# Archaeology of Historical Buildings

## Prof. Federica Matteoni

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course aims to provide theoretical and practical tools for the study of architecture, with a focus on the Late Middle Ages, by means of archaeological stratigraphic and chrono-typological analysis methods.

Indeed, in order to understand the different historical periods characterising an ancient building, stratigraphic analysis is a valid and essential tool to establish its evolution and history.

The method consists of the identification of the periods of construction and their chronological contextualisation, based on the study of construction techniques and the analysis of used materials.

The objective of the course is to enable students to autonomously interpret wall faces of ancient buildings: they will be able to carry out the stratigraphic analysis of the monument, detecting the construction sequences; identify the different construction materials; selecting the dating method to be adopted for the historical contextualisation of the building.

In order for students to acquire this method optimally and apply the theory learnt during frontal lectures, site inspections and exercises outside the classroom will be scheduled.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The lectures will begin with a general introduction to the discipline and will subsequently focus on the stratigraphic interpretation of the buildings and on the dating methods which can be applied to historical buildings. Finally, some case studies on different architectural typologies preserved in Eastern Lombardy which can be dated between the 11th and 15th centuries, will be presented.

***READING LIST***

A. Boato, *L’archeologia in architettura. Misurazioni, stratigrafie, datazioni, restauro*, Marsilio (Elementi Marsilio), Venice, 2008.

G.P. Brogiolo-A. Cagnana (edited by), *Archeologia dell'architettura. Metodi e interpretazioni, All’insegna del giglio*, Florence, 2012.

A. Cagnana, *Archeologia dei materiali da costruzione*, S.A.P. Archeologica s.r.l., Mantua, 2000.

D. Gallina, *Tecniche costruttive, tipologie e forme dell’architettura bassomedievale nei paesi del Sebino bresciano e bergamasco*, in M. Sannazaro e D. Gallina (edited by), Casa abitationis nostre. Archeologia dell’edilizia medievale nelle province di Bergamo e Brescia. Atti del Seminario di studi, Brescia, 8 giugno 2009, in “Notizie Archeologiche Bergomensi”, 17, 2011, pp. 47-137.

T. Mannoni, *Il problema complesso delle murature storiche in pietra. I, Cultura materiale e cronotipologia*, in “Archeologia dell’Architettura”, II, 1997, pp. 15-24.

F. Matteoni, *Medioevo costruito. Edilizia in Val Cavallina e Sebino bergamasco tra XII e XV secolo*, Bolis Edizioni, Almenno San Bartolomeo (BG), 2018.

During the course, students will receive a final reading list for the oral exam.

***TEACHING METHOD***

The course will be held with frontal lectures in the classroom. There will also be site inspections and exercises outside the classroom in the province of Bergamo.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The exam will consist of an oral exam, in which students will have to tackle questions on the general part and demonstrate that they are capable of interpreting an ancient construction sequence, commenting on images presented during the course. Subsequently, students will have to answer questions on topics addressed in the single-subject part, with a focus on late medieval contruction techniques in Lombardy.

The final assessment will also be based on students’ capacity to understand course topics, the relevance of their replies, the appropriate use of the lexicon of the discipline and on their logical linking skills, ranging over various subjects.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

Being introductory, there are no prerequisites in order for students to attend the course; it is assumed that students are interested in the subject and its possible applications in different professional fields (archaeology, architecture, restoration, history of art).

Students are advised to attend the course.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.