



Save Ancient Studies Alliance

# INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

[SAVEANCIENTSTUDIES.ORG](http://SAVEANCIENTSTUDIES.ORG)

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## About SASA

*Save Ancient Studies Alliance (SASA) is a non-profit organization that was created to reverse the current downward trend in the study of the Ancient World.*

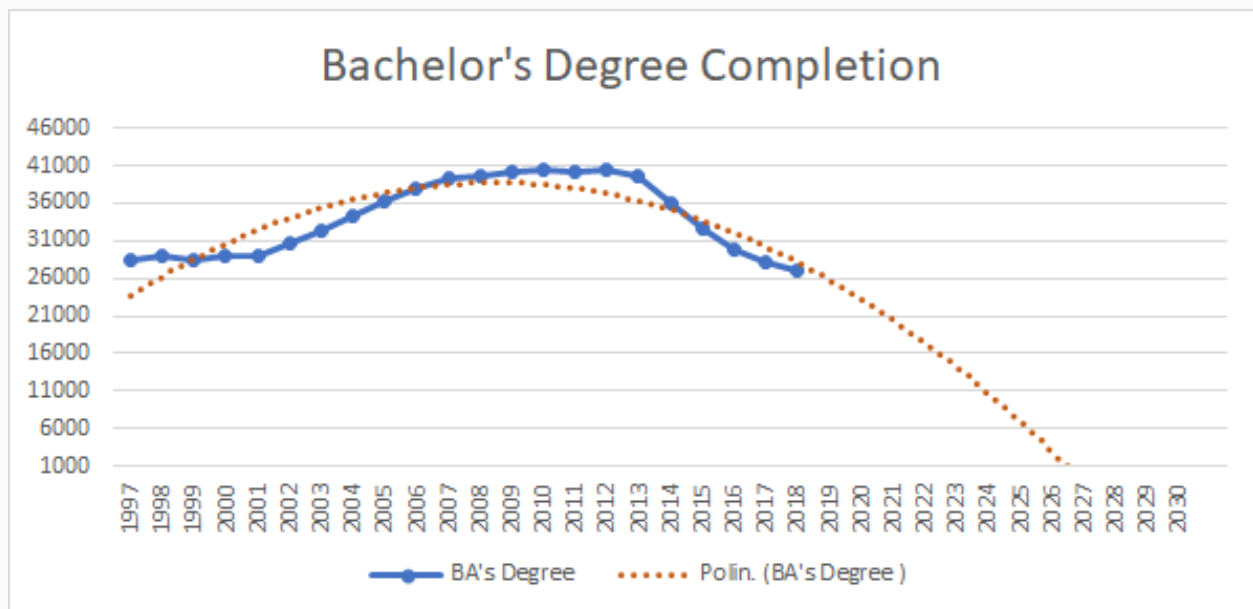
*SASA aims to inspire a broad, inclusive community of learners and students by building a grassroots movement through outreach, collaboration, accessibility, and public scholarship.*

*We bring together students, scholars, and motivated individuals to share their passion for studying the Ancient World.*

# The Downward Trend in Ancient Studies

Ancient Studies are diminishing in institutions of higher education. Although the Humanities are overall on the decline in colleges and universities, Ancient Studies are at the forefront of this downward trend.

Our [Downward Trend](#) research project documents this decline and complements the ongoing discussion with hard data. It is accompanied by SASA's newer project, [Ancient Studies Resources](#), a database for anyone interested in expanding their knowledge on Ancient Studies from reliable sources.



# The SASA Arc

We believe that raising awareness of the issue and advocating policy changes are not enough to help prevent the decline of Ancient Studies. Instead, we take proactive steps to counter the Downward Trend. Our initiatives are aimed at working towards six goals, that we refer to as “The SASA Arc.”

