

Doctoral Study Program in Archaeology at the Faculty of Arts, University of West Bohemia (UWB) in Pilsen

(<https://kar.zcu.cz/en/study.php#phd>)

GOALS OF THE STUDY PROGRAM

The aim of the doctoral study (at the [Department of Archaeology](#), the [Faculty of Arts](#), the [University of West Bohemia in Pilsen](#)) is education for independent scientific and research work in the field, which includes both the development of creative activities in methodology and theory, as well as deepening empirical skills in archaeology. The student will acquire excellent knowledge of archaeological sources, master archaeological theory at a high level and be able to apply field, laboratory and other research methods, including advanced mastery of formalized procedures and modern technologies. During their studies, doctoral degree candidates will successfully complete a research project that will bring new knowledge to the field and will culminate in a dissertation. Strong emphasis is placed on the interdisciplinary approach and developing cooperation with related disciplines.

PROFILE OF A GRADUATE OF THE STUDY PROGRAM

Graduates will acquire a deep knowledge of phenomena and processes that archeology has explored from prehistoric times to the modern past. In connection with the topics of their dissertations, graduates will also gain a deep knowledge of theoretical approaches and methods of researching a given issue, relevant sources and the results of domestic and international research. The graduate will be capable of independent scientific activities of a creative character (i.e. to independently conceive and implement advanced research methods, to select appropriate methods not only in archaeology and the historical sciences, but also in the context of interdisciplinary cooperation with other social-scientific, natural-science or technical disciplines; given their knowledge hitherto of the historical conditionality and variability of social phenomena, graduates will also be aware of the ethical dimensions of innovative methods and results). The graduate will be able to carry out independent creative and scientific-research activities, including project management; graduates will be able to lecture at universities and will be able to apply their professional knowledge not only in the academic sphere, heritage-preservation institutions and museums, but also in the state administration, municipal government, non-governmental organizations, and in service and consulting activities. They are able to make use of their interdisciplinary knowledge, which is acquired while completing the research tasks of their dissertations, in building solid collaboration with the natural and technical sciences. Graduates can present results of their research at conferences and in the academic press in an international environment. They are able to actively communicate in two world languages.

CONDITIONS FOR ADMISSION TO STUDY

A condition for admission to the doctoral study program is a completed master's degree in the same or related specialization, general knowledge of archaeology or related disciplines and a successful acceptance interview. During the interview, applicants present the intention of their dissertation project and their current research and/or their own publication activities. The project is submitted in writing (3 to 5 pages, A4 format) and contains a justification for the selected topic, theoretical

background, approaches and the methods in which it will be completed, including relevant literature and sources. Furthermore, applicants must submit a published work (or a manuscript with justification of their own approaches) and a list of their own professional and research activities hitherto. Applicants must prove that they are familiar with the selected issue and relevant academic domestic and foreign literature and sources related to the topic.

The Admissions Committee assesses the applicant's readiness for doctoral studies on the basis of the submitted project and an oral interview with the applicant. In accordance with the Study and Examination Regulations of the University of West Bohemia in Pilsen, the supervisors of dissertations (including external experts) are proposed by a subject-area board, which submits them for approval to the Scholarly Board of the Faculty of Arts of UWB. Upon the proposal of the supervisor, the Dean may assign the student a significant domestic or foreign expert in the field as a consultant-specialist. The student will seek advice from this individual on special problems concerning the given topic of his dissertation. The involvement of external supervisors is subject to supervision by the Chairman of the subject-area board according to the Dean's Provision No. 6/2011 on supervision of graduation theses conducted by external teaching staff. Supervisors can also be specialists who are not members of the subject-area board; however, their role as supervisor is subject to approval by the subject-area board.

LINK TO OTHER TYPES OF STUDY PROGRAMS

Doctoral Study Program in Archaeology at the Faculty of Arts (UWB) was established in 2006. It is a continuation of the master's course of study in Archeology. It is also open to graduates of other historical and related disciplines developing relevant in overlaps into interdisciplinary collaboration.

Within the "Doctoral School of Archeology", the program is organized in cooperation with the Institute of Archeology of the Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague and the Institute of Archeology of the Faculty of Arts of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice through joint research activities with the engagement of doctoral students and the involvement of teachers and trainers from these institutions within the study program.

