

CaSEs Research Group (Grup de Recerca de la Generalitat)

Our research group is looking for students interested in developing their Master or PhD theses in one of the research subjects the group is currently working on through its international network.

For any information please e-mail cases@upf.edu or contact Dr. Marco Madella at office 24.337 in the new Parc de Recerca UPF - Ciències Socials i Humanes (Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Edifici Mercè Rodoreda, 24).

Research themes opportunities are:

- 1) **Archaeobotany at the Neolithic site of Çatalhöyük (Turkey)** - the group is working on plant micro-remains (phytoliths/starch) in the following areas:
 - a) Household and activity areas
 - b) Use of fuel
 - c) Food consumption
- 2) **Archaeobotany at the Bronze Age site of Knossos (Greece)** - the group is working on plant micro-remains (phytoliths/starch) in the following areas:
 - a) Household and activity areas
 - b) Use of fuel
 - c) Food consumption
- 3) **Archaeobotany, geoarchaeology and palaeoenvironment in South Asia (India):**
 - a) Plant macro and micro-remains (food consumption) from Neolithic to Iron Age sites in North and South India
 - b) Holocene palaeoecology of hunter-gatherers and agro-pastoral groups in North India (North Gujarat)
 - c) Micromorphology of archaeological sites and of sedimentary sequences in North India (North Gujarat)
 - d) Anthracological analysis from Neolithic to Iron Age sites from India, use of wood resources and fuel
- 4) **Holocene hunter-gatherers and herders: palaeoecology, settlement and subsistence on the West Coast of South Africa:**
 - a) Landscape use and group interaction among hunter-gatherers and herders on the West Coast of South Africa
 - b) The archaeozoology and site formation processes of large West Coast shell middens in South Africa

5) Archaeobotany of the Amazon:

- a) Residue analysis from Pre-Columbian pottery
- b) Plant micro-remains (starch/phytoliths) from dental calculus from Pre-Columbian populations

6) Food consumption and diet of Mesolithic and Neolithic populations of Sudan:

- a) Plant micro-remains (starch/phytoliths) from dental calculus, grinding stones and other artefacts

7) Agricultural practices and palaeoecology of the Mediterranean basin during the Islamic period (s. VIII-XIII AD):

- a) Phytolith analyses from palaeosoils in farming terraces

Erasmus Mundus fully funded Masters, PhDs and Post-docs

Within the EU Erasmus Mundus programmes AESOP and AESOP+ our research group is able to offer fully funded or 50% funded Masters and PhDs scholarships to work on South African materials in the following areas:

- Early hominin diet at Kromdraai and Sterkfontein (phytoliths, starch, isotopes from teeth and dental calculus)
- Palaeoenvironmental studies at Kromdraai and Sterkfontein (phytoliths from the sites deposits)
- 3D reconstruction of the “Cradle of Humankind” and end-user application for hand-held devices

The students for the EU-EM programme will have to enrol in the postgraduate programme of the UPF and work between the UPF and one of the South African universities - with substantial time in South Africa. For the Post-doc, it is necessary to have a PhD from a Spanish university.