

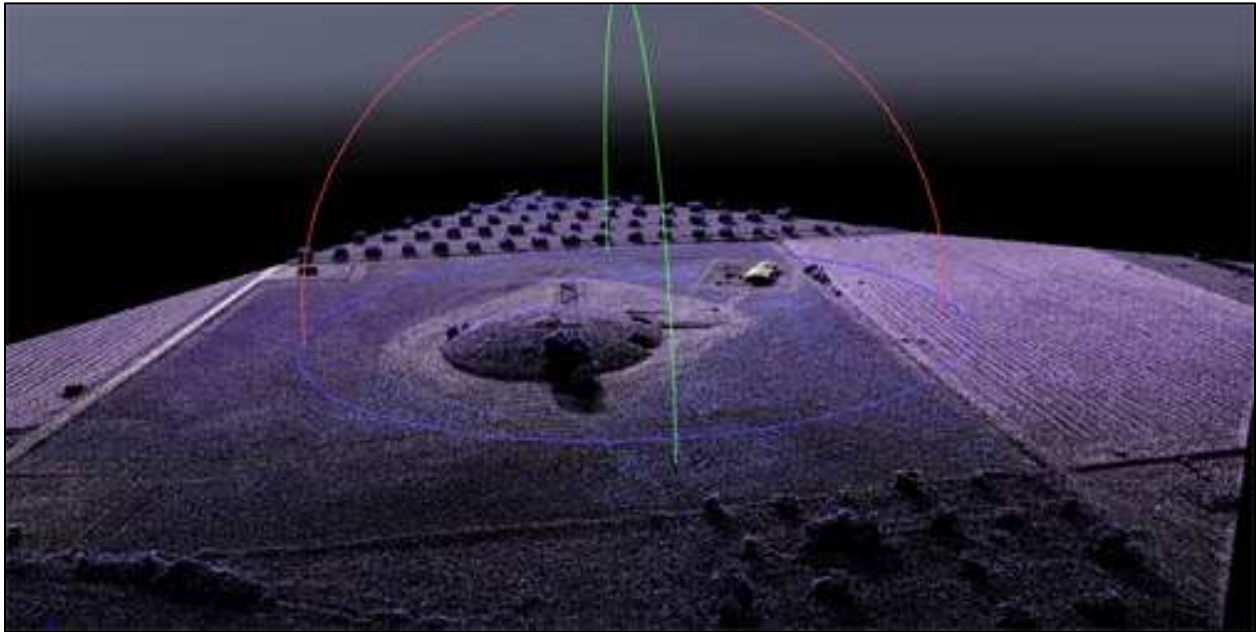
# The Vulci 3000 Project, Italy

Course ID: XL 159

June 18 – July 22, 2017

## FIELD SCHOOL DIRECTOR:

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## INTRODUCTION

Vulci 3000 is a multidisciplinary project of archaeological research involving the use of advanced digital technologies and focused on the Etruscan and Roman site of Vulci (Italy). Vulci (10<sup>th</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. BCE-4<sup>th</sup> c. CE) is located at the Province of Viterbo in central Italy. It was one of the largest and most important cities of ancient Etruria and one of the biggest cities in the 1<sup>st</sup> millennium BCE in the Italian peninsula. The habitation site is a uniquely stratified and mostly untouched urban context that includes, in the same area, Iron Age, Etruscan, Roman and Medieval settlements. It had an area of circa 126 hectares and an estimated population of thousands during the Classical period (6<sup>th</sup>-5th cent. BCE). It was part of the Etruscan *dodecapolis*, the Etruscan federation of the most important cities of Etruria. In 280 BCE, the Romanization of Vulci is the beginning of its decline.

The study of Etruscan cities and urbanism is very much related to the concept of City-State and its organization. City-States are a very complex and independent socio-economic unit, self-organized but open to trading and connections in and out of the confines of Etruscan territory. The study of Vulci opens new research perspectives on the origin, development and transformation of Etruscan cities and their surrounding landscape. "Transformation" is the key word for a contextualization of the site and a new understanding of its urban identity. In other words, this project analyzes and track the transformation and development of Vulci into a city and City-State and finally into a Roman city. All these broad research questions have to be correlated with stratigraphic evidence, a general understanding of the urban context and combination of non-destructive techniques with archaeological

excavations. More broadly, the Vulci 3000 Project will produce, in the long term, new research perspectives concerning the organization of the ancient territory, demography, and city plans; the diachronic relationships between ancient cities and landscape, and the organization of ancient urban and rural centers in both Etruscan and Roman times.

The 2017 fieldwork season will focus on the Western Forum and excavations of several Roman public buildings overlapping important Etruscan monuments and ritual spaces.

#### ACADEMIC CREDIT UNITS & TRANSCRIPTS

**Credit Units:** Attending students will be awarded 12 quarter credit units (equivalent to 8 semester units) through our academic partner, UCLA Extension. UCLA is a top ranked research university and its archaeology program is ranked amongst the best in the country. All IFR field schools instructors and curricula are approved both by the corresponding academic department and the Academic Senate at UCLA. This field school provides a minimum of 192 direct instructional hours.

