

7th Training Course on Christian & Visigothic Archaeology at Valencia “la Vella”: open enrollment!

Open enrollment for the **7th Training Course on Christian and Visigoth Archaeology**, run by the ICAC and the Riba-roja de Turia City Council!

The 7th Training Course on Christian and Visigoth Archaeology, which will take place **from July 1 to 19**, is a unique opportunity to learn about the basic methodology of archaeological excavation and analysis, but also to work on a very special site, such as that of **Valencia “la Vella”**.

The training program combines daily **fieldwork** at the site with tasks of **analysis of the results**, as well as various parallel activities (**theoretical sessions and visits** to sites in the surrounding area). The course offers training content specifically oriented toward Late Antique archaeology, its material culture, and its historical problems.

From **July 1 to 19**, the training course will alternate the excavation of the archaeological site of Valencia “la Vella” with hands-on tasks of washing and cataloging archaeological remains found, visits to other Late Ancient sites in the surrounding area, and some scientific talks on topics related to the Visigothic and Christian world.

Check out the **provisional PROGRAMME**

Practical information:

- **Openings:** 12 Archaeology students (undergraduate or postgraduate). There are three vacancies reserved for students of the University of Valencia (UV).
- **Deadline for registrations:** May 19th, 2024
- **Registration fee:** 100 € (including insurance, full accommodation, and meals on working

days).

- **Material:** each student has to wear safety boots, gloves, sun protection measures, anti-mosquitoes, and bedding (including cleaning).
- This is an outdoor activity during July, in an environment with high humidity.

provisional PROGRAMME

Deadline for applications: **May 19, 2024**

Download the **leaflet in pdf** to access the registration form

**VII CURSO PRÁCTICO DE ARQUEOLOGÍA
CRISTIANA Y VISIGODA**
EXCAVACIÓN EN EL YACIMIENTO DE "VALÈNCIA LA VELLA"
Riba-roja de Túria (València), del 1 al 19 de julio de 2024



Curso teórico y práctico de arqueología cristiana y visigoda.
El curso pretende acercar a los participantes a la metodología básica de excavación y análisis arqueológicos a través de un programa que, diariamente, combinará el trabajo de campo en el yacimiento con el tratamiento de sus resultados, además de una serie de actividades teóricas y visitas a yacimientos de los alrededores, como Valencia. Con este curso ofrecemos una actividad formativa orientada específicamente a la arqueología tardorromana, su cultura material y su problemática histórica.

Número de plazas: 12 estudiantes de Arqueología, Historia o similares (grado y posgrado). 3 plazas reservadas a alumnos de la Universidad de Valencia.

Plazo de inscripción: Hasta el 19 de mayo de 2024.

Coste de inscripción: 100€. Incluye póliza aseguradora y alojamiento completo. Manutención cubierta durante los días de trabajo (de lunes a viernes).

Materiales: Cada participante deberá traer botas de seguridad, guantes y medios de protección solar, antimosquitos y ropa de cama.

Horarios:
de 07:00 a 13:00 - Excavación arqueológica.
de 16:30 a 20:00 - Trabajo de gabinete y/o actividades formativas.

Dirección:
Josep M. Maciàs
Oscar Caldes

Coordinación:
Albert Ribera

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Belén Tarrón

Secretaría de organización:
Cristina Silvestre (Ayuntamiento de Riba-roja de Turia)
Aina Gallego (ICAC)

Programa e inscripciones:
Clicad aquí para acceder a la ficha de inscripción que hay que rellenar y mandar al correo: egallego@icac.cat antes del 20 de mayo de 2024. Web del proyecto. Programa provisional.

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The archaeological site of Valencia «la Vella»:

Valencia «la Vella» is an archaeological site from the Visigothic period in the municipality of **Riba-roja de Turia**, located about 16 km from the city of Valencia. It is a walled enclave located on top of a hill in a spectacular location overlooking the River Turia, about 2 km from the Pla de Nadal palace and within the Turia River Natural Park.

Since 2016, the **City Council of Riba-roja de Turia** (Valencia) promotes an **archaeological research** and heritage conservation and dissemination project developed by the **Catalan Institute of Classical Archaeology** (under the direction of ICAC researcher **Josep Maria Maciàs**), with the support of the **Valencia Provincial Council** and the **Generalitat Valenciana**.

Valencia «la Vella» is an *ex novo* foundation that stands out for its walls that surround a river hill 20/40 m high and that are reinforced by numerous towers.

The settlement has been known since the 14th century and, partly due to its name, had been associated with the pre-Roman and Roman settlement *Pallantia*. Archaeological excavations

in the seventies of the last century, motivated by partial destruction of the site, showed a Late Antiquity chronology.

Valencia “la Vella” was once again removed from all scientific interests for decades. Currently, it is still an unknown and nameless city. It is an archaeological site yet to be discovered, although **archaeological excavations firmly confirm its value and cultural potential, and historical relevance**. It is a Visigothic city built “suddenly” 16 km from *Valentia*, during the second half of the 6th century and dominating the Turia river waterway.

In 2016 the ICAC posted online in open access [a 3D models collection of the Valencia “la Vella” site](#) on the **Sketchfab** platform:

Old model (Digital terrain model) by **ICAC** on **Sketchfab**

Within the framework of the research project coordinated by the ICAC, **seven archaeological campaigns** have been carried out at the site. The first four were integrated into the Christian and Visigothic Archeology courses, where over twenty students and graduates from around the world participated. The 2020 and 2021 campaigns followed a different dynamic due to the pandemic situation.