STUDY OBLIGATIONS

The doctoral degree program is a four-year program and consists of courses that make it possible to obtain **240 credits** (compulsory courses make up a total of 175 credits). The study plan is available in PORTAL UWB (<https://portal.zcu.cz/portal>; Portal – Study – Browse IS/STAG – Programmes and branches, Faculty: FF, a given academic Year, Form: %, Type: doctoral, Language: English). It is possible to click on the abbreviations of the course titles to see descriptions of the courses in detail.

Mandatory courses for theoretical basis

The core of the study program is made up of a mandatory theoretical and profiling basis that develops the student's abilities in the area of theory and methodology and leads him to independent research work aimed at completing a high-quality dissertation. The key course of the theoretical basis is the Doctoral Seminar 1 – 5 (from the first to third year), in which students deal with the issues concerning their dissertations (theoretical background, specific questions, research methods, discussion of individual results). Presentation of a paper at an international conference is also an integral part of the seminar.

Mandatory courses for profiling basis

In the first and second year of study, students gain experience in the management and implementation of empirical research within the Empirical Research course 1 - 2. Under the guidance of the subject guarantor and supervisor, the student carries out field archaeological research using non-destructive or destructive methods (or a combination of both) and evaluates research results within the framework of the scientific-research activities of the Department.

Publishing activity is covered by the Professional Writing 1 – 3 courses, which are conducted under the supervision of the guarantor in cooperation with the supervisor (a mandatory minimum is the publication of one article in a Peer-reviewed Non-Impacted Journal and two other articles in journals included in the SCOPUS database or Web of Science).

Other mandatory courses

Pedagogical skills are developed within the Tutoring - Seminar 1 - 2 courses realized under the supervision of the guarantor of the relevant course and the supervisor. Skills in the area of preparation of scientific projects are acquired by students as part of the Project Preparation in Archeology course. Other compulsory subjects are directly related to the preparation of the dissertation, the state doctoral examination (including the subject base and the sub-specialization, which also includes the defense of the dissertation thesis) after passing all the subjects of the individual study plan. The state doctoral examination is oral, takes place in front of the examining board and usually takes around 60 minutes. The details and other requirements are established in the Study and Examination Regulations of the University of West Bohemia in Pilsen.

During preparation for the doctoral examination, the student has the opportunity to make use of individual or group consultations with the guarantors of individual courses. The exam on the theoretical basis consists of a discussion on a topic approved by the examining board. The topic encompasses knowledge of a particular section of the past based on archaeological sources, archaeological theory and methodology. The exam from the sub-discipline specialization consists mainly of defending the theses of the dissertation, during which the student defines the objectives, basic theoretical questions and the methodological framework of the dissertation, the current state of knowledge of the researched issue, briefly characterizes used sources, and summarizes the results; the student submits this in written form (roughly 25-35 pages). After passing the state doctoral examination, students may submit their finished dissertations and defend them.

Elective courses of the profiling basis – Group 1 (Research Activity 1 – 5)

Within the group of elective courses of the profiling basis, students are obliged to choose one course from Research Activity 1 - 5, within which they carry out research tasks focused on the analysis of the dissertation's sources (choice of analytical methods, their application, contribution, discussion of results), which are divided up according to the character of sources (Movable Artefacts of Prehistory; Movable Artefacts of the Middle Ages, and the Modern Period; Spatial and Settlement Archaeology; Materiality of the Human Body and Funerary Practices, Built Environment); their specification is determined by the guarantor of the program and course in cooperation with the supervisor (results

are also presented at an academic conference). These courses are taught also by external teachers, so students should respect the recommended years and semesters.

Elective courses – Group 2 (Interdisciplinary Methodological Courses 1 – 7)

Furthermore, according to their given topic, students are required to select two methodological courses from the total offer covering interdisciplinary overlaps (Methodological Course 1 - 7), which are provided by partners at UWB (Faculty of Philosophy, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, NTC), the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice and the Archeological Institute of the Czech Academy of Sciences in Prague and include Geomatics for Archaeologists, Three-Dimensional Documentation and Virtual Reality, Material Analyses in Archaeology, Environmental Archaeology, Geoarchaeology, Biological Anthropology a Geophysical Methods in Archaeology. These courses are taught only by external teachers, so students should respect the recommended years and semesters.

Elective courses – Group 3 (Selected Issues in Current Archaeology 1 – 6)

Furthermore, according to the focus of their dissertation, students are required to select two of the Selected Issues in Current Archaeology focused on basic chronological periods (Prehistory; The Middle Ages, Modern Period and Modernity), on specific topics (Remote Sensing in Archaeology, Theory and Methods of Researching Castle Structures) or the current offer of Lecture by Foreign Specialist taught in English.

