APPROVED

Introduction to Archaeological Excavation and Recording with Osteology

Module Details	
Module Code:	n/a
Full Title:	Introduction to Archaeological Excavation and Recording with Osteology APPROVED
Valid From::	Semester 2 - 2020/21 (February 2021)
Language of Instruction:	English
Duration:	1 Semester
Credits::	7.5
Module Owner::	Annaleigh Margey Conor Brady
Departments:	Humanities
Module Description:	This module aims to provide participants with a 'hands-on' experience of an archaeological excavation and includes an introduction to the archaeological excavation and recovery of human remains. Participants will be introduced to the aims and objectives of archaeological excavation and the steps involved in the research process that leads to an excavation. They will also be introduced to the range of techniques used and the components of the on-site recording system including the very specific protocols and procedures involved in the treatment of human remains in an archaeological context. They will participate under appropriate supervision in a research excavation and also in the recovery of artefacts, environmental samples and human remains where appropriate. This module is normally delivered in an intensive five-week block during the summer.

Module Learning Outcome			
On successful	I completion of this module the learner will be able to:		
#	Module Learning Outcome Description		
MLO1	Apply the series of techniques of archaeological excavation on site including the specific requirements of excavating human remains		
MLO2	Integrate the principles of the single context recording system into all on-site excavation and recording practice		
MLO3	Discuss the elements of the on-site recording system and the approach to recording human burials in particular		
MLO4	Apply the range of methods of recording of archaeological information on site with a focus on recording burials of human remains		
MLO5	05 Generate preliminary interpretations of contexts and features including burials and other material encountered during excavation		
Pro-requisite learning			

Pre-requisite learning

Module Recommendations This is prior learning (or a practical skill) that is strongly recommended before enrolment in this module. You may enrol in this module if you have not acquired the recommended learning but you will have considerable difficulty in passing (i.e. achieving the learning outcomes of) the module. While the prior learning is expressed as named DkIT module(s) it also allows for learning (in another module or modules) which is equivalent to the learning specified in the named module(s).

No recommendations listed

Module Indicative Content	
Site safety briefing ntroduction to the site safety statement and procedures. Everybody responsible.	
ntroduction ntroduction to the process of archaeological excavation, the destructive nature of archae remains. Site selection/reasons for excavation. Background research prior to excavation.	ology. The role and responsibilities of the individual excavator. Duties relating to excavating human
L egal Responsibilities The legal context for the conduct of excavations in Ireland. The role of the National Monu role of the local authority. Legislation governing the reporting and treatment of human ren	ments Service, the National Museum of Ireland. The legislation. National Monument designation. The nains. Particular emphasis on ethical considerations of excavating and processing human remains.
Site research strategy Staff structure on a site. Responsibilities of each level in the hierarchy. Assessment of pre season. The local context of the site and its relationship to the wider environment/region.	eviously collected survey and excavation data, Setting research questions and objectives season by Consultation for advice on strategy with osteoarchaeologist.
U nits of investigation The Single Context Recording System. Identifying and understanding contexts and featur	es. The numbering system. Cuttings and trenches. Sondages. Positioning cuttings. The site grid.
Excavation The process of excavation. Tools. Desodding. Spoil management. Topsoil removal and p on best practice excavation and recording techniques with osteoarchaeologist.	rocessing. Identifying and classifying contexts and features. Deposits and cuts. Consultation for advice
Excavating human remains One of the more highly skilled and paperwork heavy jobs on the site. Need for full exposu abelling. Consultation for advice on best practice excavation and recording techniques w uman remains.	ire and recording prior to lifting. Need for careful systematic approach. Appropriate packaging and ith osteoarchaeologist. Particular emphasis on ethical considerations of excavating and processing
The Written Record Creation of a permanent 'virtual' site record. The importance of the context/feature numbe īnds, soil samples, planning/drawings, photographs, disarticulated human bone register,	er. Context/Feature sheets. Creation of stratigraphic matrix. Other registers: context/feature register, burial register.
The Drawn Record The site grid, reference points. Setting out right-angled cuttings. Taking levels, the Tempo coordinates. Plans and sections, profiles/elevations.	orary Bench mark. Using planning boards and planning frames. Appropriate scales for drawings. Using
The Photographic Record Numbering and registering photographs. Preparing an area for a photograph. Progress sl	nots v 'publication' shots. Using scales and ranging rods.
Production of the Stratigraphic Report ntroduction to the first step in the site reporting process whereby the contexts and feature inds catalogue, the samples register etc. Preliminary interpretation presented. Production	es encountered during excavation are described and presented, along with the context register, the n and submission of Preliminary Post-Excavation Report to NMS
Module Assessment	
Assessment Breakdown	%
Course Work	100.00%
Nodule Special Regulation	

