

NATURE OF WORK

To understand earlier civilizations, archaeologists sift through the remains of past generations. What one considers garbage or throw away objects from the past becomes an archaeologist's treasure. Discarded tools, pottery, and other items can help to determine how early people lived and maybe even their belief systems. It is not unusual for an archaeologist to fall in love with one culture or time period and then turn that into their specialization.

WORKING CONDITIONS

Archaeologists need to be physically fit as they may travel to remote areas of the world and stay for long periods at an investigation site. However, when their on-site investigation is completed they usually need to sit in front of a computer to do additional research or write up their work. Archaeologists employed by colleges usually have flexible work schedules, and divide their time between teaching, research, writing, consulting and college administrative responsibilities.

TRAINING & QUALIFICATIONS

A Ph.D. is a minimum requirement for most positions in colleges and universities. A bachelor's degree may be used to obtain entry-level jobs such as a research assistant or an administrative aide. Computers and GIS technology are important tools in this career area and knowledge of their use is necessary. Being persistent and not easily discouraged are important traits, as years can be spent studying artifacts before any final analysis and/or conclusions are made. Excellent written and oral communication skills are also important in this profession.

OUTLOOK

Overall employment for archeologists will experience average growth in the future. The popularity of this profession may increase the need for teachers over the next few years, however, the majority of employment growth will be in the management, scientific and technical consulting services industry.

CAREER OPTIONS

Archaeologists

ESTIMATED SALARY RANGE

Nationally— \$38,400 to \$69,300
(depending on education level, skill, experience and responsibility)

RELATED OCCUPATIONS

Anthropologist, biophysical anthropologist, geographer, historian, political scientist, sociologist, technician, science technician and petroleum engineers.

SJC Basic Program Information

Designed for students who will be transferring to other colleges or universities to acquire advanced degrees. Check with four year school and SJC advisor to ensure that your courses will transfer.



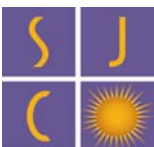
For further information go to:

www.sanjuancollege.edu/pages/158.asp

Click on the Suggested Concentrations under Transfer Programs

www.bls.gov/oco/ocos054.htm

www.careers-nm.org



*Most of this information is from the Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2008-2009

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