



Research fellowship on “*The economic exploitation of lagoon environments in Roman times and Late Antiquity: an interdisciplinary analysis of amphorae for salsamenta and fish sauces in the Upper Adriatic between regional production and import*” – Department of Humanities - Ca' Foscari University of Venice

(Italian law 30 December 2010, n.240, art. 22 and subsequent amendments and additions)

The present document in English is to be considered as a mere summary of the main provisions of the notice of competition which is available in Italian at the following ([link](#)) The text in Italian is the official text of the notice of competition for all legal intents and purposes and, in the event of non-conformity with the present document, it shall prevail.

Description

The Department of Humanities at Ca' Foscari University of Venice invites applications for a fellowship in: **The economic exploitation of lagoon environments in Roman times and Late Antiquity: an interdisciplinary analysis of amphorae for salsamenta and fish sauces in the Upper Adriatic between regional production and import**, Academic discipline: L-ANT/07 – Classical archaeology, duration 12 months, tutor Prof. Daniela COTTICA, financed by the PRIN 2022 PNRR (Missione 4 “Istruzione e Ricerca” del Piano Nazionale di Ripresa e Resilienza ed in particolare la componente C2 – investimento 1.1, Fondo per il Programma Nazionale di Ricerca e Progetti di Rilevante Interesse Nazionale (PRIN) – del Piano Nazionale di Ripresa e Resilienza, dedicata ai Progetti di ricerca di Rilevante Interesse Nazionale) - project “P2022WLSJN - Coastal lagoons and their hidden cultural heritage: the exploitation of lagoonal environments in Roman Italy, CUP: H53D23010330001, Head of Unit Prof. Daniela Cottica.

Abstract

The grant is part of the PRIN 2022 PNRR project “Coastal lagoons and their hidden cultural heritage: the exploitation of lagoonal environments in Roman Italy”. A particular line of investigation will be the socio-economic role of lagoons and their specific environmental context. The research grant, fitting into this investigative perspective, aims to analyze the role of the exploitation of sea resources in the lagoon environment with particular reference to fish resources, using amphorae as indicators. It will therefore be essential to proceed with a census of amphorae for salting and fish sauces in the Northern Adriatic area, to then proceed with a quantitative study and statistical processing of the data based on ranking, function and positioning with respect to the coastal lagoons of the contexts of discovery. The following methods of data collection and processing are envisaged:

- Analysis and re-examination of amphorary published data from some focal sites of the upper Adriatic arc (e.g. Ancona, Cervia, Ravenna, Altino, Aquileia, Trieste).
- Acquisition of unpublished amphorae data (sites indicated by the project tutor).
- Collection and systematization of qualitative and quantitative data (taking care to provide a uniform quantification methodology among the many published studies and new data) within a database structured specifically for the project, useful both for the analysis of the acquired dataset, and for the subsequent processing of information.
- Chrono-morphological and typological study.
- With respect to the question of content: in light of the many tituli picti present on these amphorae which mention the variety and characteristics of the products derived from fish processing that were conveyed (liquamen, muria, garum), we will ask ourselves whether it is possible to determine which species of fish present in the Upper Adriatic (also typically lagoon species?) were used to make these sauces. We will also proceed with the collection and updating of the known epigraphic apparatus (tituli picti and stamps), as well as the sources relating to the practice of fish farming in the Adriatic.
- With respect to the determination of origin, the aspect that most needs to be clarified is that of the origin of this production. We will then proceed to identify a group of amphorae which, due to the variability of shapes and mixtures, constitutes a significant sample to be subjected to archaeometric analyzes of the clays, for subsequent targeted archaeometric studies (to be carried out in external laboratories) starting from microscopic investigations.
- Data analysis: the grant holder will have to use Monte Carlo Simulation to reconstruct marketing trends and Network Analysis, to reconstruct distribution dynamics, commercial circuits and hegemonic centers of this economy (the software will not be provided by the project).
- Comparison and connection of the resulting framework with the archaeozoological (fish fauna) and archaeological data (presence of urban centers, ports, villas, coastal lagoon settlements, etc.) for the purposes of developing an interpretative hypothesis of the overall data, with a view to of a return of the framework of the dynamics of exploitation (or not) of the fish resources (fishing, aquaculture) of the coastal



lagoons of the Upper Adriatic.

The main place of work (microscopic investigations, study of the finds, collection and statistical processing of data) will be the Archaeological laboratory of the DSU, Ca' Foscari Venice, at VEGA, but the project also involves frequent external work trips (for example e.g. in laboratories, archaeological deposits, etc.) set from time to time by the tutor.

The fellowship is intended to provide the successful candidate with the opportunity to pursue his/her own research while benefiting from the range of expertise at Università Ca' Foscari Venezia.

Who can apply

Prospective candidates are expected to hold a **doctoral degree in Archaeology and a suitable scientific / professional track record.**

Ca' Foscari encourages applications from researchers with positive evaluation in all the criteria in individual proposals such as Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions - Individual Fellowships/ERC Starting Grants/FIRB (Italian Fund for basic research investments)/SIR (Scientific Young Independence Research) or similar.

