



Oregon Archaeological Society Exploring Careers in Archaeology Fields Preparing for a Career in Archaeology

What classes should I take in high school if I want to be an archaeologist?

In high school, it is important to take classes in:

- **Math** – Archaeologists apply mathematics and statistical concepts both in the field and in data analysis.
- **Foreign Language** – Becoming proficient in a foreign language can be a real plus if you wish to work in the field overseas.
- **History** – having a wide variety of history classes is considered a necessity in the field.
- **Computer Science** – understanding basic computer skills, database programs, software applications and other analytical tools are very important.
- **Science** – Classes in biology, geology, botany, ecology, etc. as foundational knowledge in this field.
- **English, Writing, Communication** – Archaeologists need excellent research and writing skills; they write more than they dig!

In college, it is important to take classes in:

Degrees are usually awarded as Anthropology, which has four subfields:

- **Archaeology**
- **Biological/Physical Anthropology**
- **Cultural Anthropology**
- **Linguistics**

Students pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Anthropology will generally be required to take courses in all four subfields.

Can I Get Involved in Archaeology while in high school?

The answer is yes!

Oregon and Washington both participate in an annual Archaeology celebration that includes public events including opportunities to participate in archaeology. October is Oregon's Archaeology Celebration.

Information can be found at: <http://www.oregon.gov/OPRD/HCD/>

Society for American Archaeology, www.saa.org.

The BLM has a Site Steward program that use volunteers to monitor sites and record changes to them. To learn more contact the BLM at www.blm.gov.

The Oregon Archaeological Society welcomes high school students (attending with a parent if under 18) to attend a six week course called "Archaeology for the Curious" (introduction to Oregon archaeology and basic training for field work) which occurs annually from January-March each year. Individuals who successfully complete the course become members of OAS, and may participate as a lab volunteer at Fort Vancouver, or sign up to volunteer in other field and survey activities in Oregon. www.oregonarchaeological.org