# Course Unit Catalogue for students enrolled in AY 2023/2024 APPLIED CRITICAL ARCHAEOLOGY AND HERITAGE LEARNING OUTCOMES

First Year Course Units SSD CFU

**Group: 1. COMPULSORY UNITS** 

# 93140 Archaeological Landscapes (LM) L-ANT/10 6

By the end of the course students will understand and contextualize the approaches to the study of landscape in archaeology. They will know the main sources, the methods, tools and strategies applicable to the different contexts and scales of analysis. They will also display awareness of the multidisciplinary nature of the subject, the importance of dialogue with subsidiary sciences and specialists in the study of landscape, and the various entities responsible for protecting, planning and managing the territory. They will have an updated understanding of the evolution of the discipline and of the current international scientific debate. They will have a global and critical approach to the study of the ancient landscape, attentive to both geographical, natural and anthropic aspects, whilst maintaining archaeological and historical research problems in central place. They will be versed in the main diagnostic non-invasive survey methods and know how to choose the most appropriate ones according to variables in the environmental and cultural context. They will participate in debates on the contribution of information sources and methods of investigation and diagnosis.

# 93162 Archaeological Theory and Practice: Key Concepts (LM) L-ANT/08 4

By the end of the course students will show acquaintance with the main trends of archaeological thought, from the earliest days to recent times. They will be familiar with important theoretical areas of contemporary archaeology, including processual and post-processual archaeology, the archaeology of identity and gender, and the relationships between archaeology, history and politics. They will know about central themes such as the evolution of strategies and methods of field research (excavation and survey), the representation and communication of archaeological data. The skills acquired will enable students to study different types of archaeological contexts starting from solid theoretical and methodological bases, equipping them to address the planning of field research and interpretation of collected data. Students will also be able to conceive different forms of presentation and communication of archaeological data, based on an in-depth knowledge of the many options existing in this field.

#### 93163 New Frontiers of Archaeological Research (LM) L-ANT/01 4

By the end of the course students will show awareness of the most innovative disciplines relating to archaeological research. They will be able to document and interpret the various situations of investigation and analysis of the archaeological record, taking into account the theoretical and epistemological aspects. Students will have acquired interdisciplinary knowledge relating to geo-archaeological research, experimental archaeology applications, dating methods and evaluation systems for material culture. Students will be able to undertake archaeological research with knowledge of the most up-to-date methods and techniques and to undertake research planning. They will also be able to contribute to theoretical discussions on the discipline and assess the possible developments of interpretation and dissemination of archaeological research.

# 93164 Research Design, Dissemination and Valorisation (LM) L-ANT/10

By the end of the course students will be able to verify the procedures used in archaeological research, exploring the entire process from discovery to publication. They will have acquired interdisciplinary knowledge relating to field work, responsibility for technical and scientific productions and designing international research. The skills acquired will enable them to address the problems of research, conservation and protection of the archaeological heritage within their respective competences. They will be able to adapt the design process to different contexts and to the advancement of research.

93143	Archaeology of Production in the Ancient and Medieval World (LM	L-ANT/06 6
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By the end of the course students will know the material sources available for reconstructing the production processes and the function of objects and structures found in the archaeology of the ancient and medieval worlds, coping with the technical and anthropological aspects. They will recognize and critically examine the archaeological documentation relating to production sites and places of consumption in ancient and medieval finds; they will also know how to identify the diagnostic elements of material culture and have the tools to frame information in its correct chronological, historical, political and social context.

# 93105 Critical Archaeology and Heritage (LM) L-ANT/01 6

By the end of the course students will understand the main theoretical, historical, social and political-ethical issues of archaeological interpretation and the study of cultural heritage, seen broadly as a multidisciplinary research field studying the relationship between human societies and the material traces of their past. Both aspects (archaeological interpretation and cultural heritage) will be explored with an emphasis on diachronic perspectives.

