About The Center for Heritage & Archaeological Studies

The Center for Heritage and Archaeological Studies (CHAS) brings together scholarly research, education, and public outreach with a broad focus on heritage, identity, and community engagement. The work of CHAS ranges from archaeological investigation in the New York - New Jersey area, in the Caribbean, and in Italy, to public programs for students and community to collaboration with museums and historical societies.

CHAS - The Coder House
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Villa of the Antonines
Archaeology Field School
Genzano di Roma, Italy

Montclair State University

July 1st– 28th, 2018
The Project

This archaeological field project is located in Genzana di Roma, Italy, at the 18th mile along the ancient Via Appia. Now entering its ninth season of excavation, the project concentrates on the investigation of the remains of a second century CE Roman Imperial Villa complex. Ancient literary references and the discovery in 1701 of marble busts of imperial figures suggest that this is the villa of the Antonine dynasty, known to have stood near ancient Lanuvium. The busts recovered from the site now reside in the Capitoline Museum. In 2018, we will further investigate the villa’s amphitheater ruins in relationship to the adjacent baths, as well as probable residential quarters that were discovered in 2014. While working on site, participants will receive hands on training in all aspects of field investigation, including photo documentation, field survey, and geophysical investigation. Students will assist in cataloguing and studying the artifacts from the site, including mosaics as well as fragments of imported marble for intricately shaped opus sectile flooring and wall decoration. Laboratory sessions will take place both on-site and at the Museo delle Navi Romane—built to house the famous ships of the emperor Caligula—in nearby town of Nemi. There will be a one-day field trip to historical and archaeological sites in the Alban Hills area. During their spare time, evenings and weekends, students will have the opportunity to explore the charming locale of Genzana, or make excursions to the neighboring metropolis of Rome.

Enrollment Information

Estimated program cost: $3,900 (for undergraduate students and volunteers; graduate students should consult the co-directors for details). *Scholarships available.*

The program cost includes:
- Transfer to/from a meeting point and the hotel in Genzano (Note: The program cost does not include transportation to and from Italy. Participants must make their own air arrangements to travel to and from Rome and must arrive in Rome no later than 12:00 noon on Sunday, July 1st)
- Shared occupancy hotel rooms (July 1st-28th)
- 3 meals per day Monday-Friday, breakfast Saturday and Sunday
- One weekend field trip
- 6 credit hours of undergraduate tuition

Required of All Students

- Minimum GPA: 2.75
- 1-2 page statement of your reasons for wanting to attend the program
- 1 page CV including descriptions of previous relevant coursework or fieldwork experience
- 2 letters of recommendation (for MSU students: only one letter from a professor other than the faculty members leading the program)
- Interview with the program directors (for MSU students: in person, for others: via telephone or Skype)
- Medical clearance