



Dig in the Roman City of Sanisera (Menorca – Balearic Islands – Spain)

1. General Information

In 2008 **Sanisera Archaeology Institute for International Field Schools** started its courses at the Roman city of Sanisera. During all these years many students have come from all over the world to study abroad to Menorca (Balearic Islands, Spain) in order to dig up the Roman remains located at this classical site on the Northern coast of the island.

The research is focused on the archaeological excavation of Sanisera and it studies what happened in this Roman port connected to the maritime traffic that sailed the Mediterranean during those times. As a result, we know that this is a very interesting archaeological site, with abundant findings of multiple objects that will help us to reconstruct its past.

The excavation at the Roman city of Sanisera provides all the archaeological documentation necessary for the student to acquire enough training and experience in all aspects surrounding an excavation of the Roman civilization from the II century B.C. to the VI A.D.

2. What you will learn

2.1. In the Fieldwork:

- How to dig and which archaeological techniques are used.
- Use and handling of the tools that are used during the excavation process.
- Basic principles of stratigraphy.
- Recording the data obtained during the excavation using the Harris Method.
- Practice on the recognition of archaeological materials and Roman finds from the II century B.C. - VI A.D.
- Basic procedures for sample collection.

2.2. In the Laboratory

- Study and typological classification of archaeological objects of Roman archaeology: ceramics, numismatics, faunal remains, metals and glass.
- Relative dating based on the classification of archaeological objects discovered in stratigraphic sequence.

2.3. Theory

- History, archaeology, economy and culture of the Roman civilization.
- Introduction to the History of the Sanisera Site.
- Minorcan archaeology before the Roman conquest of the Balearic Islands.

3. Directed at

The training provided in this course and the experience you can acquire can strengthen you if you are thinking about archaeology in a professional level.

If you are contemplating for the first time to be a volunteer in an archaeology field school, this course could be right for you. This program accommodates participants with or without previous experience.

You can learn from the beginning excavation techniques and methodology. During the excavation you will find archaeological remains from the classical period including Roman pottery, amphorae, glass, etc. that you will learn how to identify in the laboratory.

The comprehensive experience that you will gain in this course will help you to decide if you want to pursue archaeology in university or as a profession.

Previous knowledge or experience in archaeology or computer systems is not required.

3. Field School life & language

The fieldwork focuses on Classical archaeology, and specifically on Roman archaeology.

On a normal working day at the Field School the staff members pick up the students from the residence with the vans to take them to the North of the island to get to the beautiful port of Sanitja, where the Roman city of Sanisera is located. Once there, students devote 4 hours to fieldwork, where they learn proper excavation techniques to improve their skills, while they dig in different buildings in an area of the city very close to the sea.

During fieldwork students recover the materials located in the rooms and other contexts, including tons of Roman ceramics such as amphorae and fine wares, glass wares, faunal remains and metal pieces such as adornments, tools and coins.

After fieldwork we go to the Field School center, where students have a sandwich break to get some energy back! Our center holds the laboratories, where students work with the Roman pottery found on site. The main aim is to wash, label, classify and prepare the materials' inventories. Also, students are given lectures on Roman pottery typologies (both for amphorae and fine wares), History of the site, archaeological practice and methodology and Classical History in the Western Mediterranean.

Digging at the Roman city of Sanisera is a first-hand experience to get an insight on the Classical world in a Mediterranean island.

It runs 7 hours a day, and is divided between excavation, lab work, exercises, and lectures. For every seven course days, there are two days off. The course is taught in English.

4. Certificates

At the end of the Field Program, students will receive a certificate of participation stating the hours and activities of the course. Participants that perform exceedingly well in the course may receive a letter of recommendation from our organization upon request.

5. Sessions & Cost

Sessions	Dates	Cost
Session #7	2025 August 01 – August 16	\$ 2000
Session #8	2025 August 19 – September 03	\$ 1700
Session #9	2025 September 06 – September 21	\$ 1700
Session #10	2025 September 24 – October 09	\$ 1700
Session #11	2025 October 12 – October 27	\$ 1700
Session #12	2025 October 30 – November 10	\$ 1500
Session #1	2026 May 01 – May 16	\$ 1500
Session #2	2026 May 19 – June 03	\$ 1600
Session #3	2026 June 06 – June 21	\$ 1800
Session #4	2026 June 26 – July 11	\$ 2000
Session #5	2026 July 14 – July 29	\$ 2000
Session #6	2026 August 01 – August 16	\$ 1800
Session #7	2026 August 19 – September 03	\$ 1600
Session #8	2026 September 06 – September 21	\$ 1600
Session #09	2026 September 24 – October 09	\$ 1600
Session #10	2026 October 12 – October 27	\$ 1600

6. Course fee

- Course tuition.
- Daily transportation to/from the archaeological fieldwork.
- Accident insurance at the site.
- Certificate of participation.
- Visits to museums and archaeological heritage of the island. It is also possible to visit places of charm and beaches.
- Accommodation in the Student Residence in Ciutadella. Rooms separated by sex provided with air conditioning for the summer season and heat pump for the fall and winter months.
- Scrupulous daily cleaning of the entire residence by professionals.
- [In case of needing to process Schengen Visa](#) the mandatory letter of invitation will be written so you can travel

Airfare not included from the student home to/from Menorca (Spain).

Meals are not included, although we will recommend some cafés and restaurants that do not exceed the average of 23 € /day in meals.

*** If you sign up for two sessions in a row (32 days) that take place in Menorca, the days between sessions (3 or 4 days) you will have the accommodation for free.**

7. Spaces available

The course is limited to 14 participants per session. Reservations are only effective when payment of the registration fee is received. If for any reason the course is cancelled, payment is returned according to the field school refund policy.

8. Information and reservations

Contact:

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Web page: www.archaeology.institute