What are we looking for?
We welcome your application if you have a real passion for Archaeology, Biological Anthropology or the languages and cultures of Ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia. What we look for in applicants is academic ability, motivation, and intellectual curiosity; because Archaeology is such a broad field, our students have backgrounds in everything from History to Biology, English to Physics, Philosophy to Geography. We value diversity, of background and outlook, and we welcome talented students from around the world.

We do not expect particular combinations of A-level subjects. A typical offer (made by the College you apply to) will be A*AA; for the International Baccalaureate: 40-42 points, with 776 at Higher Level; for the Scottish Advanced Higher Grade, the usual requirement is AAA.

If you are not sure about the process, just get in touch with us!

How do I apply?
The process of applying to study at Cambridge is much the same as that for other universities. However, at Cambridge the process starts earlier and the UCAS application deadline is 15th October. The UCAS code for studying Archaeology, Biological Anthropology, Assyriology and Egyptology is V400. You can find detailed application information on the main Cambridge undergraduate website. Admissions Tutors and Directors of Studies in the Colleges are always happy to answer your questions.

"The course gave me a broad, scientific base with which to continue studies of the human past, including ideas of genetics and the complexity of our family. But the ability to study the anatomy of the past and present undoubtedly provides the most challenging and interesting parts of my degree, which in turn gives me skills which are generalisable and I can carry on into my future career."

Helen, current undergraduate student

Get in touch
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ARCHAEOLOGY
ASSYRIOLOGY
EGYPTOLOGY
BIOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY
UNDERGRADUATE STUDY
The research we do ranges widely across time and space, from discovering where the gold from Tutankhamun’s mask came from, to studying the population genetics of southeast Asian islands, to uncovering the impact of plague on medieval Cambridge. If you study with us, you will have the opportunity to take part in this research as it evolves.

After a joint first year, it allows you to specialise in one or more of Archaeology, Biological Anthropology, Assyriology, and Egyptology.

- Archaeology uses material evidence to explore the nature and development of particular societies and to explain the variations and commonalities of the human past.
- Biological Anthropology explores human evolution, biology and behaviour, and the interaction between biology and culture.
- Assyriology is the study of the languages, cultures, history, archaeology and religion of ancient Assyria.
- Egyptology is the study of the history, languages, society, archaeology and religion of ancient Egypt.

Over the course of your degree, you might find yourself studying the behaviour of chimpanzees, learning about our oldest human ancestors, translating Egyptian hieroglyphs, learning about radiocarbon dating, or examining imagery in a Babylonian poem.

You will gain insights into many of the most important challenges for human life on earth in the present day, from climate change to economic inequality, from pandemic diseases to the politics of archaeological heritage in wartime.

By the end of your degree you will have engaged in the detailed study of primary sources, you may have studied an ancient language, and you will probably have written your first piece of independent research (in the form of a 10,000 word dissertation).

Our degree programme is outstandingly broad and exciting, equally rewarding for those who feel at home in the sciences, the humanities, or both.

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