The only human remains project to enable students to work with modern burials within a programme of exhumation and repatriation. A complete and exciting opportunity to learn the archaeological and anthropological theory and practice applicable to forensic settings. A unique opportunity to analyse skeletons from a modern collection and acquire knowledge in handling human skeletal remains within a professional environment. A fully supervised program by experienced professional and academic members of staff that intends to teach students the methods and techniques of excavating, recording, exhuming, analysing and managing human remains.
1. Background information to the works setting

In Cyprus the process of burial recycling is a long-standing tradition which enables the continuous use of burial space currently available within the local districts. The recycling process is driven by family requirements and it consists of the exhumation of the deceased followed by repatriation, reburial or management of the remains. The repatriation process can be the most complex of these practices, especially in cases where multiple individuals are found as secondary internments within a given grave site. The reburial process could take various forms and it normally takes place immediately after the exhumation. In the event of emergency exhumations for reburial, processing of the remains takes place in the field, often with the family present. In cases where the remains are listed under the management scheme, both the repatriation and reburial schemes could apply, but will normally take place at a later time and therefore the post-exavation processing of the remains takes place in the laboratory.

2. The works of the Fieldschool

The fieldschool has partnered with the local authorities to enable students to participate in the burial recycling process as part of a wider framework which enables professional development and work experience in the field of Forensic Anthropology and Archaeology within active operational environments. The fieldschool is a practical, hands-on, experience in the excavation and post-exavation analysis of skeletons from two modern cemeteries. The project aims in the recovery, analysis and repatriation and/or reburial of individuals from modern burials exhumed during this recycling process. The burials listed for exhumation and excavation date between 2000 and 2012 whereas the in-house collection under management consists of individuals dating between 1980 - 2012.

The remains exhumed are processed during the fieldschool and they will either be repatriated to the families for immediate reburial or other, depending on the family requirements. This is a socially and culturally sensitive environment and therefore all ethical parameters associated with the discipline of forensic anthropology/archaeology and the handling/treatment of human skeletal remains strictly apply. Each individual exhumed is treated following scientific standards adhering to the existing locally and internationally SOP policies. The fieldschool follows a protocol that is directly related to the humanitarian application in contexts of armed-conflict, forensic anthropology, heritage management and protection.

http://odysseyfieldschool.weebly.com/
3. The structure of the Fieldschool

The fieldschool aims in training those who seek to learn how to work with, handle, human remains and/or further advance their knowledge in doing so. The knowledge gained during the activities of the fieldschool has direct application in FORENSIC ARCHAEOLOGY & ANTHROPOLOGY but also BIOARCHAEOLOGY.

The fieldschool is directed by a team of professionals and academics with field, laboratory and research experience and expertise. The activities of the fieldschool are fully supervised and time is allocated for training the students during the works, as all the processes are explicitly explained, including ways of social interaction under professional guidelines during the exhumation and reburial processes.

We encourage an interactive and easy-going process where the students actively engage in various activities within a continuous learning environment. We welcome all levels of experience. Less experienced students work alongside the more experienced staff whereas more experienced students are encouraged to work independently in the lab if they wish to.

### Learning objectives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Anthropology</th>
<th>Archaeology</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Fundamentals of human osteology and its application in Forensic anthropology and Bioarchaeology</td>
<td>- Excavation and exhumation processes, incl. emergency exhumation and state reburial practices</td>
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<td>- Skeletal pathology and trauma, including trauma reconstruction, diagnosis of pathology and differential interpretation, trauma patterns, modern medical intervention and its effects on the skeleton.</td>
<td>- Field recording methods (archaeological methods of field recording &amp; forensic variation)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Processing of forensic cases (human remains and artefacts i.e. personal items associated with the deceased and/or case) following local, national and international protocols of investigation and scientific analysis</td>
<td>- Survey planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Specialized taught &amp; practical workshops in: <strong>Juvenile Osteology, Markers of Occupational Stress, MNI reconstruction (commingled remains and re-association of elements)</strong>.</td>
<td>- Photography</td>
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<td>- Field recording forms (Skeletal and context associations)</td>
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<td>- Stratigraphy</td>
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<td>- Report writing (field &amp; post-excavation)</td>
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<td>- Direct references to professional UK and USA (CRM) commercial archaeology</td>
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Learn to use skeletal forms and electronic databases for the recording and analysis of human skeletal remains; collection management skills

This is a unique opportunity to learn about modern pathologies as well as unique skeletal cases otherwise not available in archaeological contexts but also gain experience with trauma and disease that you are likely to encounter in all types of skeletal remains, whether from a forensic or

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The archaeological context. **SOME OF THE PATHOLOGY CASES INCLUDE:** dwarfism, cancer, infection and infectious diseases, joint degeneration disease (e.g. OA, septic arthritis), DISH, Ankylosing spondylitis, anaemia and thalassaemia, trauma (intentional and accidental), fractures and modern surgical/medical intervention in the rehabilitation of trauma (e.g. hip replacements and fracture fixtures), dislocation, and many more.

