, and this is true for the several hundred Archaeologists working in Australia. Many are employed by the public service, large corporations and private archaeological consultancy firms to undertake archaeological investigations of development sites. Some are employed by museums and others gain teaching and research positions in universities.

Careers in archaeology

Public Service: Federal, State & Local Government (eg Forestry, Environmental Protection, Mining & Energy, National Parks, Water Resources, Heritage, Planning & Development)	Heritage Director Archaeologist Heritage Project Supervisor Heritage Officer Site Recorder Site Database Manager Field Officer Community Liaison Officer
Archaeological Consulting Firms	CEO Project Manager Field Manager Field Assistant Researcher
Large Corporations (eg BHP, Rio Tinto)	Archaeologist – various levels, Project Manager to Field Assistant
Engineering/Environmental Consultants	Archaeological Consultant to Project Cultural Impact Assessor, Heritage Assessor Field Assistant
Aboriginal Land Councils	Field Officer Evaluation Officer Applied Research Officer
Museums	Curator, Assistant Curator, Artefact Collections Manager, Researcher, Conservator, Display Designer, Education Officer
Universities	Lecturer, Senior Lecturer, Reader, Professor, Research Fellow, Research Assistant, Laboratory Technician, Field Archaeologist

Courses and Programs

The School of Social Science offers a range of exciting and useful courses for those wishing a career in archaeology as well as those in industry and government departments interested in undertaking various land, environment, and cultural heritage related research and evaluation projects.

Undergraduate students can undertake an Archaeology single or extended major in the Bachelor of Arts, or an Archaeological Science major in the Bachelor of Science. Students in other programs can also take some elective courses in archaeology.

Introductory courses are:

- Discovering Archaeology
- Doing Archaeology

Examples of advanced courses are:

- Forensics: The Archaeology of Death and Crime Scenes
- Ancient Technologies
- World Prehistory
- Cultural Heritage Management
- Archaeology Fieldschool

Postgraduate students can undertake a fourth-year honours program or a higher degree by research (PhD or MPhil). Alternatively, students can study archaeology within the Master of Heritage Management.

More detailed information on majors and programs is available on the School website:

www.social-science.uq.edu.au

