

# FIELD SCHOOL

## OF CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION OF ROMAN MOSAIC

PROGRAM 2019  
June 16<sup>th</sup> to July 13<sup>th</sup>



POGGIO DEL  
MOLINO  
area archeologica





# Restoration

Archaeologically speaking, **excavation and restoration represent two sides of the same coin**, each serving its own indispensable role in the analysis and preservation of archaeological sites and the materials they produce. Moreover, **both practices help us develop and support the cultural heritage of communities, a valuable resource that must be transmitted to future generations.**

The archaeological excavation at Poggio del Molino has uncovered not only a vast array of ceramic, glass, and metal fragments, but also the **impressive mosaic floors, dating to the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century CE, which decorated the residential rooms and baths of the seaside villa.**

**The restoration's program**, entering its fourth year of activity, is intended to insure the **preservation of the mosaic** which, in some cases, are already badly damaged from the penetration of tree roots and the natural movements of the earth on which they were laid.

# The methodology of restoration

**Critical analysis of the work** intended to facilitate an understanding of how it was created and in what styles, including photographic documentation, drawings, and core samples for identifying its preparation layers.

**Analysis of the state of preservation of the work** intended to the necessary course of action, including mapping the degradation of the mosaics.





# The restorer's work

- **SECURING:** the mosaic is “quarantined” in a temporary condition of security that allows restorers to work. In this high delicate phase, restorers pursue the removal of all elements that have penetrated the mosaic, including roots and debris. This phase also includes the use of removable materials that do not interfere with later phases of restoration.
- **CONSOLIDATION:** the mosaic is solidified via the injection of liquid malt beneath its surface. Such a solution is comparable to materials used in ancient times for filling the empty pockets that emerge beneath mosaics over time.
- **CLEANING:** the mosaic is cleared of superficial accumulations, especially lime, in order to restore its original colors and reveal its tesserae and decorative motif.
- **RECONSTRUCTION OF LACUNAE:** this process allows restorers to stabilize the mosaic and prepare it for public viewing, presenting its original decoration in its entirety while leaving in place its original segments.



## SESSION DATES :

4 week session

lasts June 16th-July 13th, 2019;

2 week session lasts June 16<sup>th</sup> to July 13<sup>th</sup>

## CREDIT :

## EXPERIENCE REQUIRED :

No field experience or language requirements are necessary for participation. All are welcome to apply

## ACCOMMODATIONS:

Students will stay in comfortable apartments located in Piombino, a city about 15 minutes away from the excavation. Apartments will include wifi, a fully equipped kitchen, and basic amenities.

## Living in Piombino:

Piombino is a lively coastal city with a world class archaeological museum and a walkable historical center. After site and during the weekends, students will be free to explore the city as they wish and get a taste for life in a coastal Tuscan town.

## TUITION:

\$1,000 (circa)

## FEES:

**\$3200 (4 week period)**

Apartments will include wifi, a fully equipped kitchen, and basic amenities.

**\$1800 (2 week period)**

## Application Deadline:

April 1, 2019

## HOW TO APPLY:

Please contact Tyler Johnson at [tylerdjo@umich.edu](mailto:tylerdjo@umich.edu) for application details.



