

DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES AND CLASSICS, SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY, ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD SCHOOL AT THE VILLA OF TITUS, CASTEL SANT'ANGELO, ITALY, MAY 20 TO JUNE 21, 2019 (CLAS 3610 AND 3611 OR CLAS 4610 AND 4611)

The Department of Modern Languages and Classics invites applications for its archaeological field school to be taught onsite at the Villa di Tito (Villa of Titus) in the town of Castel Sant'Angelo (province of Rieti), Italy. Students will participate in an ongoing archaeological research project which involves the excavation of a very large Roman villa that was likely also an imperial estate. The goal of our research is to identify and study the parts of the villa associated with the daily activities and lives of non-elites (farmers, laborers, slaves, etc). We are also interested in documenting environmental changes and the economic life of the community through the analysis the site's assemblage of zooarchaeological and archaeobotanical remains.

LOCATION OF FIELD SCHOOL

The town of Castel Sant'Angelo is roughly 90 km northeast of Rome. The site at Castel Sant'Angelo is called colloquially the 'Villa di Tito' (Villa of Titus) and the 'Terme di Tito' (Baths of Titus), based on the supposition that it was once the property of the emperor Titus (reigned 79 – 81 CE), where he may have died. The ruins of a concrete, terraced Roman period structure (roughly 60 x 20 metres) have been visible since antiquity, and recent excavations in 2011 have suggest that the structure was a villa. In antiquity, this part of Italy was known as the Sabina, the home of the Sabines, among Rome's first Italian allies, and the site may also have origins sometime in the third century BCE. The site sits adjacent the ancient *lacus Cutiliae*, Lake Cutliae (modern Lago di Paterno), which was a sacred site to the Sabines, and also considered by the Romans to be the geographical centre of Italy, so a site of great cultural and religious significance. The entire area is rich in archaeological sites from the Italian Iron Age and Roman period, and was an important region during the Middle Ages as well, situated along the Via Salaria (Salt Road), which connected Rome to the Adriatic coast of Italy.



HISTORY OF THE PROJECT

This is the second year of a new field project. During the first year, we engaged in primarily excavation of the central concrete terrace structure to reveal more of the villa's overall plan and a monumental reception space. During the second year, we will also continue to excavate within the terraced structure, which we will document using digital photogrammetry and standard archaeological recording forms. Students will be trained in all basic operations associated with archaeological excavation, including digging, finds recovery, sieving, documentation, data entry, photography, drawing, and finds processing. There will also be some surface survey and an environmental archaeology component.



STUDENT ASSESSEMENT

Students will be graded on their ability to learn and execute various archaeological techniques in the field and the lab, on their entries in an archaeological daybook, and on a final exam or interpretative report. Students will enroll in two 3.0 credit hour courses (CLAS 3610, Field Study in Roman Archaeology and 3611, Roman Archaeology Field Laboratory) offered by Saint Mary's University through the Department of Modern Languages and Classics.

COSTS

For Canadian students, the tuition and fees for these two courses are between \$1,100 and \$1,200 (total). Non-Canadian Students pay double this fee. Students are also required to pay a \$2,000.00 participation fee to Saint Mary's University, which covers costs associated with the field school, including meals, accommodation, and transport to and from the site each day. This fee does NOT include airfare; students are required to arrange for their travel to and from the field school. In general, student airfare to and from Italy during the summer runs between 800 and 1100 dollars Canadian (depending on the point of departure, airline, and route). Students should also budget some amount of pocket money for the purchase of souvenirs and for entertainment.

ACCOMMODATION AND MEALS



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Students who are participating in the Vill of Titus field project are housed in a renovated 16th century farmhouse which recently has been converted into a guest house complete with bunks, wardrobes, bathrooms, and showers. At the moment, however, there are no washing machines, so students will have to hand-wash their clothing. Nearby towns and villages are home to shops, coffee bars, restaurants, and bank machines.

Breakfast, lunch, and dinner are provided from Monday to Friday. We will typically eat our meals at the guest house, although we will occasionally go out for dinner to local restaurants and pizzerias. For snacks, there are a number of small, local grocery stores that sell all manner of snack items and food.

WORK WEEK

Students will work in the field and lab 5 days/week, starting around 8 am and finishing in the late afternoon (between between 4:30 and 5:00 pm), depending on weather conditions. Weekends are free, although there will be optional trips to nearby archaeological and historical sites and museums, such as those at Rieti, Rome, Ostia, Tarquinia, and Orvieto. Students who are not interested in the scheduled trips may make their own weekend travel arrangements. A round trip ticket to Rome, including an all day public transportation pass, costs €8. Travel throughout Tuscany, including to Florence, is quick and easy, as are trips to the Bay of Naples area.

FACULTY AND STAFF

The field school is taught by Dr. Myles McCallum, Associate Professor, Department of Modern Languages and Classics, Saint Mary's University (email: myles.mccallum@smu.ca) and Dr. Martin Beckmann, Associate Professor, Department of Classics, McMaster University. Other faculty may include, Dr. Simone Nardelli, Dr. Marco di Lieto, and Dr. Anthony Taylor, as well as graduate student supervisors from institutions in Canada. Students will also have the opportunity to interact with Italian archaeology students who volunteer to work alongside us.

PREREQUISITES

The prerequisite for the field school (CLAS 3610 and 3611) is 3.0 credit hours of archaeology through a Classics or Anthropology Department, or 3.0 credit hours in Classics, or permission of the instructor. The course is not designed specifically for those majoring in Classics or archaeology, and is open to all students at Saint Mary's University. Those students with previous archaeological experience may take the course at the 4000-level (CLAS 4610 and 4611).

Application Process

If you are interested in applying to participate in the 2019 field school, please contact Dr. Myles McCallum, Department of Modern Languages and Classics, Saint Mary's University, Halifax, NS, Canada, via email at: myles.mccallum@smu.ca. If you have questions about the field school, you may also contact Dr. McCallum via email or by telephone at: (902) 420-5815. More information about the field school is available at: <http://caeresite.com/>

Expression of Interest

Name: _____ Phone: _____

A # (for Saint Mary's Students only): _____ E-mail: _____

Address: _____



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Academic Background and Interests:

Use the room provided below to explain briefly why you are interested in participating in the field school. What do you expect to get out of the archaeological field school at San Felice? Why would you be a good choice for the team?