Assessments

Full Time On Campus

Course Work				
Assessment Type	Reflective Journal	% of Total Mark	60	
Marks Out Of	100	Pass Mark	40	
Timing	End-of-Semester	Learning Outcome	2,3,5	
Duration in minutes	0			

Assessment Description Students will be required to submit a journal of their experiences, maintained on a day-by-day basis for the duration of the module and detailing the tasks assigned to them and what they learned. This assessment element will be maintained simultaneously with and will be integrated with the Learning Journal requirement for the other module in this programme: Introduction to Post-Excavation Processing and Recording with Osteology. approx. 1500 words will deal with on-site excavation activities while a further c.1500 words will deal with the post-excavation activities.

activities.			
Assessment Type	Continuous Assessment	% of Total Mark	20
Marks Out Of	100	Pass Mark	40
Timing	n/a	Learning Outcome	1,2,3,4,5
Duration in minutes	0		
Assessment Description This will examine the student's attendance, participation in discussions, willingness to complete tasks assigned in a timely manner, ability to work well in a group situation, comprehension of the management of the excavation, ability to work under direction, attention to detail and accuracy particularly in	the production of material relating to the written r	ecord.	
Assessment Type	Essay	% of Total Mark	20
Marks Out Of	100	Pass Mark	40
Timing	n/a	Learning Outcome	1,3,5
Duration in minutes	0		
	mit a 1,500 word essay on archaeological resear ther module in this programme: Introduction to Po		
No Project			
No Practical			
No Final Examination			
Part Time On Campus			
Course Work			
Assessment Type	Reflective Journal	% of Total Mark	60

Timing Duration in minutes n/a

0

Assessment Description Students will be required to submit a journal of their experiences, maintained on a day-by-day basis for the duration of the module and detailing the tasks assigned to them and what they learned. This assessment element will be maintained simultaneously with and will be integrated with the Learning Journal requirement for the other module in this programme: Introduction to Post-Excavation Processing and Recording with Osteology. approx. 1500 words will deal with on-site excavation activities while a further c.1500 words will deal with the post-excavation activities

Learning Outcome

2,3,5

Assessment Type	Continuous Assessment	% of Total Mark	20	
Marks Out Of	100	Pass Mark	40	
Timing	n/a	Learning Outcome	1,2,3,4,5	
Duration in minutes	0	5	, , , , , ,	
		s to complete tasks assigned in a timely manner ail and accuracy particularly in the production of	ability to work well in a group situation, comprehen naterial relating to the written record.	ision of
Assessment Type	Essay	% of Total Mark	20	
Marks Out Of	100	Pass Mark	40	
Timing	n/a	Learning Outcome	1,3,5	
Duration in minutes	0			
		ogical research and excavation techniques and o duction to Post-Excavation Processing and Rec	n-site recording and the post-excavation process. T ording with Osteology	This will
No Project				
No Practical				
No Final Examination				
Reassessment Requirement				
No repeat examination Reassessment of this module will be	offered solely on the basis of coursework and	a repeat examination will not be offered.		

