

Course title:	Excavations exercises – master's studies
Organizational unit:	Faculty of Archaeology
Short description:	<p>During excavation exercises, students become familiar with exploration techniques, which serve as the practical application of the primary research method used in archaeology. Students refine their skills in conducting various stages of excavation, performing full documentation of uncovered structures, selecting archaeological materials, conducting preliminary analysis, and collecting samples for further research.</p> <p>The exercises take place in the field, where students engage in hands-on activities. The specificity of excavations and the diversity of archaeological sites contribute to variations in course content and the proportions of different program elements.</p>
Mode:	Field classes
Full description:	<p>The goal of field excavation exercises is to deepen and reinforce students' skills in conducting archaeological research. During these exercises, students refine their ability to apply appropriate exploration and documentation techniques in the field and learn to make informed decisions regarding method selection during excavations.</p> <p>Students carry out specific research tasks, including excavation and documentation of archaeological structures and artifacts. Under the supervision of a qualified field archaeologist, they also gain experience in managing designated excavation areas or assigned tasks.</p> <p>Additionally, students improve their documentation skills, learn sampling techniques for laboratory analysis, and acquire basic knowledge of artifact conservation. They also develop skills in excavation site management and organization of documentation work. The exercises are conducted in the field, providing hands-on experience in real archaeological settings.</p> <p>The nature of archaeological excavations and the diversity of sites result in a varied range of topics covered in the course, as well as differences in the proportion of programme content. These exercises are typically linked to ongoing research projects conducted by members of the Faculty of Archaeology at the University of Warsaw. The required number of hours is usually completed over four weeks during the summer season (June – September).</p> <p>Summer excavation exercises are an essential component of the archaeology curriculum. These exercises conclude with a graded assessment. Regardless of specialization, each master's student is required to complete 150 hours of excavation exercises.</p> <p>During the summer semester, after the publication of the list of excavation projects for the academic year, students must review detailed information provided by the research supervisors and obtain a Field training form. All participants must receive a graded assessment from their excavation supervisor. The grade is recorded on the excavation exercise card, which must be submitted to the Faculty Office for Students, Faculty of Archaeology upon completion.</p>
Learning outcomes:	<p>K_W05; K_W06; K_W09; K_W20 K_U03; K_U06; K_U07; K_U14; K_U15; K_U16; K_U17; K_U19; K_K01; K_K03; K_K05; K_K07; K_K08; K_K14; K_K15</p> <p>During the excavation exercises, the master's student repeats and consolidates the knowledge of scientific and technical work during field excavations. In particular, he/she applies a structured, in-depth knowledge of the methods and techniques of documentation of archaeological sources based on a detailed, specialised knowledge of selected historical periods, including</p>

	<p>terminology, theories and methodology in archaeology. Knows the health and safety rules applicable to excavation work.</p> <p>A master's student participating in excavation exercises is capable of creatively utilizing existing methods and techniques, adapting them to the specific requirements of archaeological research. They can lead a team, plan, and organize excavation work, independently initiating and undertaking research tasks. The student works effectively in a team and collaborates with specialists in interdisciplinary research groups.</p> <p>They are able to correctly set priorities for completing their own or assigned research tasks. The student can independently analyze and interpret various types of artifacts and ecofacts to identify complex relationships between them and past cultural processes, determining their significance and impact within socio-cultural developments.</p> <p>In practice, they apply occupational safety and hygiene principles during excavations and ensure adherence to these standards in team settings.</p> <p>A master's student, upon completing excavation exercises, is prepared to apply their acquired knowledge and skills while remaining aware of the need to validate their findings with expert opinions. They are capable of assessing the significance and value of various types of archaeological finds and understanding their role in reconstructing human history.</p> <p>The student is committed to promoting awareness of the responsibility for preserving cultural heritage and initiating collaboration with society regarding archaeological research. They are ready to apply their knowledge of the complex nature of culture and recognize the necessity of analyzing diverse categories of sources to reconstruct the past.</p> <p>They are prepared to take on professional responsibilities, contribute to the advancement of archaeology, and uphold the professional ethics of an archaeologist. Additionally, the student is committed to adhering to occupational safety and hygiene standards in their work.</p>
ECTS credit allocation	9 ECTS
Assessment methods and assessment criteria:	Grading