- ⇒ Generate and harness interest in the Ancient World
- ⇒ Raise awareness for Ancient Studies as the source of our knowledge of the Ancient World
- ⇒ Increase access to Ancient Studies
- ⇒ Support students who study Ancient Studies at all educational levels
- ⇒ Encourage Ancient Studies fields to act as one in public outreach for Ancient Studies
- ⇒ Create a wider, more inclusive community of Ancient Studies scholars, integrating those employed in academia and those employed in other fields

# SASA's Projects

## Archaeogaming Education

Archaeogaming is a new field that integrates the methods of archaeological discovery in the environment of video games, using interactive and collaborative play to teach and learn about the past.

SASA's Archaeogaming Project produces Video Learning Modules, which incorporate custom videos with lesson plans centered on specific Ancient Studies topics and themes. The project aims at creating engaging and easily adaptable content to be used in classrooms to help students explore the ancient world in a fun and memorable way.

## Reading Groups & Live Events

We aim to explore new topics each semester. SASA offers a wide variety of events, from monthly book clubs to live Q&As which are later uploaded onto our website. Our Texts-in-Translation groups connect those interested in the Ancient World through a range of topics explored in live weekly discussions.

## SASA Inspire Campaign

The aim of the campaign is to inspire curiosity, engagement, education, and enjoyment with and from the Ancient World. The campaign is conducted via social media which provides us with an opportunity for direct communication through creative content. Together with our followers we explore the world of ancient fanfiction and pop culture inspired by the Ancient World. We challenge each other via quizzes and expand our knowledge on Antiquity and Ancient Studies fields.

## Virtual Conferences

SASA is committed to spreading awareness of Ancient Studies through open and accessible scholarship. One of the means of achieving that goal is the presentation and support of excellent scholarship through the organization of our annual conferences. Our speakers are members of the academic community together with researchers who have not followed the traditional tenure-track career path. Last year's conference theme was 'Who Has the Power? Leaders and Leadership in the Ancient World'. The conference was held on 14 & 15 of August 2022. It was live-streamed on our [YouTube channel](#) and our partners' channels.

## Coalition of Ancient Studies Organizations (CASO)

Created in partnership with Society of Biblical Literature (SBL) and Society for Classical Studies (SCS), CASO is a new, formal network of academic organizations involved in any field throughout Ancient Studies. CASO aims to bring together Ancient Studies organizations, their members, and constituencies to work together on projects promoting public outreach, advocacy, and greater access to Ancient Studies. We aim at creating a broader platform for our fields to engage with national humanities advocacy organizations and further the cause of Ancient Studies within the Humanities.

## Ancient Studies Resources

SASAs Access Team aggregates and develops resources useful for Ancient Studies students and enthusiasts. Our first published offering is a [database of Ancient Studies websites](#).

## In Development

- Mentorship Program
- North Texas Branch Initiative

# Internship Program

Our annual internship cycle consists of three recurring programs focused around the following dates:

- ❖ Fall Semester: September 1 - December 31
- ❖ Spring Semester: January 10 - April 30
- ❖ Summer Semester: May 15 - August 15

Although we are working on providing funds for internships, our internships are currently unpaid. Our internships are a fantastic way of getting involved with a vibrant educational community and outreach-oriented non-profit in the Ancient Studies sector. SASA is looking for people from all kinds of backgrounds, who are interested in growing, developing their skills, and making a difference.

Internship hours range between 10-15 hours per week, although we can accommodate up to 25 hours per week to meet requirements for college credit.

## Teams in SASA

Communications Team

Live Events Team

Outreach Team

Research Team

Executive Team

Mentoring Team

Access Team

Fundraising

Grant Writing Team

Archaeogaming Team

Virtual Conference Team

North Texas Branch Initiative

SASA's internships are devised to be mutually beneficial. Our interns participate in various SASA projects, gain experience and knowledge in multiple areas, learn new skills, and build connections with numerous people in Ancient Studies and the nonprofit world. Interns work alongside more experienced volunteers under the guidance of our Team Leaders and the Director. Additionally, internships come with following opportunities:

- ➔ Monthly Professional Development Events on topics of interest to our volunteers e.g. applying for PhD's or networking
- ➔ Career Guidance/Mentoring by Appointment



→ Opportunity to cycle between multiple teams for academic-year-long interns

SASA is committed to creating a diverse environment and is proud to be an equal opportunity organization. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for internships without regard to race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, national origin, genetics, disability, age, or veteran status. We also welcome applicants from diverse educational backgrounds, aside from Ancient Studies, and those on any career trajectory. Currently, almost all positions with SASA are unpaid, including management, volunteers, and interns. SASA fully supports internships for college credit if approved by your school.

## Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the internship, interns will have learned about project management, working with deadlines, collaboration with global teams, networking, professional communication, non-profit administration, and outreach experience. SASA also offers two, one-hour professional development events required for interns on various topics, ranging from networking, how to apply to graduate school, academic and career planning, etc. All SASA teams use Slack and Google Suite, and certain teams work extensively with software programs like Wix, Salesforce, ClickUp, MailChimp, YouTube, Twitch, Hootsuite, and other social media platforms.

## Requirements

We are interested in working with and mentoring creative self-starters interested in using their internship to advance their career plans. We seek candidates who excel at working in remote environments, both alone and with a team. Interns may be undergraduates or graduates, the minimum age being 18. A degree in Ancient Studies is not required. As interns will be working with different teams, the requirements for internships are flexible, each team having their own specific needs. Familiarity with Google Suite (Gmail, Drive, Sheets, Docs, etc.) is preferred for all interns.

Predominantly, our internships are for you if you are interested and experienced in:

- Professional communications experience, including social media, mass email, website, and video production
- Event Coordination
- Research & Writing
- Journalism
- Graphic Design

- Data Mining and Management
- Grant Writing & Crowdfunding
- Nonprofit Administration & Organization

We ask of all our interns to be available at their team meeting times:

- Social Media Team: Tuesdays 10am - 11am EST
- Live Events Team: Tuesdays, 11am - 12pm EST
- Outreach Team: Sundays, 12pm - 1pm EST
- Research Team: Tuesdays, 9am - 10am EST
- Access Team: Tuesdays, 12pm - 1pm EST
- Fundraising Team: Mondays, 11:00am - 12:00pm EST
- Grant Writing Team: Tuesdays, 10:30am - 12pm EST
- Archaeogaming Education Modules Team: Thursday 12:30pm - 1:30pm EST
- Executive Team: Fridays, 1:00pm - 2:00pm EST
- Mentoring Team: Sundays, 12pm - 1pm EST
- Recruitment Team: Thursdays, 5:30pm - 6:30pm EST
- Mass Communications Team: Fridays, 10am - 11pm EST
- Virtual Conference Team: Mondays, 1pm - 2pm EST
- Salesforce Team: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3 pm - 3:30 pm EST
- Archaeogaming Live Team: Monthly meetings, time varies
- Inspire Campaign Team: Fridays, 12pm - 1pm EST
- Continuing Education Units Team: TBD
- Major Donor Coordinator Team: TBD
- Creative Team: Fridays, 1pm - 2pm EST
- Technical Team: TBD

## Our Teams

### Social Media Team

The Communications Team plays an integral role in SASA's messaging, look, and feel. The variety of social media content allows members of the team to exercise creativity and build skills transferable to a number of other workplace environments. Getting the word out about SASA is a great opportunity for networking and for furthering our shared goal of bringing ancient studies into the mainstream. The SASA Communications Team has been creating content on our social media channels to give the public an insight into all the exciting projects each of the Teams of SASA have been working hard on all year long.

## Mass Communications Team

The Inter-Organizational Communications Team provides all our mass mailings, our newsletter, and our blogs. Our Inter-Org team has started our brand new research blog, *Issues in Ancient Studies*, to showcase the work our Research Team is doing. We've also started sending out our newsletter, the *Oracle*, twice a month to keep up with the increasing output of our growing organization. We've been working on initializing a journalism project, too, focusing on universities closing their ancient studies departments.

## Outreach Team

This team forms relationships and partnerships with other organizations, individuals, and businesses to help further our mission and theirs. Interns will seek out potential partners, help draft language for our outreach, assist in planning strategy for effective outreach, and work to maintain and grow relationships.

