

VII FIELDSCHOOL POZZEVERI IN MEDIEVAL ARCHAEOLOGY AND BIOARCHAEOLOGY 2020

The Field School in Medieval Archaeology and Bioarchaeology at Badia Pozzeveri (Lucca, Italy) is an academic program aimed at training students in archaeological and bioarchaeological field and laboratory methods.

Excavations take place at the church of "San Pietro a Pozzeveri" in the municipality of Altopascio. Badia Pozzeveri is located approximately 10 miles east of the city of Lucca, capital of the Tuscan province of the same name. San Pietro's church was once part of a Camaldolese monastery, which was founded in the 11th century on the shores of Lake Bientina. The medieval lake, now entirely dried up, extended between Lucca and the Arno River. The monastery flourished during the 12-13th centuries thanks to its location along the Via Francigena, a major trade and pilgrimage route, which connected France and Northern Europe with Rome throughout the entire Middle Ages. The monastery's decline started in the 14th century and eventually led to its dissolution in the 15th century. San Pietro's church remained as the village's center of worship and is still in use.

The field school is a project created by the University of Pisa and managed by IRLAB, investigating biocultural complexity in the region surrounding Lucca during the Middle Ages.

Specifically, the research project has the following objectives:

- Excavation and analysis of the monastery's cemetery, with particular attention to population demography, burial typology, and funerary ritual.
- Bioarchaeological analysis of the medieval population buried at Badia Pozzeveri, with particular attention to biological diversity, paleopathology, and activity patterns.
- Reconstruction of the settlement's evolution from the Early Middle Ages until Modern times.
- Analysis of material culture from a monastic center along the Via Francigena, with particular attention to trade dynamics, diffusion of technical knowledge and economic activities related to monastic life.

STAFF

Scientific supervisor:

Gino Fornaciari

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Scientific Director:

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Field supervisors:

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Informatics supervisor:

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Osteolab supervisor:

Alessio Amaro

Academic coordinator:

Anna Tremblay

Student coordinator:

Hayley Malloy

Restoration supervisor:

Maurizio Sparavelli



LANGUAGE

THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF THE FIELDSCHOOL IS ENGLISH AND NO KNOWLEDGE OF ITALIAN IS REQUIRED.

DATES FOR 2018 FIELDSCHOOL

First session: June 22 to July 17

Second session: July 20 to August 14

LOCATION

- Badia Pozzeveri - Altopascio (Lucca), ITALY

TUITION AND FEES

COST: \$2,250 (1 session) / \$4,000 (2 sessions)

The cost includes Field School activities (excavation practice, lectures, laboratory activities and instruments), food (MON to FRI: breakfast, lunch and dinner), accommodation and pick-ups from the arriving airport.

CREDITS

- Earning of 12 undergraduate ECTS credits through the University of Pisa
- Certificate of participation from the University of Pisa
- Certificate of participation from IRLAB

The field school at Badia Pozzeveri is an outstanding opportunity for students to gain practical experience in archaeological excavation and bioarchaeological investigation by working side-by-side with leading researchers in the field. The field school is designed to provide participants with knowledge of archaeological field methods – including survey, excavation, and GIS (Geographic Information Systems) – and bioarchaeological field and research methods – recovery, restoration, and analysis of human skeletal remains. Practical, hands-on experience in the field will be complemented by laboratory activity in archaeology and bioarchaeology. Lectures by the directors and instructors on their research will also provide students with insights in the theory and practice of archaeology and physical anthropology.