

**Press release**

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Headline

CifA and UAUK announce University of Winchester degrees and University of York degree pathway to receive accreditation

Standfirst:

CifA and UAUK have announced that the University of Winchester is to receive accreditation for degree programmes and the University of York will receive accreditation for a degree pathway. Accreditation recognises undergraduate and masters degrees that provide skills relevant to a career in the historic environment

--Starts--

The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CifA) and University Archaeology UK (UAUK) are pleased to announce details of the most recent academic programmes to be formally accredited as providing skills relevant to a career in the historic environment. The universities of Winchester and York join the universities already offering accredited programmes

- ❖ Queens University Belfast
- ❖ University of Bradford
- ❖ Bournemouth University
- ❖ University of Durham
- ❖ University of Leicester
- ❖ University of Reading
- ❖ University of Central Lancashire
- ❖ University College London

A full list of the accredited programmes can be found at [www.archaeologists.net/Accredited\\_Degrees](http://www.archaeologists.net/Accredited_Degrees)

Further applications are currently being assessed and newly accredited programmes will be announced in due course. See [www.archaeologists.net/Degree](http://www.archaeologists.net/Degree) [Accreditation information for training providers](#) for details.

Students in England and Northern Ireland now have the opportunity to choose a degree programme that will support them to develop a career in the historic environment. CIfA and UAUK hope to be assessing the first programmes in Scotland and Wales soon.

The accreditation was developed to provide a career route for the historic environment as well as fostering strong relations between industry and academia.

'Accreditation is an exciting new initiative for students taking archaeology courses at universities and for the profession more widely. It recognises the value of real knowledge of working practices across the sector by students across the UK' Chair of University Archaeology UK (UAUK), Chris Gerrard

CIfA Chief Executive Peter Hinton said 'We are delighted to add Winchester and York to the list of universities offering accredited degrees. Working with UAUK has given us an opportunity to further improve our connections with university archaeology which has been immensely positive. All students on accredited degree programmes are being encouraged to join CIfA and to sign up to the Pathway to PCIfA programme to support their professional development as they enter the workplace. The accredited degree initiative has been a great example of partnership working in practice'

'We are delighted to have the courses accredited, particularly given our decades-long tradition of practical training and that many Winchester graduates go on to develop careers in Archaeology and related fields.' Nick Thorpe, Head of Department of Archaeology, Anthropology and Geography, University of Winchester

'We take skills development and career enhancement seriously at York and we are delighted to have achieved recognition through professional accreditation by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) and the University Archaeology UK group (UAUK) in recognition.' Michelle Alexander, Deputy Head of Department and Chair of the Board of Studies

--Ends--

About CifA

CifA is the leading professional body representing accredited archaeologists working in the UK and overseas. Its members are professionally accredited and skilled in the study and care of the historic environment. They sign up to a rigorous code of conduct, professional development (CPD) schemes and complaints procedures to uphold competence and standards in archaeology. Seeking the advice and guidance of a professionally accredited archaeologist ensures you receive the best possible service. CifA champions professionalism in archaeology, which is good for practitioners, clients and protects the public. We do this by setting standards, improving careers and promoting best practice.

About UAUK

University Archaeology UK (UAUK) is the body representing departments of archaeology in UK universities. It's aims are to

- Promote archaeology as an established, recognized and relevant academic discipline within higher education
- Provide a forum for open discussion and debate of matters of mutual interest to its members
- Furnish a means collectively to respond to consultations and proposals from government bodies, or other organizations relating directly or indirectly to the teaching and researching of archaeology in the context of higher education and the archaeological profession
- Represent and promulgate the collective view of its members in any matters of mutual interest or concern relating directly or indirectly to archaeology within the higher education system
- Provide mutual support and assistance to members through sharing and exchange of experience and information

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