#### 93141 Rome and the Universal (LM) L-ANT/03 6

At the end of the course students will have developed understanding of the conceptual grounds of the Universal claim in the Roman culture, which are to be connected to political-military elements as well as to cultural and juridical patterns. Students will show critical awareness of elements of continuity and change in representations and auto-representations of the roman universal cosmic order within historiographical debate and will be able to critically assess the relevance of the theme in the actual organisational and political patterns. Students will demonstrate capacity of applying a comparative approach to ancient sources and connect the roman idea of a Universal empire with other contemporary Universal empires, like e.g. Alexander the Great's empire or the Chinese Han dynasty's Empire, as well as a diachronic approach, by taking into account how the notion of universal imperial rule has shaped the idea of international order after the end of Antiquity, from the Middle Ages to the present days

#### 93144 Senior Seminar in Archaeological Practice (LM)

By the end of the workshop students will have an in-depth knowledge of the main tools in a selection of innovative archaeological topics, and know how to apply them to assigned individual activities. They will be able to address specific topics with an in-depth description of methods and data theories, achieving maturity and independence in their scientific research. They will understand the main scientific debates of recent prehistory, expounding critical points of view based on the main evidence from material culture.

#### Group: 2. TWO ELECTIVES AMONG THE FOLLOWING LIST: (12 CFU)

#### 93155 Archaeology and Writing (Lm) L-OR/01

By the end of the course students will know the main epigraphic disciplines from a comparative, diachronic and diatopic perspective. They will be able to analyse the writer's intention implicit in every written document in relation to the support and the type of archaeological context. Students will know how to use the main methods of documentation and study of inscriptions, including new developments in digital epigraphy. They will have a critical understanding of a written document qua archaeological find, thus enhancing its purely material side. They will also make independent use of the main corpora and repertoires (even digital ones), as provided by the epigraphic disciplines.

#### 93587 Cognitive Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (LM) L-OR/05

By the end of the course students will get a basic knowledge of the methodologies and of the perspectives of near eastern art history and the reading of symbolism embedded in the material record. Students will be able to recognize and critically examine visual materials, fine tuning the critical tools needed for interpreting ancient visual communication. They will also learn in particular elements on sculptural complexes of the Bronze and Iron age in Syria and South-East Anatolia with particular reference to visual communication and architectural settings. Several contexts will be analysed according to a critical approach which will be discussed together with the students also through the main scientific references on the relevant subjects.

### 93150 Colonialism, Archaeology and Museums (LM) M-DEA/01 6

During the course students will acquire an understanding of the historical and epistemological relationships linking the development of archaeology and museology with colonialism. Current debates on decolonization will be reviewed, with special attention to contemporary movements in countries with a colonial past and to debates involving topics such as repatriation of human remains and artefacts, local curators, and community archaeology. By the end of the course students will be able to set the history of archaeology and museums

in a wider epistemological framework, critically analysing archaeological and museological theory and practice. Students will also be able to apply their analytical skills to professional activities linked with the popularization and public use of archaeological and museum-linked expertise.

#### 93154 Digital Archaeology (LM)

L-ANT/10

By the end of the course students will know the new digital techniques to investigate, document, analyse and publicize monuments, sites and archaeological landscapes. They will know how to use GIS and Web-GIS systems, integrating information sources and mapping techniques. They will appreciate the value of the systematization and computerized management of archaeological data, databases and interpreted restitution. They will know about the potential of digital applications for archaeological research, towards a three-dimensional documentation of contexts, serving also for dissemination purposes and public use. They will use digital techniques and tools appropriately in archaeology. They will be able to choose the most correct approach in relation to the case study or archaeological goal.

#### L-ANT/01 93156 Networks and Mobility in Archaeology (LM)

By the end of the course students will have learnt the basic principles and applications of the methodologies for studying social interactions and mobility in archaeological research. The first half of the course is dedicated to introducing the methodologies of network analysis while the second half offers a first introductioin to bio-archaeological methodologies for the study of mobility. The knowledge acquired will enable students to understand the basics of network and bio-archaeological methodologies geared to the

