

Death, Burial and Society

Institute of Archaeology and Antiquity

College of Arts and Law

Details

Code 24036

Level of study Second Year

Credit value 20

Semester Scheduled for 1 and 2, 2013-14

Pre-requisite modules n/a

Other pre-requisites n/a

Module description

Mortuary practices provide easily the richest sources of archaeological evidence for religious beliefs and social ideals in past societies. In this module you will explore the diversity and complexity of funerary ritual and representation through archaeological evidence, focusing on current approaches to the analysis of mortuary evidence and funerary monuments, and interpretative themes such as social reconstruction, identity and personhood, the theatre of death ritual, status, power and cosmology. We will examine these themes with reference to the wide range of anthropological, sociological and historical perspectives that underpin the inter-disciplinary character of the archaeology of death.

Teaching and learning methods

lectures, formative essays and discussion