## Research Team

The Research Team is the factual foundation of SASA's mission. Our initial Downward Trend study proved that the rate of academic support for ancient studies was in sharp decline, and spurred our organization to set about building a better future for our past. Our Research Team members work on a variety of projects looking into the way that ancient studies intersect with the modern world, from the ways in which our understanding of the past is colored by those who founded academic disciplines to the ways AI is reshaping the landscape of learning. Right now, the team is engaged in recreating our initial Downward Trend work in order to take a look at how things have shifted in the past four years, as well as looking at other metrics that more directly show SASA's impact on the landscape.

## Access Team

One of our primary methods for saving Ancient Studies is providing greater ease of access for students who want to begin studying the ancient world and developing their skills. We work to compile and present quality information to help students of any background make their way into Ancient Studies fields. We have published a database of free online resources in all Ancient Studies fields in August 2021, and we are currently compiling a list of colleges and universities that offer programs in Ancient Studies. The newest project of the Access Team is creating "how to" guides to demystify material that often goes untaught for beginners and college students.

## Archaeogaming Education Modules Team

SASA's Archaeogaming Education Modules, free to download classroom packs aimed at middle-grade education based on real history and popular video games, have been one of our greatest achievements to date. There are currently six completed AEMs on our website. This year, we received another grant from NJCH to complete two new modules! The work on the first of those, Egyptian religion, is proceeding on schedule, and research is beginning into a second on Feudal Japan. Meanwhile, we have revamped and updated the exercises accompanying our older modules, granting even greater flexibility to teachers using our material!

## Fundraising Team

The Fundraising Team runs SASA's annual fundraisers, the Birthday Bash in spring and the Halloween Bash in the fall, as well as smaller events throughout the year. The Fundraising Team is also responsible for putting our Annual Report together and for brainstorming future funding possibilities. Donations are the lifeblood of a nonprofit like SASA! The Fundraising Team brought back the Bazaar with new designs and implemented several giveaways that increased our fundraising opportunities. For the first time in SASA's history, we also set and met our fundraising goals for the Annual Conference and Halloween Bash. Our donor retention rate is high, and the feedback shows that those who do leave wish they could keep giving.

## Grant Writing Team

Our Grant Writing Team works in tandem with Fundraising to bring in the funding for our projects. The team also works closely with our SASA Ambassadors to find new ways to reach out to organizations who want to work with us. We continue to secure several grants from organizations that have worked with us in the past. We continue to build existing partnerships and look to obtain grants from new sources.

## Archaeogaming Education Team

We work with scholars to begin creating complete lesson plans, videos, and materials using video games with ancient-related content to explore themes and ideas of ancient history and society. These educational materials are distributed to a network of teachers for use in their classrooms. Preference will be given to individuals with prior experience in elementary and high school classroom settings and the development of script guidelines, editing of scripts, video editing and distribution.

## Live Events Team

We develop, plan, and run SASA's live events, including Book Clubs, Master Classes, and our popular Winter and Summer Reading Groups. We also run annual fundraising events like the SASA Birthday Bash and Halloween Bash. Members participate in the

entire event creation and production cycle, from soliciting new presenters to organizing events, assisting in live event production, to post-event communications, video editing, and management.

## Virtual Conference Team

Every year, SASA runs a public-facing, free virtual conference on ancient studies called Opening the Past. Our Virtual Conference Team is in charge of coordinating this grand undertaking, which involves not only arranging the speakers and technology, but also coordinating our messaging, working with video editors and field experts, and reaching out to scholars whose work is less visible to the academic circuit. The 2023 virtual conference, *Discovery, Science, and Technology in the Ancient World: Traditions and Innovations*, was a huge success, with four keynote speakers and two days of panels discussing the science of antiquity and how ancient thinkers thought about progress and technology. We had over 17,000 views over the two-day event. This coming conference, thanks to a grant from the Wenner-Gren Foundation, will be translated live into both Spanish and Arabic. Our team now has translators working in both languages to bring in papers and partners to stream to whole new populations. The upcoming topic is *Representations of the Past in Ancient and Modern Times*.