http://odysseyfieldschool.weebly.com/
4. **Daily schedule and activities**

The fieldschool is designed to cover field and laboratory working/academic experience adequate up to 2-4 university credits. The fieldwork consists of the excavation and exhumation of single inhumations as well as a mass grave of secondary internment commingled remains. The fieldschool activities are typically organized in the morning and afternoon, with fieldwork carried out in the morning and post-excavation analysis in the afternoon. Through this process the students learn all there is to learn about human remains and gain a hands-on experience regarding every aspect of dealing with such. The students get to work with various types of remains, including adult and juvenile, some being commingled / disarticulated, while others will present with interesting, yet puzzling pathology. We work as a team and the supervisors hold group discussions addressing the different cases that we process.

The fieldschool is located in the coastal city of Limassol, in the south part of Cyprus. During the summer the city is buzzing with life and a lot of events, including theatre and summer cinema. The city (but also the island) is connected by a bus network which makes it easy to travel around with a very low cost. The working days are Monday to Friday. The team get the weekends free to travel around the island, go to the beach and visit the heritage sites the island has to offer. Our accommodation is centrally located and with easy access to the beach, bars and restaurants as well as supermarket and other amenities.

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1 Subject to change due to unpredictable variables and other circumstances, including weather conditions, state and family requirements, and/or other.  
[http://odysseyfieldschool.weebly.com/](http://odysseyfieldschool.weebly.com/)
LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the fieldschool you would have been taught and have practiced:

- all field and lab methods applied to human skeletal remains including how to excavate and process burials in *situ* but also exhume a body and unwrap/process it in the lab, similar to a process followed for mummified remains.
- how to record skeletons using skeleton sheets but you will also acquire the skills to work with electronic databases and learn how to input and manage osteological data.
- ethically responsible and professional approach to the handling of osteological material
- various research applications

You would have developed a sound knowledge on skeletal anatomy and have gained experience in identifying, recording and interpreting pathology and trauma seen on the bones.

You would have been taught the difference in approaching forensic and archaeological material
5. **Application and fees**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>EARLY BIRDS (First application phase): AUGUST 5 - NOVEMBER 30, 2016</th>
<th>Second Application Phase: DECEMBER 1, 2016 - MARCH 30, 2017</th>
<th>Third (final) Application Phase: APRIL 1, 2017 - MAY 30, 2017</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fees: 1500 euros / 1 complementary trip &lt;sup&gt;2&lt;/sup&gt; (excl. flights)</td>
<td>Fees: 1750 euros / 1 complementary trip (excl. flights)</td>
<td>Fees: 2000 euros / 1 complementary trip (excl. flights)</td>
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Application is by CV and a short cover letter sent to: [odysseyfieldschool@gmail.com](mailto:odysseyfieldschool@gmail.com)

What is included in the fees<sup>3</sup>:

- a. Fieldschool fees and organizing expenses
- b. Basic accommodation (on a shared basis) (rooms are shared and/or mixed) with a fully equipped kitchen and laundry facilities
- c. Two meals (breakfast/lunch) & snacks during work days for the duration of the fieldschool (4 weeks). You are responsible for your own dinner and weekend meals.
- d. Trip transportation; entry fees to archaeological sites during the trip and food/drinks are not included. Entry fees are subject to student discounts.

Once accepted to the fieldschool and you have received the confirmation email, there is a window of 15 days for paying the deposit (400 euros/non-refundable) and thus securing your place. We cannot hold places without a deposit as there is a long list of applicants.

Payment of the fees can be made in full or in two instalments, the first instalment being the deposit. The remaining balance must be paid by the due date communicated by the fieldschool (included in the payment information package)<sup>4</sup>. In the event of cancellation, 50% of the amount paid, excluding the deposit will be refunded up to 8 weeks following the end of the fieldschool, but only if the fieldschool is notified of the cancellation at least 8 weeks before the start date.

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<sup>2</sup> A complementary trip is organized to the North of the island. If for unforeseen circumstances this could not be completed, a trip to Paphos would be planned as an alternative.

<sup>3</sup> The provisions of accommodation and meals are only included for the dates advertised.

<sup>4</sup> The fieldschool has the right of cancelling your place and not refunding any additional to the deposit payment if the final payment deadline is not met on time.
A participation certificate and reference letter (upon request) is being offered soon after completion of the fieldschool. More than 40 hours of fieldwork and 40+ hours of lab work will be tallied; a number which is generally acceptable by most employers who require active and practical experience with regards to this expertise.

For more questions or to discuss the Odyssey programs you can contact us via our online form or send an email to xeniapaula.kyriakou@gmail.com

http://odysseyfieldschool.weebly.com/