SUMMER COURSE: ARCHAEOLOGICAL ANALYSIS (June 5th–July 3rd, 2017)
Concordia University (CLAS 370)

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

This is a call for application for a course on archaeological analysis to be held in Crete (Greece) in the summer of 2017.

This course trains students in the in-depth analysis of ancient archaeological artefacts from excavations at Aptera and Gournia, Crete (Greece). The first part combines the analysis of Roman pottery replication experiments to identify and understand local clay resources used in antiquity at Aptera. The second part of this course will introduce students to the processing (cataloguing, drawing, photograph, and data input) and analysis of several categories of finds from the recent excavations (2010-2014) at the Minoan site of Gournia, including ceramics, stone implements, metal objects, and architecture. Part one follows and enhances skills learned in CLAS 460; part two is the successor to CLAS 267, at a more intensive level. Students will learn the traditional approaches to identifying and analyzing ancient pottery and other artefacts (shapes, wares, sorting, data collection, recording) but also technological approaches (macroscopic analysis of ceramics, lithics, metal objects, photogrammetry of architectural remains and small finds, on-site Total Station and GPS recording of remains, and GIS applications) that are now a standard part of archaeological research. This work is intensely interdisciplinary, incorporating aspects of research training in ceramics, art history, ancient history, museology, geology, architecture, and archaeometallurgy. It goes beyond classroom instruction in training students to interpret individual artifacts within broader cultural and social models for two important chronological phases: the Aegean Bronze Age; the Roman Empire.

Directors: Dr Jane Francis (CMLL); Dr Matt Buell (CMLL); Dr Jennifer Moody (Research Associate, Dept. of Classics, University of Texas at Austin)

Associate Participants: Dr Vanna Niniou-Kindeli (Aptera excavations); Stavroula Markoulaki (Polyrrhenia excavations, Kissamos Museum); Dr Jerolyn Morrison (Minoan Tastes); Dr Tania Yangaki (Eleutherna excavations; Institute for Historical Research, Athens); Prof. L. Vance Watrous (University at Buffalo), Prof. John C. McEnroe (Hamilton College), Dr. R. Angus Smith (Brock University), Kevin G. Glowacki (Texas A&M)

Academic Schedule: Part I

June 5th: tour of the archaeological site of Aptera, discussion of site history; tour of pottery kiln at Stylos.

June 6-7th: lecture on west Cretan geology; location and digging of clay around Aptera.

June 8th: clay preparation; fieldtrips to Polyrrhenia, Kissamos Museum.

June 9th: clay preparation, formation of test strips, collection of fuel, preparation of firing site; fieldtrip to Marathi.

June 10th: fieldtrip to Rethymnon Museum; tour of excavations at Eleutherna, with emphasis on Roman pottery kilns

June 11th: firing of pottery (home of J. Moody, Boutsounaria); fieldtrip to Phalasarna; revisit of clay sources from earlier fieldwork by Francis and Moody.

June 12th-16th: Aptera excavation, research on excavated Roman pottery (strewing, reading of material, recording physical details, analysis of clay, photography, measuring, drawing); visit of Jerolyn

Morrison to cook Minoan dinner on replicas of Minoan pots, with lecture on Minoan pottery; follow-up study and recording of data from fired samples

June 17th: fieldtrip to Mesavlia; visit to Roman kiln site at Palaiochora

June 18th: student presentations and submission of course assignments

Academic Schedule: Part 2

June 19-July 3rd

Over the course of this two-week period students will rotate variously through units, spending 3-4 days on each category of artefact (ceramics, lithics, metals, and architecture). In each instance, students will be provided with a broad overview of the object class itself, including manufacturing techniques, materials, types, and use. Successive days will be spent working with the materials and documenting/cataloguing them, following the system designed for each object. All work will be conducted between 8am-2pm in the laboratories of the East Crete Centre, INSTAP. Afternoons will be spent working on assignments, punctuated by visits to archaeological sites. Projected fieldtrips will include Knossos and the Heraklion Museum, Malia and Sissi, Azoria/Vrondra/Kastro, and Palaikastro. In each case, tours will be provided by archaeologists currently working at these sites.

Assignments: 3 credits (CLAS 370). Students will present a 30-minute oral presentation on an aspect of their work (program 1), two publishable catalogue entries (programs 1 and 2) that includes a measured drawing, macroscopic photographs, and all pertinent details of their assigned pottery or other artifacts; and one long research paper to be graded by all course instructors.

Number of student places: 2

Logistics: the students will reside in rented accommodation in Chania, West Crete for the first phase and will be responsible for making their own arrangements; for the second academic unit students will reside in rented accommodations in the village of Pacheia Amos, East Crete. The daily rental cost for students in Pacheia Amos will be ca. $20-25. Lectures and the replication experiments will be held at the nearby home/research centre of Dr J. Moody for academic program 1 and at the East Crete Center, INSTAP for academic program 2. Daily transportation and field trips will be provided. Students will provide their own basic equipment; more specialized tools will be supplied by the directors. Students will also be required to join the Canadian Institute in Greece and to obtain Museum and Site passes through this institution (http://www.cig-icg.gr/membership).

Application Process: Applicants will be required to submit the attached application form, including a statement of why they feel this project is important to their academic program. See attached application form.

Deadline: March 31st, 2017

Participants must be able to withstand hot weather, rough terrain, and be reasonably physically fit. They must be able to work cheerfully alongside other students and faculty and to contribute to the goals of the projects.