



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

Demonstrate Knowledge Of Stone Age Archaeology Training

Human and Social Studies / Traditions, History and Legacies

Unit Standard 119877 · NQF Level 4 · 10 Credits · 7 Days

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course equips learners with comprehensive knowledge of Stone Age archaeology, focusing on the classification, dating, and interpretation of Stone Age artifacts and sites. It covers key archaeological methods, cultural sequences, and the significance of Stone Age heritage in South Africa.

Category	Human and Social Studies
Subfield	Traditions, History and Legacies
Unit Standard	119877
Accreditation	SAQA Accredited · NQF Level 4 · 10 Credits
Duration	7 days
Training Method	Online, On-Campus, In-House
Certificate	Issued via AATICD LMS – verifiable online

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Demonstrate understanding of the major subdivisions of the Stone Age (Early, Middle, Late) and their characteristic tool technologies.
- Apply basic archaeological dating methods, including relative and absolute techniques, to interpret Stone Age sequences.
- Analyze key South African Stone Age sites and their contributions to our understanding of human evolution.
- Evaluate the role of environmental factors in shaping Stone Age lifeways and cultural adaptations.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the ethical and legal frameworks governing archaeological heritage in South Africa.
- Interpret stone tool typology and technology to infer past human behaviors and subsistence strategies.

COURSE OUTLINE

Day 1: Introduction to Stone Age Archaeology and Key Concepts

- What is Stone Age archaeology?
- The three-age system: Stone Age, Bronze Age, Iron Age
- Subdivisions: Early Stone Age (ESA), Middle Stone Age (MSA), Late Stone Age (LSA)
- Key archaeological methods: survey, excavation, dating techniques
- Interdisciplinary connections: anthropology, geology, palaeontology
- Ethical considerations and heritage legislation in South Africa

Day 2: Early Stone Age – Technology and Hominin Evolution

- Oldowan tools: cores, flakes, and choppers
- Acheulean handaxes and cleavers
- Hominin species: Australopithecus, Paranthropus, early Homo
- Key sites: Sterkfontein, Swartkrans, Wonderwerk Cave
- Dating methods: palaeomagnetism, potassium-argon, uranium-series
- The role of environment in hominin evolution

Day 3: Middle Stone Age – Modern Human Behaviour and Innovation

- MSA toolkits: prepared core technology (Levallois), points, blades
- Symbolic artefacts: ochre use, ostrich eggshell beads, engraved objects
- Key sites: Blombos Cave, Sibudu Cave, Pinnacle Point
- Early evidence of fishing, shellfishing, and plant processing
- The Still Bay and Howiesons Poort industries
- Debates on the emergence of modern cognition

Day 4: Late Stone Age – Hunter-Gatherer Adaptations and Rock Art

- Microlithic technology: backed blades, segments, and composite tools
- Hunting, gathering, and fishing strategies
- Rock art: San paintings, engravings, and interpretation
- Key sites: Nelson Bay Cave, Elands Bay Cave, Drakensberg rock shelters
- Ostrich eggshell beads and personal adornment
- Climate change and landscape use in the Holocene
- The link between LSA and historical San peoples

Day 5: Archaeological Field Methods and Site Interpretation

- Survey techniques: pedestrian, remote sensing, GIS
- Excavation methods: grid systems, vertical and horizontal excavation
- Stratigraphy and the law of superposition
- Artefact analysis: lithic, faunal, and botanical remains
- Dating methods: radiocarbon, luminescence, electron spin resonance
- Ethnoarchaeology: learning from contemporary hunter-gatherers
- Experimental archaeology: replicating stone tools

Day 6: Heritage Management and Public Archaeology

- South African heritage legislation: NHRA, SAHRA, permits
- Site management and conservation: threats and mitigation
- Museums and collections: curation and access

- Community involvement and indigenous knowledge
- Rock art conservation and ethical issues
- Public archaeology: interpretation, tourism, and education
- Case studies: Cradle of Humankind, uKhahlamba-Drakensberg Park

Day 7: Synthesis, Current Research, and Practical Applications

- Case study analysis: e.g., Wonderwerk Cave or Blombos Cave
- Current debates: origins of modern behaviour, role of climate
- New technologies: DNA analysis, 3D scanning, virtual archaeology
- Career pathways and further study in archaeology
- Professional ethics and the role of the archaeologist
- Final assessment: group presentation or written exercise

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 4**.

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
07 Aug 2026	17 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Mauritius
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

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 119877) 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.

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 · WhatsApp: +27 65 077 6310 · apply@aaticd.co.za · www.aaticd.co.za