# 95840 Provenance and Contextualisation of Papyrus Findings (Lm)

L-ANT/05

At the end of the course students will have acquired an understanding of the main problems and themes of Papyrology as an academic subject, and employ some of the main methodological tools to appreciate the importance of papyrus documents within the larger field of written cultural heritage. Students will be familiar with research regarding the text content as well as the materiality of manuscripts, and will be able to analyze the epistemic consequences of collecting manuscripts within the current debates on provenances of cultural artifacts. They will also be able to apply retrieval methods and tools (including digital repositories) for locating artifacts and the texts they are bearing and secondary bibliography. By the end of the course students will be able to comprehend the history of papyri's acquisition processes, dispersion of papyrus documents in museum libraries and private collections and understand ethical and scientific implications of such processes on historical contextualization of written documents and ancient archives. They will be able to apply their analytical skills to professional activities linked with manuscript collections in museums, libraries and other institutions.

### 98917 The Archaeology of the Roman Economy (LM)

L-ANT/07

By the end of the module students will have a general understanding of the use of archaeological methods and data in the context of the study of the Roman economy and will be able to critically assess relevant archaeological evidence. Underlying questions in this module are: what was the nature of the Roman economy? What has archaeology contributed to our picture of the Roman economy? The module is organized thematically and will largely focus on the Roman imperial era, with comparisons to earlier and/or later periods as appropriate. Topics covered will include transmarine trade, different types of production activities, and technological innovation.

### **Second Year**

**Course Units** 

SSD

CFU

#### **Group: 3. COMPULSORY UNITS**

#### 93165 Endangered Global Cultural Heritage: the Mediterranean and the Near East (Lm) L-OR/03 6

By the end of the course students will be aware of the issues, players and politics of the cultural heritage from a global historical perspective. Focusing on different case studies from the Mediterranean to the Near Eastern regions, students will learn how the cultural heritage has been manipulated and the strategies to prevent, protect and communicate it. The role of western intervention will be critically evaluated and compared to the local community perspective. Students will acquire a solid understanding of the international regulations on cultural heritage as well as the emerging role of the media in reshaping the way this is perceived and communicated. They will acquire some basic skills with the digital tools used in documenting and analysing endangered monuments and archaeological sites. They will also learn about the professional environment, internships and the job opportunities in this field. The methodological and practical skills they learn will enable students to form a critical assessment of the scientific and more popular approaches to the cultural heritage. They will also be able to carry out independent scientific research as well as to collaborate in professional activities preserving and publicizing this field. The different regions and diverse cultures considered will also allow students to relate to and work with heterogeneous cultural groups.

#### Group: 4. TWO ELECTIVES AMONG THE FOLLOWING LIST: (12 CFU)

B1741 Fieldwork and Laboratories (1) (LM) - Not available for the year 2023/2024	6
B1742 Fieldwork and Laboratories (2) (LM) - Not available for the year 2023/2024	6
B1743 Museum Stage, Heritage Stage (1) (LM) - Not available for the year 2023/2024	6

# Group: 5. TWO ELECTIVES AMONG THE FOLLOWING LIST: (12 CFU)

#### 93153 ARCHAEOLOGY, MEDIA, AND THE PUBLIC (LM) L-ANT/10 6

By the end of the course students will have an in-depth knowledge of the relationship between archaeological research, cultural heritage, media (meaning both traditional and new digital media) and the public. They will be critically aware of the strategies of communication and dissemination of archaeological knowledge adopted by the various people involved in the job of dissemination and enhancement. The knowledge acquired will make students proficient in assessing, monitoring and reporting in the media on communication activities relating to archaeology and the cultural heritage.

# 93155 Archaeology and Writing (Lm) L-OR/01 6

By the end of the course students will know the main epigraphic disciplines from a comparative, diachronic and diatopic perspective. They will be able to analyze the writer's intention implicit in every written document in relation to the support and the type of archaeological context. Students will know how to use the main methods of documentation and study of inscriptions, including new developments in digital epigraphy. They will have a critical understanding of a written document qua archaeological find, thus enhancing its purely material side. They will also make independent use of the main corpora and repertoires (even digital ones), as provided by the epigraphic disciplines.

