**Archaeological Drawing**

## Prof. Remo Rachini

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

Archaeological drawing is a key technique for archaeologists, both during excavations and, later, when studying and cataloguing finds. Archaeological digs recover mobile materials of various origins: vessels and vessel fragments, architectural artefacts, weapons, jewellery and furnishings.

The importance of such materials is not only archaeological: indeed, their graphic documentation is often also required in disciplines related to history and art history.

The course focuses on the surveying and representation of ceramic vessels, both whole pieces and fragments. It takes a predominantly practical approach, with the exception of a number of lectures on geometric design and critically contextualising of the objects in question.

By the end of the workshop, students will be equipped with the knowledge to independently approach the graphic documentation of finds and to understand the technical drawings and tables accompanying archaeology and art history publications.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The course covers the following:

– Basic elements of geometric design.

– Surveying of whole vessels.

– Surveying rim fragments.

– Surveying base fragments.

– Surveying decorations.

– Hand drawing in ink on tracing paper of surveys conducted.

– Graphic rendering on a computer using a suitable graphics programme.

***READING LIST***

The following texts will serve as essential references and guides.

M. Supino, *Fondamenti teorici e pratici del disegno dei reperti archeologici mobili*, Edizioni Cooperativa Archeologica, Florence 1993.

*SCAVI MM3, ricerche di archeologia urbana a Milano durante la costruzione della Linea 3 della metropolitana*, edited by D. Caporusso, Edizioni ET, Milan, 1991.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Lectures will be held in the “Laboratorio di Archeologia – Cagiano De Azevedo” lab, staircase C, basement level.

In the lab, students will have direct access to archaeological finds and materials and be able to use drawing desks and surveying tools. They will also have access to a basic library of key texts, enabling them to critically compare graphic documentation by different authors.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Students will be assessed by means of an oral exam on the drawings produced throughout the course. Students are required to produce four drawings using instruments, on ordinary paper with pencil, in ink on tracing paper or using a computer. Students must reflect and comment on the structural and morphological aspects of their drawings.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

For the workshop on archaeological drawing, students require basic knowledge of technical drawing and Euclidean geometry. The knowledge and skill of students coming from different disciplines varies widely. Any gaps in this respect will be identified and remedied during lectures.

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.