INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

PHD & MS PROGRAMS
We offer full financial support covering both tuition and an assistantship with a stipend to over 90% of our students.

Students gain hands-on teaching and/or research experience and this support has no citizenship or nationality restrictions or priorities.

We prepare our MS students for diverse professional careers. They work in both the private and public sectors in fields such as heritage and cultural resource management, education, preservation, and government service.

Our PhD students pursue transdisciplinary, innovative, and independent research that focuses on industrial and postindustrial heritage and communities struggling with the social and material consequences of industrial decline. Increasingly, student research explores sustainable and equitable futures through industrial heritage using creative methodologies and technologies.

Areas of Expertise
- Archaeology (Industrial & Historical)
- Capitalism, Class, and Labor
- Cultural Heritage and Landscapes
- Environmental History
- Heritage Management and Tourism
- History of Technology
- Mining Communities
- Sustainable Cities
- Vernacular Architecture

Skills and Methods
- Archaeological Analysis and Interpretation
- Archaeological Field Methods
- Architectural and Landscape Documentation
- Community-Based Research
- Cultural Resource Management
- Ethnographic Methods
- GIS and Remote Sensing
- Material Culture Analysis
Diverse Research Perspectives

Our graduate programs involve courses/modules and a thesis advised by an interdisciplinary faculty with perspectives from anthropology, archaeology, geography, history, heritage studies, law, policy, political science, and sociology. Students from diverse backgrounds are welcomed into our community, united by our interest in industrial and post-industrial communities.

Michigan Technological University is the headquarters of both the Society for Industrial Archaeology (SIA) and The International Committee for the Conservation of the Industrial Heritage (TICCIH). Our research-active faculty serve national and international leadership roles in the Critical Heritage Studies Association, Vernacular Architecture Forum, and the Society for Historical Archaeology, among others.

World-Renowned Industrial Heritage Landscape

In our Living Laboratory, we work with many organizations such as the Keweenaw National Historical Park, Isle Royale National Park, and Keweenaw Bay Indian Community to address these questions. On campus, the Archaeology Annex, Geospatial Research Facility, Great Lakes Research Center, and Sustainable Futures Institute all support the mission of Industrial Heritage and Archaeology.

Work and live in the beautiful Keweenaw Peninsula of Michigan, surrounded by Lake Superior on treaty territory of the Ojibwa. Michigan Technological University has transformed from an institution supporting the local copper industry to one asking the tough questions of extractive industries, transformative economies, and how to support industrial heritage and a sustainable future.

True Community Engagement

Ongoing major faculty research projects include the Keweenaw Time Traveler: a public participatory GIS for studying built and social environments through time. Other projects include a multifaceted study of the social and environmental impacts of copper tailings, exploration into how settler and Indigenous communities navigate extractive landscapes, and the adaptive reuse of mines for energy storage.

Our interests in industrial heritage reach well beyond the Keweenaw, however. Recent national and international partnerships include the National Park Service, United States Forest Service, Amtrak, National Museum Wales, and the European Union. Alumni of Industrial Heritage and Archaeology currently work across the United States in private, local, state, federal, and tribal positions and globally for national heritage organizations and private companies.
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January 15 is the application deadline for admissions and funding decisions.

We strongly encourage all applicants to identify and contact a potential advisor in the department before submitting their application.

| MS: mtu.edu/social-sciences/graduate/programs/archaeology-ms
| PhD: mtu.edu/social-sciences/graduate/programs/archaeology-phd

APPLY FOR ADDITIONAL EXTERNAL SUPPORT

| International students—Fulbright Foreign Student Program: foreign.fulbrightonline.org
| US students—AmeriCorps Volunteer in Service to America (VISTA) program: mtu.edu/social-sciences/graduate/osm-vista

QUESTIONS?

| Faculty: mtu.edu/social-sciences/department/faculty-staff
| Graduate Director: grad-director-ss@mtu.edu

You can find more information about our faculty, research, courses, degree requirements, and guidelines for preparing your application on our website: mtu.edu/social-sciences/graduate/programs

Michigan Tech is located within Ojibwe Gichigami (“Ojibwa’s Great Sea,” Lake Superior) homelands and ceded-territory established by the Treaty of 1842.

Michigan Technological University is an Equal Opportunity Educational Institution/Equal Opportunity Employer that provides equal opportunity for all, including protected veterans and individuals with disabilities.