# COURSE DATA

## DATA SUBJECT

**Code:** 43110
**Name:** Introduction to prospecting and excavation systems
**Cycle:** Master's Degree
**ECTS Credits:** 2
**Academic year:** 2026-27

## STUDY (S)

| Degree | Center | Acad. year | Period |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2143 - Master's Degree in Archaeology | Facultat de Geografia i Història | 1 | First quarter |

## SUBJECT-MATTER

| Degree | Subject-matter | Character |
|---|---|---|
| 2143 - Master's Degree in Archaeology | Theory and practice of archaeology | COMPULSORY |

## COORDINATION

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# SUMMARY

The subject has as aim to form the students in fieldwork technologies (survey and excavation), as well as in the procedures to request the permissions to the administration and the basic management of the generated information. This is indispensable for the exercise of the archaeological practice.

This subject will prepare to the students to face adequately the fieldwork both of management and of investigation, since it will allow him to value the interest of an archaeological deposit, to establish the strategy most adapted for his intervention, to interpret the archaeological record in key of resources, anthropic activity, on the natural way and environmental change, to issue the reports and to use the IT, cartographic tools and statistics, indispensable, at present, in the practice of the archaeology of management and investigation.

For these reasons we have been programmed two workshops of eminently practical character: work of laboratory and exits to the field.

# PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

## RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE

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

## OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Prerequisites do not exist to deal the subject but it is suitable to initiate the course there being the read someone of the basic recommended readings which texts will be available from the beginning of course in the Virtual Classroom. Especially, the students that comes from qualifications different from the Degree of History

# COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

## 2143 - Master's Degree in Archaeology

Adquirir y asumir los principios de la ética profesional o investigadora en relación con la Arqueología de cara a su futura labor profesional y respetar la legislación en materia de Patrimonio arqueológico.

Analizar y sintetizar información de manera crítica.Trabajar de forma autónoma, resolviendo problemas y tomando decisiones.

Capacidad para delimitar las características de un yacimiento arqueológico y su interés

Capacidad para establecer la estrategia más adecuada de excavación y documentación, diseñando un plan de acción razonado y evaluado en términos económicos.

Integrarse en el trabajo arqueológico en equipo, considerando la diversidad de campos de actuación y la formación que implica la labor de campo o la investigación arqueológica.

Students should apply acquired knowledge to solve problems in unfamiliar contexts within their field of study, including multidisciplinary scenarios.

Students should be able to integrate knowledge and address the complexity of making informed judgments based on incomplete or limited information, including reflections on the social and ethical responsibilities associated with the application of their knowledge and judgments.

Students should demonstrate self-directed learning skills for continued academic growth.

Students should possess and understand foundational knowledge that enables original thinking and research in the field.

Valorar las estrategias de desarrollo de la actividad de campo y de gestión, o de investigación en Arqueología. Habida cuenta de que cualquier actividad de campo, de gestión o de investigación en Arqueología requiere una adecuada comprensión de los objetivos, tiempos, medios y recursos disponibles, así como una planificación adecuada de las metodologías y acciones a llevar a cabo en relación con los mismos.

# DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

## 1.

1. Definition and types.
2. Materials needed: paper and digital maps, GPS.
3. Systematic prospecting.
4. Systems.
5. Elements to be account of (material culture, archaeological and ethnographic structures, landscape).
6. Auxiliary prospecting techniques: aerial photography, geophysical survey, teledetection.
7. Practices

## 2. The Excavation

1. Definition and goals.
2. Excavation types: open area, trenches, other.
3. Systems: Laplace, Wheeler, Harris. Materials.
4. Record systems: diary, drawns, phtography. The tridimensional record.
5. Information and Management Archaeological Systems.
6. Matrix Harris exercices.

## 3. Management Documents

# WORKLOAD

### PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

| Activity | Hours |
|---|---|
| Theory | 12,00 |
| **Total hours** | **12,00** |

### NON PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

| Activity | Hours |
|---|---|
| Attendance at other activities | 0,00 |
| Individual or group project | 5,00 |
| Independent study and work | 2,00 |
| Preparation of lessons | 4,00 |
| Preparation for assessment activities | 0,00 |
| Resolution of case studies | 4,00 |
| **Total hours** | **15,00** |

# TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The subject has two parts with a well-differentiated methodology: theoretical expositions and practical classes in the classroom and outside the campus (Workshops). Classes are taught at two hours in which theoretical knowledge will be given except in the case of practical classes (Workshops) and field trips that will have a specific schedule. Its development will have the audiovisual means to use (presentations and projection of digital files). These classes will be masterful and practical. It will be proposed that the students take readings prior to the exposition by the teachers. The readings will usually be from articles or from some chapter of the manuals. The readings will be monitored through the exercises performed during the practice time and during the theoretical classes. The practical classes and field trips of the Workshops aim to reinforce and apply to specific acquired during the theoretical classes. In the tutoring schedule the students can raise problems or questions about cases the knowledge the development of the subject to the responsible teacher. In the training, it is important that part of the learning takes place outsidethe classroom, in direct contact with the testimonies of the archaeological heritage, or by attending conferences and seminars. This procedure allows awareness and direct perception of reality. In this line the exits to the field are programmed and students are encouraged to participate in seminars, conferences and visits.

## EVALUATION

The methodological approach mentioned above aims to promote frequent and continuous contact between teachers and students so that it is possible to know the progress of their learning and to carry out an assessment of this in several levels and taking care of several aspects. Thus, the evaluation of the subject will consist of a continuous assessment complemented with objective data from the work carried out by the students:

- Presence at 80% of the classes.
- -Mandatory presentation: Execution of a permit request for excavation and scheduling of the survey to be done in one of the workshops (in the classroom, most of the work is done). Development of the Harris diagram from a given imaginary or real assumption.
- The participation in class, the way of presenting the works and the content of the works will be assessed.
- Presence at conferences, seminars and guided tours: As already indicated, a set of activities outside the classroom with a compulsory nature can be programmed, which students must account for by actively assisting them.

## REFERENCES

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- Butzer,K.(1989): Arqueología una ecología del hombre. Bellaterra. Barcelona
- Carandini, A. (1996): Historia de la Tierra. Ed. Critica.
- Domingo, I.,Burke, H. Smith, C. (2007): Manual de Campo del arqueólogo. Ed. Ariel, col. Prehistoria.
- Harris, E.C. (1991): Principios de estratigrafía arqueológica. Ed. Crítica.
- García-Diez, M.; Zapata, L. (eds.) (2013): Métodos y técnicas de análisis y estudio en arqueología

prehistórica. De lo técnico a la reconstrucción de los grupos humanos. Universidad del País Vasco.
- García Sanjuán, L. (2004): Introducción al reconocimiento y análisis arqueológico del territorio. Ed. Ariel, col. Prehistoria.
- Laplace, G. (1973): Sobre la aplicación de las coordenadas cartesianas en la excavación estratigráfica. Speleon 20, 139-159.
- Roskans,S. (2003): Teoría y práctica de la excavación. Ed. Crítica.
- Tartaron, T.F. (2003): The Archaeological Survey: Sampling Strategies and Field Methods Hesperia Supplements, Vol. 32, Landscape Archaeology in Southen Epirus, Greece I (2003), pp. 23-45. Stable URL: http://www.jstor.org/stable/1354045.

- http://i.syslat.net/
- http://www.harrismatrix.com