Workload Type Contact Type Workload Description Frequency Average Weekly Learner Workload Hours Lecturer-Supervised Learning (Contact) Contact Central to this module is the student's direct participation in live research excavation which takes place in an 'open- archaeological excavation site Every Week 13.00 13.00 Lecture Contact There will be concerned in the open- archaeological excavation site Every Week 2.00 Lecture Contact There will be one formal lecture each week. These will cover an introduction to lish prehistoric and historic period archaeological techniques. Some lectures will be delivered by invited guest lectures will be delivered by invited guest lectures will be delivered to invited acknowledged experts appendism and their areas. Every Week 1.00 Directed Reading Non Contact Students will be directed to a series of publications on the reading list designed to support the material covered in the lectures and provide detaleid information for use in completion of continuous assessment work. Every Week 2.00 Independent Study Non Contact Students will spend time researching and writing their reflective journal each day Every Week 2.00 Practical Contact Students will spend time researching and recording, and other topics as arise. Every Week 2.00 <th>Workload: Full Time On Cam</th> <th>pus</th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th>	Workload: Full Time On Cam	pus				
Contact) Industrial direction of participation with data space of non an and calculation of an an and calculation of an and calculation of an an and calculation of an an and calculation of an			Workload Description	Frequency		Hours
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Total Weekly Contact Hours Workload: Part Time On Campus Korkload Description Frequency Average Weekly Learner Workload Hours Uccturer-Supervised Learning (Contact) Contact Central to this module is the student's direct participation in live research excavation which takes place in an "open- air classroom" on an archaeological excavation site Every Week 13:00 Lecture Contact There will be one formal locture each week. These will over an introduction to lirish prehistoric and historic period archaeology and various archaeology a	Practical	Contact	series of practicals /workshops where they will be introduced to total station surveying, architectural stone handling and recording, and	Every Week	2.00	2
Workload: Part Time On Campus Workload Type Contact Type Workload Description Frequency Average Weekly Learner Workload Hours Lecturer-Supervised Learning (Contact) Contact Central to this module is the student's direct participation in live research excavation which takes place in an 'open- archaeological excavation site archaeological excavation site over an introduction to Irish prehistoric and historic period archaeological techniques. Some lectures will be delivered by invited guest lecture seak week. These will over an introduction to Irish prehistoric and historic period archaeological techniques. Some lectures will be delivered by invited guest lectures and provide delivered in the leatures. Some lectures and provide delivered in the lectures and provide		•			Total Weekly Learner Workload	20.00
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Practical Contact Students will participate in a series of practicals / workshops where they will be introduced to total station surveying, architectural stone handling and recording, and Every Week 2.00	Directed Reading	Non Contact	Students will be directed to a series of publications on the reading list designed to support the material covered in the lectures and provide detailed information for use in completion of continuous	Every Week	1.00	1
Practical Contact Students will participate in a series of practicals //workshops where they will be introduced to total station surveying, architectural stone handling and recording, and Every Week 2.00		Non Contact	researching and writing their	Every Week	2.00	2
	Independent Study				2.00	2
Total Weekly Learner Workload		Contact	Students will participate in a series of practicals /workshops where they will be introduced to total station surveying, architectural stone handling and recording, and	Every week		

Module Resources

Recommended Book Resources

Green, Kevin and Moore, Tom. (2010), Archaeology: an Introduction, 5th edition. Routledge, London.

Renfrew, Colin and Bahn, Paul. (2000), Archaeology: Theory, Methods and Practice, 2nd edition. Thames & Hudson, London.

Barker, P.. (1993), Techniques of Archaeological Excavation, 3rd edition. Routledge, London.

Supplementary Book Resources

Museum of London Archaeological Service. (1994), Archaeological Site Manual, Museum of London, London.

Gaffney, Chris and Gater, John. (2003), Geophysics for Archaeologists, Tempus, Stroud.

This module does not have any article/paper resources

Other Resources

PDF/hard-copy handout, Blackfriary Archaeology Field School. (2019), BAFS Student Handbook, Trim, Blackfriary Archaeology Field School.

PDF/hard-copy handout, Blackfriary Archaeology Field School. (2019), BAFS Handbook for Students, Trim, Blackfriary Archaeology Field School.

Website, Geraldine Stout and Matthew Stout. (2013), Bective Abbey Excavation Project, https://bective.wordpress.com/

Website, Northern Ireland Environment Agency. (2011), Excavation at Tirnony Dolmen.

Website, Conor Brady. (2012), The Rossnaree Excavation Project,

https://rossnareedig.wordpress.com/