Module 2: Introduction to Archaeological Methods

Module presentation and learning objectives

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Presentation:

This module's curriculum aims to provide you with an understanding of the various methods used by archaeologists and the interdisciplinary nature of archaeological research.

The focus will be on different types of surveys such as ground, aerial, and subsurface surveys, as well as the use of mobile applications during surveying. You will also be introduced to various disciplines such as archaeobotany, animal bone technology and function, zooarchaeology, lithic technology, micromorphology, pottery and archaeometry, human remains including biological anthropology and archaeogenetics, and rock art methodology.

Learning objectives:

1. Understand the interdisciplinary nature of archaeological research and the various disciplines that contribute to it.
2. Recognize different types of surveys used by archaeologists, including ground, aerial, and subsurface surveys, and their respective strengths and weaknesses.
3. Evaluate the use of mobile applications during surveying, and understand their potential benefits.
4. Explain the importance of archaeobotany in understanding past human societies and environments.
5. Analyze animal bone technology and function, and understand its significance in past human societies.
6. Evaluate the role of zooarchaeology in interpreting past human-animal relationships.
7. Understand the significance of lithic technology in past human societies and how it evolved over time.
8. Explain the role of micromorphology in understanding past site formation processes and depositional environments.
9. Analyze the significance of pottery and archaeometry in archaeological research, and their potential to provide insights into past societies.
10. Understand the use of biological anthropology and archaeogenetics in understanding past human populations, including their migration patterns and genetic relationships.