



Archaeology: the science of investigation

Archaeology is about reconstructing the physical past to obtain an understanding of how different civilisations and cultures have evolved over time. In this album, archaeologists from the British Museum explain the scientific processes involved in the discovery, investigation and interpretation of a variety of artefacts, such as skeletons, coins, textiles and metal artefacts unearthed at sites such as the famous Iron Age burial at Sutton Hoo, and Tell es-Sa'idiyeh in Jordan. The album also reveals how amateur archaeologists who use metal detectors contribute to creating a picture of ancient societies. This material forms part of the Open University course SA188 Archaeology: the science of investigation.