Elective subjects – language

The Faculty of Arts has established a unified standard for the mastery of two foreign languages, which correspond to the relevant blocks of elective courses, the completion of which is demonstrated by a level of B1 (French), B2 (German, Spanish, Russian) or C1 (English, Italian). Ideally in the first or second year, students select two of the following subjects in relation to their dissertation topic: English for Doctoral Students, German for Doctoral Students, French for Doctoral Students, Italian for Doctoral Students, Spanish for Doctoral Students and Russian for Doctoral Students.

Requirements for research activity

Research work consists of the preparation of a dissertation (subjects of the Doctoral Seminar 1 - 5, Dissertation Thesis 1 - 2), which is also related to the continuous preparation of individual outputs in the form of articles in Peer-reviewed Non-Impacted Periodicals (Professional Writing 1), in journals included in the Web of Science or SCOPUS database (Professional Writing 2 - 3) and presentations at domestic and international conferences. Students gain a basic overview of the possibilities of preparation and realization of research projects within the compulsory subject Project Preparation in Archeology; however, students are encouraged to gain practical experience ideally by participating in the management of grant projects, not only within the internal grant system (UWB Student Grant Competition), but also within national grant support agencies. Because success in grant competitions cannot be guaranteed, participation in projects or project management is not a compulsory part of studies.

Requirements of completing a foreign internship

Students will gain deeper contact with the international academic environment through a compulsory internship at a foreign scientific or university workplace in the duration of at least one month (e.g. through the INTER program or Erasmus+ program), or by participating in an international creative project (with results published or presented abroad). The internship or participation in the project is a prerequisite for enrollment in the Dissertation Thesis 1 course in the autumn semester of the 4th year of study.

EXPECTED EMPLOYABILITY OF GRADUATES IN THE LABOR MARKET

Graduates will find employment in institutions focusing on scholarly research and university education. Graduates gain further experience with this environment also through post-doctoral grants (e.g. two graduates have received the prestigious Marie-Curie postdoctoral grant at European universities, and many have received post-doctoral grants at UWB). Great opportunities can be found in applied research (especially in “rescue archaeology“ arising from construction activities carried out by various types of private organizations), as well as museums, landmark preservation and management of historical heritage, but also state and local authorities, non-governmental organizations, tourist management and consulting services. Graduates can make use of their interdisciplinary knowledge for collaboration with the natural and technical sciences.

The list of courses (to be continued on the next two pages, available for easy printing)

The list of courses

Group	Abbreviation	Title	Hours per week	Year/ Sem.	Credits	Guarantor
Mandatory courses (min. 175 credits)	KAR/DS1D	Doctoral Seminar 1	2s	1 W	10	Ass. Prof. Vařeka
	KAR/DS2D	Doctoral Seminar 2	2s	1 S	10	Prof. Gojda
	KAR/DS3D	Doctoral Seminar 3	2s	2 W	10	Ass. Prof. Vařeka
	KAR/DS4D	Doctoral Seminar 4	2s	2 S	10	Prof. Gojda
	KAR/DS5D	Doctoral Seminar 5	2s	3 W	10	Ass. Prof. Vařeka
	KAR/EMV1D	Empirical Research 1	4w	1 S	12	Ass. Prof. Vařeka
	KAR/EMV2D	Empirical Research 2	4w	2 S	12	Ass. Prof. Vařeka
	KAR/S1D	Professional Writing 1 - Article Published in a Peer-Review Journal	0l+0s	2 W	8	Ass. Prof. Vařeka
	KAR/S2D	Professional Writing 2 - Article Published in a Peer-Review Journal	0l+0s	3 W	12	Ass. Prof. Vařeka
	KAR/S3D	Professional Writing 3 - Article Published in a Peer-Review Journal	0l+0s	4 W	12	Ass. Prof. Vařeka
	KAR/VS1D	Tutoring - Seminar 1	0l+0s	2 W	7	Ass. Prof. Vařeka
	KAR/VS2D	Tutoring - Seminar 2	0l+0s	3 S	7	Ass. Prof. Vařeka
	KAR/PPAD	Project Preparation in Archaeology	2l	1 S	5	Dr. Mařík
	KAR/DD1D	Dissertation Thesis 1	0l+0s	4 W	25	Ass. Prof. Vařeka
	KAR/DD2D	Dissertation Thesis 2	0l+0s	4 S	25	Ass. Prof. Vařeka
	KAR/SZZD	Doctoral State Exam	0l+0s	4 S	0	Ass. Prof. Vařeka
	KAR/OZDSZ	Programme Basics	0l+0s	4 S	0	Prof. Gojda
	KAR/PSDSZ	Sub-programme Specialization	0l+0s	4 S	0	Prof. Gojda
	KAR/OD	Defense of Doctoral Dissertation	0l+0s	S	0	Ass. Prof. Vařeka
Research Activity 1-5 (min. 8 credits), VZC3-4D only according to this plan	KAR/VZ1D	1 - Movable Artefacts of Prehistory	2s	1 W	8	Ass. Prof. Salač
	KAR/VZ2D	2 - Movable Artefacts of the Middle Ages, and the Modern Period	2s	1 W	8	Ass. Prof. Vařeka
	KAR/VZ3D	3 - Spatial and Settlement Archaeology	2s	1 S	8	Prof. Gojda
	KAR/VZ4D	4 - Materiality of the Human Body and Funerary Practices	2s	2 W	8	Prof. Gojda
	KAR/VZ5D	5 - Built Environment	2s	2 S	8	Ass. Prof. Gabriel
to this plan	KAR/ME1D	1 - Geomatics for Archaeologists	2s	1 S	12	Dr. Fiala

