



SARDIS INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The Archaeological Exploration of Sardis, sponsored by the Harvard Art Museums, has an opportunity for Harvard undergraduate students to become Archaeological Interns for the 2026 excavation season in western Türkiye. Sardis, now a UNESCO World Heritage site, was a major city of western Anatolia from the time of Homer until the Byzantine period, home of the Lydian king Croesus and one of the Seven Churches of Asia. The Sardis Expedition has been conducting excavation and research at the site each year since 1958. Current projects include excavations in Lydian houses and the palace of the Lydian kings, a major Roman sanctuary of the imperial cult and its later transformations, and the largest arch in the Roman world; conservation and analysis of buildings and artifacts; research and publication of pottery, coins, excavation sectors, buildings, and other results; survey and 3 dimensional modeling from drone photographs.

The team of about 80 archaeologists, architects, conservators, recorders, and specialists comes from all over the world. The schedule is strenuous and the weather often hot. The excavation season lasts two and a half months, from early June until mid-August. The Expedition covers round-trip airfare, room and board, and additional funds for travel within Türkiye. The intern will be required to take, before going to Sardis, one course with significant archaeological content related to the ancient periods, civilizations and classes of archaeological material covered and investigated by the Sardis Expedition. On site students will:

- Gain an understanding of the research goals, scope, and expected results of the campaign.
- Engage in a varied and meaningful learning experience with tasks that vary each week.
- Experience tutorial and educational activities (teaching workshops; lectures) focusing on topics related to Sardis and, more generally, to themes of the archaeology of the region.
- Receive training in specific skills or use of equipment.
- Take part in field trips to sites and museums in Türkiye including on-site presentations or short site/museum reports after the visit
- Be encouraged to write a short report on their on-site experiences.

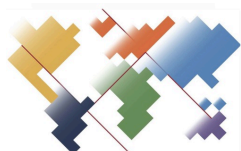
If you are interested in participating please email Bahadır Yıldırım, bahadir_yildirim@harvard.edu, a statement of interest, a current transcript, a resumé, and the names of two Harvard faculty as referees as soon as possible, and no later than the deadline of **Monday, October 27**. Decisions will be announced shortly thereafter, and we would need a commitment from you by mid-November, when the team list is finalized. There are also opportunities for graduate students. Please contact the Sardis office before the deadline of Oct. 27 for more information.

As part of Worldwide Week at Harvard 2025, there will be an event to learn more about the activities of the excavation on

Thursday, October 16 at 5:30pm

at the Barker Center in the Plimpton Room, 12 Quincy Street, Room 133.

Food will be served. RSVP encouraged but not required. RSVP to Sardis Coordinator, alyssa_martinez@harvard.edu



WORLDWIDE WEEK
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

13-17 October 2025
worldwide.harvard.edu

Bahadır Yıldırım, Administrative Director
Archaeological Exploration of Sardis • Harvard Art Museums
(617) 495-2380 • bahadir_yildirim@harvard.edu



For more information about Sardis visit:
<https://sardisexpedition.org>

Archaeological Exploration of Sardis,
Harvard Art Museums