



CERTIFICATE IN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOIL MICROMORPHOLOGY AND PHYTOLITH ANALYSIS

Summer School - 5 to 10 August 2019 - Université libre de Bruxelles

Course description

This training programme builds on the unique expertise developed by the Research Centre in Archaeology and Heritage at the Université libre de Bruxelles combining micromorphology and phytolith analysis, shedding a new light on archaeological stratigraphy and the identification of human activity.

Programme

The Certificate in Archaeological Soil Micromorphology and Phytolith Analysis is a one-week summer training programme in English including preparatory readings, high-quality lectures, intensive microscopy sessions and an on-site visit in the Brussels area. It is divided into two courses:

1. Introduction to archaeological soil micromorphology
 - > General introduction to soil micromorphology: concept and principles
 - > Introduction to optical soil mineralogy
 - > Application of soil micromorphology to archaeology
2. Introduction to phytolith analysis
 - > General introduction to phytolith studies: concept and principles
 - > Introduction to phytolith studies in archaeological soil thin sections
 - > Application of phytolith analysis to archaeology

Selected participants will receive a list of required preparatory readings. The final assessment will take place at the end of the week. It will be based on image analysis and the description and interpretation of a soil thin section.

Credits

Participants will receive 10 credits upon successful completion of the programme.

Learning outcomes

This training programme aims to provide participants with the basic skills required for performing a comprehensive micromorphological study. They will learn:

- > the basic principles of soil micromorphology, optical mineralogy and phytolith studies
- > how to perform microscopic observations on soil thin sections, describe soil thin sections and interpret their observations
- > how to integrate their data within the larger framework of geoarchaeological studies.

Target audience

This programme is designed for graduate students, PhD students, researchers in archeology, history, art history, geology, agronomy, anthropology and for professionals in archaeology. It is accessible to candidates holding a bachelor degree or through recognition of prior learning.

Course leaders

Sébastien Clerbois, Prof.
Yannick Devos, Researcher
Luc Vrydaghs, Researcher
Research Centre in Archaeology and Heritage, ULB
<http://crea.ulb.ac.be>
Nadine Mattielli, Prof., Laboratoire G-TIME, ULB
<http://gtime.ulb.ac.be>

Practical information

- > Application: <https://bit.ly/2UU4YPx>
Applications will be reviewed by the jury in early April. Enrollment is limited to 15 participants.
- > Fees: €500 (tuition and coffee breaks)
Accommodation fee (student house, optional): €235
- > Location: Solbosch Campus, ULB, Brussels
- > More information:
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