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# 93150 Colonialism, Archaeology and Museums (LM) M-DEA/01 6

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#### 93154 Digital Archaeology (LM) L-ANT/10 6

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# 93147 HOUSEHOLD ARCHAEOLOGY (LM) L-ANT/07 6

By the end of the course students will have thoroughly studied and analysed domestic realities in a comparative, diachronic and diatopic perspective. They will understand the concept of the domestic nucleus and its relationship with the social unit, the different architectural structures, material culture and politicosocial and urbanistic organization inside and outside the settlement. Students will be able to analyse domestic contexts of different eras and critically insert them within a social and historical framework of reference. They will be independent in studying the scientific literature of this topic, in using the different

methodologies applied to reconstruction of contexts and in fitting them correctly into the social and economic models pertaining to the different archaeological cultures.

#### 93158 Iconography and Iconology (Lm)

L-ANT/06

By the end of the course students will know the historical, theoretical and methodological foundations of iconographic and iconological research. Through a diachronic examination of some examples, from Prehistory to the Middle Ages, students will become familiar with the world of ancient images and their semantic value. They will be able to go about a critical study of an image, especially if connected with a chronological and cultural period in which they are specializing. More generally, understanding images and the rules governing them will enable students to exploit their peculiar features and suitability for a broad and

#### 93159 Mediterranean Archaeology (Lm)

L-ANT/01

By the end of the course students will have in-depth knowledge of the archaeology of the Mediterranean: they will know the main theoretical-methodological approaches and archaeological contexts and learn at the same time how to describe, analyse and interpret archaeological data. They will be able to address specific topics with an in-depth description of the methods, data and theories, becoming mature and independent scientific researchers. They will be familiar with the main scientific debates in the field of prehistory and ancient history, expressing critical points of view based on the main evidence of material culture.

#### 93151 Museum Studies (Lm)

L-ANT/10

By the end of the course students will have studied museum history from being an institutional container for a collection, up to the idea of the modern archaeological museum with its complex organization. They will know the rudiments of museum theory, legislation and marketing. By studying museum methods and practices they will have the tools and methodologies to design an exhibition, or translate a "museum idea" (Museum, exhibition or archaeological park) into concrete reality, bearing in mind the cultural, display and communication aspects. Finally, they will have the analytical tools to monitor the flow of visitors. They will be able to apply the theoretical-scientific concept of Museology, in its various meanings and multi-functional sense, to the complex problems related to public enjoyment of the Archaeological Cultural Heritage. They will be able to take part in a critical debate on the subject, based on their own direct experience. Finally, they will profit by knowledge derived from monitoring the flow of visitors to improve their own powers of curatorship.

# 93156 Networks and Mobility in Archaeology (LM)

L-ANT/01

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L-ANT/05

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# 93160 Trade and Consumption in Antiquity (Lm)

L-ANT/07

By the end of the course students will have acquired the interpretative tools to analyse the phenomena of trade and consumption in the ancient world, including the different theoretical and methodological approaches devised by international research in the last few decades. Students will have the necessary critical tools to reflect on the case studies presented, adopting a diachronic and diatopic perspective and various angles of study. They will understand the different implications of trade and consumption in Antiquity, not only as historical and economic phenomena, but also insofar as they connect to the circulation of ideas, cultural models and social behaviours and are thus linked to reconstructing the identity of ancient societies. They will deal critically with the archaeological record and know how to set up research in this field of study.

Group: 7.	FINAL	<b>EXAMINATION</b>	(18	CFU	١
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A) Final examination (18 CFU) (max limit 18 CFU)

82058 Final Examination (Dissertation) (LM)

18

B) Final examination (6 CFU) with Preparation for the final examination abroad (12 CFU) (max limit 18 CFU)

86259 Final Examination (Dissertation) ( 6 CFU) (LM)

6

86234 Preparation for the Final Examination Abroad (12 CFU) (LM)

12

C) Final examination (6 CFU) with Internship abroad (6 CFU) and Preparation for the final examination abroad (6 CFU) (max limit 18 CFU)

86259 Final Examination (Dissertation) ( 6 CFU) (LM)

6

86238 Internship Abroad to Prepare for the Final Examination (6 CFU) (LM) 6

86232 Preparation for the Final Examination Abroad (6 CFU) (LM)