



IN/CL 395 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION: FIELD METHODS AND PRACTICE SEMINAR

IES Abroad Rome

DESCRIPTION:

The Internship offers experiential learning in the theories and methods of field excavation. Students will be included in a museum project at the Archaeology Study Collection of the American Academy in Rome working with archaeological materials including sculpture, terracotta figurines, coins, bronze objects, brick stamps, and architectural elements. These materials are in the process of being organized in a definitive museum environment and are currently being documented, categorized, and photographed according to modern museographic procedures and best practices. IES students have the unique opportunity of participating as interns on the project and to have a complete hands-on experience with archaeological material and documentation. Students also learn and apply methods for stratigraphic excavation, ceramic analysis, numismatic analysis, architectural construction materials and methods, data processing and documentation. The seminar provides the necessary framework to understand the processing of materials within the context of field archaeology and research.

CREDITS: 3 credits

CONTACT HOURS: 45

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: English

PREREQUISITES: None

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:

- Lectures
- Visual presentations
- Course-related trips
- Student presentations

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:

- Participation and presentation (25%)
- Journal and documentation (25%)
- Final exam (25%)
- Field supervisor evaluation (25%)

*Details Of Required Work:

The course is structured around work at the American Academy in Rome (10 hrs./week) and an internship seminar (1.5 hr./week). Attendance is mandatory at the excavation and seminar.

Journal: Students keep a daily journal in which they record their activities and compile written, graphic and photographic documentation of work at the placement.

Presentations: Students will identify a topic concerning aspects of their work and present it to the class alongside a written report or an AutoCAD drawing.

Grading Rubric for student participation:

A	Excellent participation The student's contributions reflect an active reading of the assigned bibliography. Skillfully synthesizes the main ideas of the readings and raises questions about the applications and implications of the material. Demonstrates, through questions and comments, that he or she has been capable of relating the main ideas in the readings to the other information discussed in the course, and with his or her own life experience. The student makes informed judgments about the readings and other ideas discussed in class, providing evidence and reasons. He/she respectfully states his/her reactions about other classmates' opinions, and is capable of contributing to the inquiry spiral with other questions. The student gets fully involved in the completion of the class activities.
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B	Very good participation The student's contributions show that the assigned materials are usually read. Most of the time the main ideas are identified, even though sometimes it seems that applications and implications of the information read were not properly reflected upon. The student is able to construct over others' contributions, but sometimes seems to interrupt the shared construction to go over tangents. He/she is respectful of others' ideas. Regularly involved in the activities but occasionally loses concentration or energy.
C	Regular participation The participant evidences a regular reading of the bibliography, but in a superficial way. He/she tries to construct over others' ideas, but commonly provides comments that indicate lack of preparation about the material. Frequently, contributions are shallow or unarticulated with the discussion in hand.
F	Insufficient participation Consistently, the participant reads in a shallow way or does not read at all. Does not participate in an informed way, and shows lack of interest in constructing over others' ideas.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of the course students will be able to:

- understand and apply the theory behind stratigraphic excavation methods;
- distinguish different typologies of archaeological materials and their significance in stratigraphic contexts;
- produce archaeological documentation;
- use the software Adobe AutoCAD to produce archaeological maps and drawings
- understand aspects of ancient Roman building practices and materials;
- know in detail all aspects of a major monument of Roman history and realize how its history can be understood through archaeological investigation;
- be familiar with the fundamental elements of field work that will enable them to continue studies in archaeology.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Attendance is mandatory for all IES classes, including field studies. If a student misses more than one class, 2 percentage points will be deducted from the final grade for every additional absence. It is the student's responsibility to remember to sign the attendance sheet given by the instructor every time both in class and on field studies. Any exams, tests, presentations, or other work missed due to student absences can only be rescheduled in cases of documented medical emergencies or family emergencies.

CONTENT:

Week	Content	Readings
Week 1	Introduction to field archaeology: general overview of the subject matter and its significance in studying ancient history.	Renfrew, <i>Archaeology</i> , ch. 1-2; Harris, <i>Principles of Archaeological Stratigraphy</i> , chs. 1-2.
Week 2	Introduction to the principles of stratigraphy; theory of deposition; diversity of field methods, recognizing stratigraphic units; the "Harris matrix" and the interpretation of a stratigraphic sequence. Harris matrix practice.	Harris, <i>Principles of Archaeological Stratigraphy</i> , chs. 5-6; Renfrew, <i>Archaeology</i> , ch.3 - 4.
Week 3	Procedures for documenting stratigraphic units: context sheets, photography, drawings, plans and cross sections.	Harris, <i>Principles of Archaeological Stratigraphy</i> , ch. 3, ch. 7-11.

Week 4	Technological tools for archaeological maps and drawings: Adobe AutoCAD, Maya. Issues of 3D reconstructions.	http://romereborn.frischerconsulting.com/ , http://vwhl.soic.indiana.edu/villa/index.php , http://www.byzantium1200.com/index.html
Week 5	Roman construction techniques and materials 1 Building walls, vaults and domes in poured concrete.	Adam, <i>Roman Building</i> , chs. 1-3; Lancaster, <i>Concrete Vaulted Construction in Imperial Rome</i> , ch. 3-5.
Week 6	Roman construction techniques and materials 2 The marble industry: marble, quarries and the production of architectural elements <i>Course-related trip: Pantheon</i>	Adam, <i>Roman Building</i> , ch. 2; Wilson Jones, <i>Principles of Roman Architecture</i> , ch. 10.
Week 7	Archaeological materials 1: architectural elements From column base to acroteria: the architectural orders in Rome	Wilson Jones, <i>Principles of Roman Architecture</i> , chs. 5 - 7
Week 8	Archaeological materials 2: ceramic analysis	Peña, <i>Roman Pottery in the Archaeological Record</i> , chs. 2-4.
Week 9	Archaeological materials 3: numismatics	Mattingly, <i>Roman Coins</i> , chs. 2-4
Week 10	Archaeological materials 4: inscriptions	Keppie, <i>Understanding Roman Inscriptions</i> , chs. 1-2
Week 11	Archaeological materials 5: course-related trip Capitoline Museums	
Week 12	Review for the final exam Final exam	

REQUIRED READINGS:

- Adam, J.P., *Roman Building*. London, 2007.
- Harris, E., *Principles of archaeological stratigraphy*. <http://www.harrismatrix.com>
- Keppie, L., *Understanding Roman Inscriptions*. 1991. London, 1991.
- Lancaster, L.C., *Concrete Vaulted Construction in Imperial Rome*. Cambridge, 2005.
- Renfrew, C., Bahn, P., *Archaeology: Theories, Methods and Practice*. London, 2008.
- Wilson Jones, M., *Principles of Roman Architecture*. New Haven, 2003.
- Mattingly, H., *Roman Coins*. London, 1986.
- Peña, J.T., *Roman Pottery in the Archaeological Record*. Cambridge, 2007. <http://romereborn.frischerconsulting.com/>,
<http://vwhl.soic.indiana.edu/villa/index.php>, <http://www.byzantium1200.com/index.html>

RECOMMENDED READINGS:

- Favro, D., *The Urban Image of Augustan Rome*, Cambridge, 1996.
- McDonald, *The Architecture of the Roman Empire*, New Haven, 1982.
- Ward-Perkins, J.B., *Roman Imperial Architecture*, London, 2001.
- Zanker, P., *The Power of Images in the Age of Augustus*, Ann Arbor, 1988.