



Accredited Africa Training Institute for Capacity Development

Unit FO409, Hatfield Plaza · 1122 Burnett St, Hatfield 0028 · Pretoria, Gauteng · South Africa

Tel: +27 12 004 8389 · Mobile: +27 65 077 6310

Email: apply@aaticd.co.za · Website: www.aaticd.co.za

COURSE BROCHURE

Identify Evidence Of Past Human Activity Training

Human and Social Studies / Traditions, History and Legacies

Unit Standard 119872 · NQF Level 2 · 10 Credits · 7 Days

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course equips learners with the skills to identify, interpret, and record evidence of past human activity in archaeological, heritage, or environmental contexts. It promotes an understanding of how such evidence contributes to South Africa's rich cultural heritage and supports conservation and research efforts.

Category	Human and Social Studies
Subfield	Traditions, History and Legacies
Unit Standard	119872
Accreditation	SAQA Accredited · NQF Level 2 · 10 Credits
Duration	7 days
Training Method	Online, On-Campus, In-House
Certificate	Issued via AATICD LMS – verifiable online

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Identify and describe various types of evidence of past human activity, including artefacts, features, and ecofacts.
- Apply appropriate methods for recording and documenting evidence in the field using standardised forms and digital tools.
- Analyse the context and significance of evidence to determine its cultural and historical value.
- Evaluate potential impacts on heritage resources and propose mitigation measures.
- Demonstrate ethical practices in handling and reporting evidence in compliance with South African heritage legislation.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- This course is ideal for heritage practitioners, environmental monitors, archaeologists, museum staff, and anyone involved in field surveys or development projects that require heritage impact assessments.

COURSE OUTLINE

Day 1: Introduction to Archaeology and Human Activity Evidence

- What is archaeology?
- Types of evidence: artefacts, features, ecofacts, and structures.
- Principles of stratigraphy and superposition.
- Context and its importance.
- Overview of field survey methods.
- Introduction to site types: open sites, rock shelters, middens.

Day 2: Field Survey Techniques and Site Identification

- Systematic survey designs: grid, transect, and judgmental.
- Identifying surface scatters, shell middens, and stone tools.
- Using GPS and GIS for site recording.
- Differentiating cultural from natural features.
- Recording field observations: forms, photography, and sketches.
- Ethical considerations and permits.

Day 3: Excavation Methods and Stratigraphic Recording

- Excavation planning: grid setup, datum points, and baselines.
- Tools and techniques: trowelling, sieving, and section drawing.
- Stratigraphic principles and the Harris matrix.
- Recording layers, features, and interfaces.
- Soil sampling and flotation.
- Health and safety on site.

Day 4: Artefact Analysis and Classification

- Stone tool technology: flaking, raw materials, and tool types.
- Pottery analysis: fabric, form, decoration, and function.
- Bone and shell artefacts: modification and use-wear.
- Metal artefacts: identification and corrosion.
- Attribute analysis and typology.
- Artefact cataloguing: numbering, labelling, and database entry.

Day 5: Dating Methods and Chronological Frameworks

- Relative dating: stratigraphy, seriation, and cross-dating.
- Absolute dating: radiocarbon, luminescence, and dendrochronology.
- Sampling for radiocarbon: charcoal, bone, shell.
- Calibration curves and reporting dates.
- Integrating dating with stratigraphy.
- Case studies: dating South African sites.

Day 6: Interpreting Past Human Behaviour and Site Formation

- Spatial analysis: artefact distribution maps.
- Site formation processes: taphonomy, disturbance, and preservation.
- Ethnoarchaeology and experimental archaeology.
- Reconstructing diet, tool use, and craft activities.
- Identifying trade and exchange.

- Interpreting social structure and ritual.

Day 7: Reporting, Ethics, and Practical Integration

- Report structure: introduction, methods, results, interpretation, conclusion.
- South African heritage legislation: NHRA and SAHRA.
- Ethics: community engagement, reburial, and repatriation.
- Simulated site assessment: field survey, excavation, analysis.
- Group presentation of findings.
- Course review and assessment.

ASSESSMENT & CERTIFICATION

Delegates are assessed through exercises and a final test. A mark of **50% or above** earns an **AATICD Certificate of Completion**, issued digitally with a unique verification code. This course carries **10 NQF credits** at **NQF Level 2**.

PRICING (PER DELEGATE, EX-VAT)

Delegates	Training Method	Price per Delegate	Total
1	Online	R 28,200.00	R 28,200.00
1	In-House	R 36,700.00	R 36,700.00
1	On-Campus (Pretoria)	R 42,300.00	R 42,300.00

UPCOMING SESSIONS

Start	End	Method	Venue
10 Aug 2026	18 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Dubai, UAE
11 Aug 2026	19 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Pretoria, South Africa
12 Aug 2026	20 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Abu Dhabi, UAE
13 Aug 2026	21 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Durban, South Africa
13 Aug 2026	21 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Mauritius
14 Aug 2026	24 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Cape Town, South Africa
17 Aug 2026	25 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Pretoria, South Africa
18 Aug 2026	26 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Abu Dhabi, UAE

Contact us if no suitable date is listed – on-demand sessions can be arranged for groups.

HOW TO GET A QUOTE OR APPLY

1. **Get an instant quotation online:** visit www.aaticd.co.za, open the page for this course (Unit Standard 119872) and click **Get A Quote / Apply**. Select your training method and number of delegates – your quotation is generated immediately and emailed to you with the course brochure attached.
2. **Apply by email:** send the course title, your preferred training method (Online, In-House or On-Campus Pretoria), the number of delegates and your preferred dates to apply@aaticd.co.za – our team will reply with a formal quotation.
3. **Apply by phone or WhatsApp:** call +27 12 004 8389 or WhatsApp +27 65 077 6310 and we will prepare your quotation and reserve your seats.
4. **Confirm your booking:** accept the quotation and settle the invoice. As soon as payment is confirmed your delegates are enrolled and receive their AATICD LMS login details by email, along with joining instructions for their chosen training method.

Group discounts apply automatically – the more delegates you enrol, the lower the price per delegate. No payment is required to request a quotation.

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