

The version you're consulting is not final. This course description may change. The final version will be published on 1st June.

5.00 credits

22.5 h


Q2



This biannual learning unit is not being organized in 2025-2026 !

Teacher(s)	Cauwe Nicolas ;Langohr Charlotte ;
Language :	French > English-friendly
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve
Main themes	This biannual seminar introduces to the concepts and methods relating to the application of life sciences in archaeology. Each year, a choice will be made among the disciplines of archaeobotany and archaeozoology, biological anthropology and archaeoethnology. Ethnoarchaeology, its aims, methods, use in contemporary archaeological practice and criticisms of it may also be discussed.
Learning outcomes	
Evaluation methods	The evaluation of the annual seminar is based on an original essay. The theme of the work is directly related to the disciplines and fields of study that have been presented and discussed in the sessions proposed by experts. In the form of individual or group work, the student or group of students analyses an article or a pair of articles submitted to them and writes a critical report. It will be the subject of a detailed oral presentation by the students to their peers (individually or in groups), and followed by a discussion. If necessary, written support for the oral presentation must be submitted. Depending on the themes selected during the seminar, the evaluation may also involve the production of video clips, and/or the organisation of an exhibition. Related to LARKO2710, 5 days of internship completes the training of the seminars LARKO2241 and LARKO2242. Its assessment is an integral part of LARKO2710.
Teaching methods	The seminar is divided into joint sessions (general introduction to the seminar, sessions in the form of lectures by one or more guest expert(s) who address(es) at least two different themes/disciplinary fields, selected annually) and individual/group work by the students. Some sessions take the form of a general introduction (concepts, methods of analysis, research questions), others focus on the in-depth presentation of specific case studies. Sessions can be prepared by preliminary readings and questions addressed by the students. Some sessions may, if necessary, take the form of a visit to a laboratory, workshop or museum. The course will also include practical work in small groups, in connection with the subject areas studied. Laboratory methods may be trained during the internship LARKE2710, of which at least 5 working days are devoted to the management and enhancement of archaeological or natural science collections, the study of archaeological objects or materials, the processing and dissemination of results (exhibition, portfolio or educational project, etc.).
Content	Introduction to the disciplines of archaeobotany and archaeozoology, focusing on their their complementarity. Introduction to the modes of exploitation of animal and plant resources (indices of domestication, cultivation and breeding practices, consumption profiles). The sampling, recording and description methods, the study and interpretation of plant remains (seeds, fruits, wood, pollens, etc.), animal bones and invertebrate remains (arthropods, molluscs, etc.) will be presented through a theoretical approach and case studies. The archaeometrical research that can be carried out on these biorests will also be discussed. Methods of conservation, biological anthropological description and measurement of the bone remains will be discussed through a theoretical approach and case studies. Theoretical and thematic questions related to the history of funerary archaeology may also be addressed, in order to introduce students to the problematic of interpreting funerary data. Some notions may be explored transversally, such as secondary burials, collective tombs, or ethics in funerary archaeology. Theoretical benchmarks and case studies in ethnoarchaeology will be presented and discussed by guest speakers, inviting students to position themselves to the chosen themes.
Inline resources	Dedicated Moodle space including documentary files and useful supports according to the activities organized.
Bibliography	Une bibliographie est proposée, en fonction des thèmes abordés.

Faculty or entity in charge	EHAC
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Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)				
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Learning outcomes
Master [120] in History of Art and Archaeology : General	ARKE2M	5		
Master [60] in History of Art and Archaeology : General	ARKE2M1	5		