Researchers having successfully completed Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions - Individual Fellowships/ERC Starting Grants/FIRB (Italian Fund for basic research investments)/SIR (Scientific Young Independence Research) or similar funded projects are warmly encouraged to apply.

Duration of contract: 12 months (approximately starting: 1st December 2023)

Stipend: The research fellowship amounts to 25.800,00 Euros, including taxes and social charges.

Deadline for submission of applications: November, 22nd, 12.00 noon.

How to apply:

Candidates should submit:

1. The application form;
2. A motivation letter (max 1 page) along with their CV in European format, duly dated and signed, both to enclosed as a one single.pdf file. ([link](#))
3. A copy of a valid identity document (either Identity Card or Passport);
4. (If available) Evaluation Summary Reports of Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions - Individual Fellowships/ERC Starting Grants/FIRB (Italian Fund for basic research investments)/SIR (Scientific Young Independence Research) individual proposals having passed all the evaluation thresholds;
5. (If available) Details of Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions - Individual Fellowships, ERC Starting Grants, FIRB (Italian Fund for basic research investments)/ SIR Scientific Young Independence Research funded projects;
6. All documents, qualifications and publications relevant for the selection procedure (please, see the notice [link](#)).

All the schemes of the quoted documentation are available on the website ([link](#)).

How to submit your application

Applications should be submitted by the online procedure, available on the notice webpage ([link](#))

Or submit here: <https://apps.unive.it/domandeconcorso-en/accesso/2023-dsu-ar-25>
by inserting their Italian Tax Code.

Foreign citizens not yet in possession of the Italian Tax Code can use the following link <https://apps.unive.it/utills/cf> to obtain a temporary one and be able to proceed with the request.

The candidate, after the uploading, will receive a submission number and an e-mail acknowledging receipt of his/her application.

The candidate if necessary could access the procedures for updating any data and materials by the link provided by the e-mail, in any case any updates must be made no later than the deadline on **22nd November 2023, h. 12.00 noon (Italian time).**

Please note that the University can be contacted for any support needs by the candidate until 20th November 2023, h. 1 p.m. (Italian time).

Please note that in case of an high number of applications and / or weight of the materials loaded by the



candidates the system might become slower. Therefore it is suggested not to start the process close to the deadline.

NB: the University does not take on responsibility for wrong or late communication of addresses, nor for any communication problem not depending on the University.

Evaluation

Up to 100 points, specifically:

For qualifications, publications and possible tests, from 0 to 60;

For interview, from 0 to 40.

Selection procedure

The following qualifications are considered as evaluation criteria:

- a) list of publications relating to the themes of the project (amphorae, circulation of goods, archeology of the Northern Adriatic sites between the late Republic and the 7th century);
- b) specialisation diplomas and certificates of attendance at postgraduate specialisation courses in archaeological disciplines, obtained both in Italy and abroad;
- c) documented research activities carried out with public and private entities with contracts, research grants, scholarships or assignments, both in Italy and abroad, on topics related to the archaeology of Northern Adriatic sites between the Late Republic and the 7th AD. and to the study of amphorae between the Late Republic and the 7th century AD;
- d) proven experience of stratigraphic excavation and post-excavation activity in lagoonal and humid environments in the Upper Adriatic between the Late Republic and the 7th century AD. preferably in a role with responsibility;
- e) participation in national and international conferences on topics related to amphorology and commercial dynamics in the Roman world and the archeology of lagoon sites;
- f) attached 'preferential securities', if the candidate possesses them - see Article 5 of the competition available in Italian ([link](#));
- g) any other element provided for the announcement, to the articles 2, 3 and 5 of the competition available in Italian ([link](#)).

The interview aims to assess the candidates' skills and expertise on the following subjects:

- Proven excellent knowledge of Roman amphorae in circulation between the Late Republic and the 7th century AD in the Upper Adriatic area;
- Proven ability to design and manage complex and functional ceramological databases for the development of statistical analysis of ceramic finds;
- Proven mastery of statistical methods of quantification and especially of data analysis, in particular Network Analysis and Monte Carlo Simulation;
- Proven knowledge of the specificities of archaeological contexts in the Upper Adriatic between the Late Republic and the 7th century;
- Knowledge of English language.

At the end of his/her research activity, the research fellow is required to provide the Department with:

- Data collection and creation of a database
- Chrono-typological study
- Data analysis (statistical study and relational studies with Montecarlo Simulation and Network Analysis)
- Data processing and interpretation also in relation to the data collected by the other participants in the PRIN project

Selection procedure

The interview will be **on 28th November 2023, h. 9 a.m.** The interview will be held in remote by Google Meet.

The short-list of the candidates admitted to the interview, or any postponement, will be published on the



University's webpage on 24th November 2023 ([link](#)).

Information and contacts

Candidates may find further details about the application process and the research project in the official call published on the following ([link](#))

For further information please contact Department of Humanities - Research Office, e-mail: ricerca.dsu@unive.it (email object: Research Fellowship on “The economic exploitation of lagoon environments in Roman times and Late Antiquity: an interdisciplinary analysis of amphorae for salsamenta and fish sauces in the Upper Adriatic between regional production and import” – PRIN 2022 PNRR COTTICA project)