	KAR/ME2D	2 - Three-Dimensional Documentation and Virtual Reality	2s	1 S	12	Ass. Prof. Hořejší
	KAR/ME3D	3 – Material Analyses in Archaeology	2s	1 S	12	Prof. Minár
	KAR/ME4D	4 - Environmental Archaeology	2s	1 S	12	Ass. Prof. Beneš
	KAR/ME5D	5 - Geoarchaeology	2s	2 W	12	Ass. Prof. Lisá
	KAR/ME6D	6 - Biological Anthropology	2s	2 W	12	Dr. Friedl
	KAR/ME7D	7 - Geophysical Methods in Archaeology	2s	2 W	12	Dr. Křivánek
Selected Issues in Current Archaeology 1 - 6 (min. 10 credits)	KAR/VPA1D	1 - Prehistory	2l	1 W	5	Ass. Prof. Salač
	KAR/VPA2D	2 - The Middle Ages, Modern Period and Modernity	2l	1 S	5	Ass. Prof. Vařeka
	KAR/VPA3D	3 - Remote Sensing in Archaeology	1l+1s	2 S	5	Prof. Gojda
	KAR/VPA4D	4 - Theory and Methods of Researching Castle Structures	2l	2 S	5	Ass. Prof. Gabriel
	KAR/VPA5D	5 - Lecture by Foreign Specialist	2l	3 S	5	Prof. Gojda
	KAR/VPA6D	6 - Lecture by Foreign Specialist	2l	4 W	5	Prof. Gojda
Language (min. 16 credits); the first language (advanced, *1D), the second language (intermediate, *2D)	KAJ/A1D	English for PhD Students 1	2s	W/S	8	Dr. Mišterová
	KGS/N1D	German for PhD Students 1	2s	W/S	8	Ass. Prof. Baumann
	KGS/R1D	Russian for PhD Students 1	2s	W/S	8	Ass. Prof. Korostenski
	KRO/F1D	French for PhD Students 1	2s	W/S	8	Ass. Prof. Fenclová
	KRO/ITA1D	Italian for PhD Students 1	2s	W/S	8	Dr. Štroblová
	KRO/S1D	Spanish for PhD Students 1	2s	W/S	8	Mgr. Gianino Sánchez
	KAJ/A2D	English for PhD Students 2	2s	W/S	8	Dr. Mišterová
	KGS/N2D	German for PhD Students 2	2s	W/S	8	Ass. Prof. Baumann
	KGS/R2D	Russian for PhD Students 2	2s	W/S	8	Ass. Prof. Korostenski
	KRO/F2D	French for PhD Students 2	2s	W/S	8	Ass. Prof. Fenclová
	KRO/ITA2D	Italian for PhD Students 2	2s	W/S	8	Dr. Štroblová
	KRO/S2D	Spanish for PhD Students 2	2s	W/S	8	Mgr. Gianino Sánchez

Hours per week (1 hour takes 45 minutes; l – lecture, s – seminar, w – week). Year/Semester (W – winter, S – summer). To create an individual study plan see also

<https://kar.zcu.cz/en/study.php#phd>). Details on courses are available at Portal

https://portal.zcu.cz/portal/studium/prohlizeni.html?pc_lang=en).