**Transcripts:** Transcripts are available through UCLA UnEX and instructions for ordering transcripts may be found at <http://bit.ly/2bD0Z3E>. Grades will be posted and transcript available usually within six weeks after the end of this field school. All IFR field schools are designated XL classes – courses that are equivalent to undergraduate courses offered by the UCLA regular session. All XL courses are transferable for unit and subject credit toward the Bachelor's Degree at all campuses of the UC and CSU systems. Classes numbered 100 to 199 are considered upper division (junior/senior). For more information, go to <http://bit.ly/2bjAqmy>.

**UCLA students:** Students can take classes through UCLA Extension to complete requirements. However certain considerations must be taken into account. For more information, go to <http://bit.ly/2bJWeHK>.

**Credit Units Transfer:** Most universities accept UCLA credit units – there are very few exceptions. Students are strongly encouraged to discuss the transferability of the credit units with school officials BEFORE attending the field school.

#### COURSE OBJECTIVES

The objective of this field school is to enable students to better understand how archaeology is practiced in the field, to study ancient cities and their relation with different societies – in this case the Roman and the Etruscan ones – and finally, to provide an advanced training in digital technologies applied to archaeology. These include remote sensing, photogrammetry, virtual reality, drones, GIS, WEB-GISs and special archaeometric analyses.

This field school has the following primary goals: (1) to provide students a practical working knowledge of **archaeological field methods**, including mapping, excavation, laboratory analysis, artifact cataloging, and conservation; and (2) to introduce students to the systematic use of digital technologies in archaeology: data documentation on site, drones, laser scanners, 3D photogrammetry and virtual reality.

The course will take place in the archaeological park of Vulci (Viterbo, Italy), close to the ancient cities of Tarquinia and Cerveteri and at 1.5 hour of train ride from Rome.

Student will participate in the following research activities:

**Excavations:** Participation to the archaeological excavation of the Western Forum of Vulci.

**Digital recording:** The archaeological documentation in this program is paperless. Students will learn how to record and map all phases of excavation, as well as finds and artifacts, digitally.

**Cataloging:** Students will participate in field sorting and cataloging of finds.

**Laboratory:** Scheduled lab tasks will include washing, sorting, drawing, and cataloging of finds.

The fieldwork schedule is from Monday to Saturday morning; 7 am - 5 pm (Mon-Fri); 7 am - 1 pm (Sat.). Sundays is free. Lunch break is from 1:00-2:00 pm.

In the first day of fieldwork, a general overview of the site and its cultural context will be provided to the entire group. Special visits to the local necropolis and museums will be organized before and during the fieldwork. Additional lectures by project specialists will be offered periodically throughout the field season.

### **PREREQUISITES**

Prior experience in excavation is preferred, although general knowledge of the main methods of excavation is sufficient – as demonstrated through participation in at least one introductory level class in archaeology. In addition, students interested in digital technologies are welcome to apply. Such students will work primarily in the lab and focused on using digital tools.

Archaeology involves physical work and exposure to the elements and thus, requires a measure of acceptance that this will not be the typical university learning environment. You will get sweaty, tired and have to work in the outdoors. Students are required to come equipped with sufficient excitement and adequate understanding that the archaeological endeavor requires real, hard work – in the sun, on your feet, and with your trowel.

### **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

On successful completion of the field school, students will be able to understand:

- Theory and practice of archaeological excavation (in this case the “single context method”).
- The complexity of material culture and its understanding for the interpretation of ancient societies
- The relationships among objects, contexts and sites.
- Diachronic evolution of a Pre-Roman city-State and its transformation to a Roman town
- Mechanics of cultural resource management in relation to a major archaeological park.
- The advanced application of digital technologies for the recording, interpretation and communication of archaeological research. Among digital technologies used in this program are laser scanners, drones, digital photogrammetry, 3D cameras, smart trowels.
- Chronology, cultural characterization and features of artifacts, finds and monuments.

### **GRADING MATRIX**

**50%:** Excavation and on site documentation

**30%:** Final exam and discussions on the readings

**20%:** Participate in daily reports of research activities to the group

### **TRAVEL & MEETING POINT**

Students will be met by project staff members at the train station of Montalto di Castro (Viterbo) at 6 pm on the first day of the field school. The station is easily reachable from the Fiumicino International Airport and from the Roma Termini Train Station.

This field school will conclude on July 21, afternoon. Students may depart the program any time on July 22 for onward travel or return home.

If you miss your connection or your flight is delayed, please call, text or email the project director immediately. A local emergency cell phone number will be provided to all enrolled students.

## VISA REQUIREMENTS

US Citizens do not need a visa for tourist or study stays of up to three months in Italy. Your passport should be valid for at least three months beyond the period of your stay.

Citizens of other countries, please visit the Italian Embassy website at your home country for visa information.