## Executive Team

This Team is the engine that keeps SASA running smoothly, handling SASA's administration, recruiting, finances, legal matters, productivity software, internal processes, and more. Since SASA is a fast-growing start-up organization, the Executive Team innovates new processes, procedures, and tools to support the development of all the other Teams. Participating in the Executive Team is an excellent opportunity for anyone interested in exploring non-profit management and administration.

## Inspire Team

The Inspire Campaign aims to utilize social media to spark a lifelong interest in Ancient Studies in teenagers and young adults. Interns would have the opportunity to work as part of a larger social media campaign, specifically focusing on content creation and historical research. Interns on the Inspire Team create content that interests them, as well as content that is relevant to the current social media zeitgeist.

## Recruitment Team

The Recruitment Team manages all of SASA's personnel needs, writing and maintaining job advertisements, onboarding new volunteers, and running our thrice-annual internship cycle. In 2023, the Recruitment Team successfully brought on over 100

interns and volunteers! We have worked hard to streamline the recruiting process and practices that we follow by creating recruitment guides and informational sheets for internal use.

## Mentoring Team

The Mentoring Team is designed for high school students who wish to pursue higher education in Ancient Studies disciplines and early undergraduate students who want to continue their education. The principal goal of this program is to empower our mentees by assisting them in making conscious choices regarding their education and career choices. Interns in our team actively participate in the entire program development process, which can take various forms, such as contributing to our guide or conducting research. Participation in our project is ideal for anyone interested in project management at non-profit organizations. We require no previous experience in this area. However, preference will be given to candidates who have experience working with Google Workspace and have excellent time management skills.

## Salesforce Team

Our Salesforce team at SASA plays a crucial role in managing and optimizing our customer relationship management system. This team is responsible for ensuring that our Salesforce platform is effectively utilized to track donor information, manage fundraising campaigns, volunteer recruitment, tracking mentorship, maintaining research databases, etc. Interns who join our Salesforce team play a vital role in supporting the day-to-day operations of our non profit CRM system. Their responsibilities may include data entry and maintenance, generating reports and analytics, assisting with troubleshooting and problem-solving, and providing user support and training. Interns will also have the opportunity to participate in project work, such as implementing new features or customizations within the Salesforce platform. Overall, our Salesforce team relies on the dedication and hard work of our interns to help us achieve our mission and goals. Through their contributions, interns gain valuable experience and skills in CRM management, data analysis, and project coordination, which can be applied to future career opportunities in the Salesforce ecosystem.

## Continuing Education Unit Team

Beyond the need to maintain credentials through continuing education (CEU) options, educators are constantly seeking opportunities to deepen their knowledge. Unfortunately, many existing providers offer expensive courses that lack a focus on ancient studies. The SASA CEU team aims to fill this gap by creating a rich and diverse selection of courses, workshops, and live events specifically tailored to educators

interested in deepening their knowledge of ancient studies. Interns will gain valuable experience by assisting the SASA CEU team in developing and implementing engaging professional development opportunities. This includes contributing to course materials and program design, such as crafting syllabi, website descriptions, lesson plans, presentations, and Learning Management System (LMS) setup.

## Archaeogaming Live

Archaeogaming Live runs weekly Twitch streams where we play video games and talk about their ancient studies content with relevant guest experts. We've played Stray Gods, Pentiment, Chants of Sennaar, and more, all available to watch on Twitch and YouTube. By the end of 2023, we had 488 Twitch followers and 40 episodes streamed for a total of 103 hours. On top of that, we also hosted specials with interviews with the publishers of books on historical video games, developers, and a roundtable on mythology in the Marvel Cinematic Universe.

## [Apply now!](#)

Internship applications are reviewed on a rolling basis for each semester.

To apply, please send a cover letter and resume to [recruitment@saveancientstudies.org](mailto:recruitment@saveancientstudies.org) or upload them in the webform on our [applications page](#). Please specify in your cover letter for which teams you think you would be best suited.