VNIVERSITAT DE VALÈNCIA

Course Guide
43124 Seminar. Household and funerary archaeology in the western mediterranean

COURSE DATA

Data Subject	
Code	43124
Name	Seminar. Household and funerary archaeology in the western mediterranean
Cycle	Master's degree
ECTS Credits	3.0
Academic year	2024 - 2025

Study (s)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
2143 - Master's Degree in Archaeology	Faculty of Geography and History	1	Second term

Subject-matter

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
2143 - Master's Degree in Archaeology	4 - Introduction to research and professional practice in archaeology	Optional

Coordination

Name	Department
AURA TORTOSA, JOAN EMILI	360 - Prehistory, Archaeology and Ancient History
BLASCO MARTIN, MARTA	360 - Prehistory, Archaeology and Ancient History
MACHAUSE LOPEZ, SONIA	360 - Prehistory, Archaeology and Ancient History

SUMMARY

This seminar is included inside the subject “Introduction to professional and research activities in Archaeology”, made up of a total of 5 elective seminars (students will choose 4 of them). The main aim of these elective seminars is to get a more in-depth research training by gaining insight from several perspectives, methodologies and backgrounds.

It is essential to approach archaeological studies from a multidisciplinar perspective (social, gender, queer, biological, anthropological) in order to better understand the dynamics of past human groups. The combination of archaeological, bioarchaeological, archaeometric and molecular data allows us to understand the transversality of the archaeological record and its ability to answer the questions raised. Funeral practices are a main indicator of the cognitive capacity and cultural variability of human populations. Domestic and funeral spaces are ideal places to study with a multidisciplinary approach with the aim of getting to know better the people who used them. It is in these spaces where the interpersonal

and social relationships of past human groups are expressed.

This seminar introduces students to the characteristics of these proxies and the issues they are able to raise. It also helps to shed light on the people and social groups through the archaeological record by reason of their sex, gender roles, age, social status and kinship. It also introduces them to the potential that archaeological sciences and biomolecular anthropology have in the study of human remains to obtain information about their lifeways (diet, provenance, territorial mobility, breastfeeding and weaning) and thus be able to articulate the research agenda around their day-to-day life and around the cosmovision expressed in the funerary world.

PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

Relationship to other subjects of the same degree

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

Other requirements

Students must have completed at least 20 credits obligatory for the Master.

COMPETENCES (RD 1393/2007) // LEARNING OUTCOMES (RD 822/2021)

LEARNING OUTCOMES (RD 1393/2007) // NO CONTENT (RD 822/2021)

- Ability to understand archaeological contexts and anthropological data.- Ability to analyze domestic and funerary spaces.- Ability to express and present specific cases.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

1. Seminar. Domestic and Funerary Archeology in the Mediterranean

This seminar will deal with different aspects and issues associated to prehistoric and archaeological research linked to the Masters research topics. Its main objective is for the students to ponder on specific archaeological cases from a domestic and funeral perspective that, ideally, could be linked to the topic of their Masters Thesis.

This seminar is divided into several learning sessions. The first one will be the course presentation, during which the main objectives and contents of the course will be shared with the students, as well as the recommended readings required to participate in the theoretical-practical lectures. During the following sessions, a first block on funerary archeology and a second block on domestic archaeology will be taught. To end the course, the students will present specific case studies that will be discussed collectively in the classroom.

2. Tutored Work

The course assignment will be carried out by the students under the supervision of a teacher. This assignment will be aimed at developing the skills of the students to confront research case studies and problems. The topics of these assignments will be agreed between students and teachers at the individual level and based on the research interest of the former.

This assignment implies an approach to an archaeological topic by the students, if possible linked to their Masters thesis topic, which will be done based on the published literature and/or empirical sources. The assignment will end up with the preparation of a 10-minute presentation that will be addressed to the whole class.

WORKLOAD

ACTIVITY	Hours	% To be attended
Theory classes	15,00	100
Development of group work	5,00	0
Development of individual work	15,00	0
Study and independent work	2,00	0
Preparing lectures	35,00	0
Preparation of practical classes and problem	3,00	0
TOTAL	**75,00**	

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

This course will consist of lectures given by the teachers, as well as presentations by the students. Readings will be provided to students in order to promote a deeper insight (both at the individual and collective level) on the subjects studied.

EVALUATION

The assessment of this seminar course will be based on a 10-minute presentation that will be presented in the classroom in front of both students and teachers. In order to pass the course, students should attend at least to 80% of the lectures. Class participation will be taken into account

REFERENCES

Basic

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- COLTOFEAN-ARIZANCU, L.; GAYDARSKA, B.; MATI, U. (Eds.) (2021): Gender Stereotypes in Archaeology. A short reflection in image and text. Ed. Sidestone Press, Leiden.
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- HERRÁN SUBIÑAS, M.; HIGUERO PLIEGO, A.; MORAL DE EUSEBIO, E. (2021): ¡Ha habido maricones toda la historia de la humanidad! Arqueología queer, o cómo cuestionar los sesgos cisheteronormativos. En: Jiménez Martín, D. (Ed.): La primera mentira: mitos y relatos distorsionados en la enseñanza de la Historia. Ed. Postmetropolis, pp. 55-74.
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- LULL, V.; PICAZO, M. (1989): Arqueología de la Muerte y estructura social. Archivo Español de Arqueología 62, pp. 5-20.
- PETTIT, P.B. (2011): The Palaeolithic origins of human burials. Ed. Rouledge, New York.
- PEÑALVER, T. (2022): La arquitectura doméstica de las ciudades romanas del territorio valenciano. Ed. Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, Madrid.
- PRADOS TORREIRA, L; LÓPEZ RUIZ, C. (Eds.) (2008): Arqueología del Género. 1er Encuentro Internacional en la UAM. Ed. Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Madrid.

- SÁNCHEZ ROMERO, M. (2022): Prehistorias de mujeres: Descubre lo que no te han contado sobre nosotras. Ed. Destino, Barcelona.
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