## ACCOMMODATIONS & FOOD

Students will live in a residence in Montalto Marina, a charming seaside town, 15 minutes away from the site. Breakfast will be provided daily. Large, Italian style lunch will be provided daily in the field at a local family owned restaurant at the site of Vulci. Students are responsible for their own dinner and their own food on weekends.

Once each week, the Project Director and the entire team will eat dinner together at a local restaurant in the town near Vulci.

### DISCLAIMER – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Archaeological field work involves physical work in the outdoors. You should be aware that conditions in the field are different than those you experience in your home, dorms or college town. During the day, temperatures in the shadow fluctuate between 70°-80°F. Under the sun, temperatures may reach 80°-90°F. In order to be protected from sunburn and local insects you will not be allowed to work in shorts or tank tops at the site.

If you have any medical concerns, please consult with your doctor. For all other concerns, please consult with the project director – as appropriate.

## EQUIPMENT LIST

Students must bring the following items to the field. These tools will help in your research and accommodations.

- Sturdy work boots
- Wide brimmed hat. This type of hat is usually best for outdoor working conditions
- Sunscreen
- Any medication you may need and prescription medication to last for the duration of the field school
- Pointing Trowel - 5" x 2"
- Sun glasses with UV protection
- Insect repellent

## COURSE SCHEDULE

### Week 1:

Sunday	6:00 pm: Pick up for all the participants at the train station of Montalto Marina.
7:30 pm	Group dinner with the Project Director and his team
Monday	6:30: pick-up at the residence
	7:00-9:00: site tour
	9:00 – 1 pm lab training
1 pm: lunch	
	3 – 5 pm lab training

Tuesday-Friday

7:00am – 1:pm & 2:00 – 5:00 pm Archaeological excavation and lab activities.

Lab activities involve: ceramic lab, archaeometry lab and digital lab. Students will rotate in order to attend all the activities.

Saturday: 7:00am – 1 pm. Archaeological excavation. Afternoon free.

### **Week 2-5:**

Same daily schedule for the four weeks of fieldwork. Monday through Friday, half day Saturday.

**July 20 Final exam (15 questions concerning the readings and the knowledge of the archaeological site)**

### **Special trips**

Archaeological trips to Tarquinia, Cerveteri and Viterbo will be organized during the weekends.

### **Lectures**

Lectures on digital and Etruscan archaeology will be scheduled on weekly basis.

### **READINGS**

The readings listed below will be posted on-line for students to access in advance of the project, likely using Dropbox shared folder. At the end of each week there will be a discussion session with all students concerning the readings.

#### **1<sup>st</sup> week**

**McCusker, K. and M. Forte 2016** McCusker, K. and M. Forte. "The Vulci 3000 Project: A Digital Workflow and Disseminating Data," 2016 Chacmool Conference Proceedings.

**Harris 1989** E.C. Harris, *Principles of Archaeological Stratigraphy*, second edition, Academic Press, London

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> week**

**Wiman 2013** I. M. B. Wiman, *Etruscan Environments*, in *The Etruscan World*, edited by Jean Macintosh Turfa. Routledge, New York pp. 11-28.

**Jolivet 2013** V. Jolivet, *A long twilight (396-90 BC): Romanization of Etruria in The Etruscan World*, edited by Jean Macintosh Turfa. Routledge, New York pp. 151-79.

#### **3<sup>rd</sup> week**

**Cerchiai 2001** L. Cerchiai, *The ideology of the Etruscan city*, in Torelli, M. (ed.) *The Etruscans*. Exhibition catalogue, Palazzo Grassi. London: Thames and Hudson (2001), pp. 43-254.

**Leighton 2013** R. Leighton, *Urbanization in Southern Etruria in The Etruscan World*, edited by Jean Macintosh Turfa. Routledge, New York pp. 134-150.

#### **4<sup>th</sup> week**

**Oleson 1976** J. P. Oleson, *Regulatory Planning and Individual Site Development in Etruscan Necropoles*, *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians*, vol. 35, no. 3 (Oct. 1976), pp. 204-218.

**Osborne 2005** R. Osborne, *Urban sprawl: What is Urbanization and Why does it Matter?* in R. Osborne and B. Cunliffe (eds.), *Mediterranean Urbanization 800-600 BC* (2005), pp. 1-16.

**5<sup>th</sup> week**

**Rasmussen 2005** T. Rasmussen, *Urbanization in Etruria* in R. Osborne and B. Cunliffe (eds.), *Mediterranean Urbanization 800-600 BC* (2005), pp. 71-90.

**Steingraber 2001** S. Steingraber, *The Process of Urbanization of Etruscan Settlements from the Late Villanovan to the Late Archaic Period (End of the Eighth to the Beginning of the Fifth Century B.C.)*, *Journal of Etruscan Foundation*, vol. 8 (2001), pp. 7-33.

**General reference: Turfa Macintosh J.,2013** J.Macintosh Turfa, *The Etruscan World*, Routledge, 2013

All the readings and PowerPoint presentations will be shared with the students before the fieldwork