Core and an Archaeology Major

Core classes are conducted as seminars capped at 16 students, led by full-time faculty. Students form a close relation with faculty and other students, in the classroom and in co-curricular activities, while developing skills necessary for success in upper-level seminars in their major.

Core Humanities follows a broad historical sweep from early Mesopotamian civilizations to 20th century Europe and America. This chronological study of art, music, literature and philosophy creates an invaluable cultural context for archaeology students, giving depth and resonance to their study of particular cultures and civilizations. Core also explores the different world-views of Western and Asian cultures, providing an important perspective from which to view the overriding concerns of either.

Core Social Science looks at questions such as human beings’ “natural” condition as seen by social theorists, the role of religion, economics and power in human society, and the development of modern, scientific approaches to the study of human life. The courses are invaluable for students in an inherently interdisciplinary field such as Archaeology since they study the development and interrelation of the various social science disciplines as well as their relation to the Humanities and Natural Sciences. Core Natural Science complements these classes by considering not only the natural world and our relation to it, but also how human beings’ relation to nature is interconnected with human culture.

Core offers additional opportunities for achievement, as well:

- Students who take one of the four two-course sequences available in Core (CC 101/102; CC 201/202; CC 112/211; and CC 111/212) become eligible to begin a Core Minor.
- Students who complete Core with a grade of at least B+ in each of their Core classes become eligible to apply for Core Honors.
- Students who complete Core are acknowledged with an official annotation on their BU transcript, reading: “Completed the Interdisciplinary Core Curriculum in Arts & Sciences.”

Core and your schedule

Since students can satisfy all Hub and Writing requirements through Core there is plenty of room to complete the program. For example, CC 101 gives Hub credit for Aesthetic Exploration, Global Citizenship, and Creativity / Innovation, while CC 102 gives WR 120 credit. CC 111 and 212 give Scientific Inquiry I and II and Quantitative Reasoning I and II as well as for Teamwork / Collaboration and Critical Thinking.

For Archaeology majors, CC 112 & CC 211 together count for AN 101.

Students generally take CC 101 and CC 102 in their first year; however, as long as the Humanities are taken in order, Core classes can be taken at any time during your BU career.

For students pursuing a double major, the course credit earned in Core can be a valuable asset. Visit www.bu.edu/core/about/factsheets to learn how Core course equivalencies can satisfy requirements in particular majors.

For more information about Core please contact Prof. Nelson at nelson@bu.edu / 617-353-5404, or Chris McMullen in the CAS Advising Office: cmcmull@bu.edu / 617-353-2400.

Whenever you’re on campus, please feel free to stop by the Core Office for a visit. We’re in CAS Room 119, at 685 Commonwealth Avenue, adjacent to Tsai Auditorium.