Course description
This training programme builds on the unique expertise developed by the Research Centre in Archaeology and Heritage at the Université libre de Bruxelles combining micromorphology and phytolith analysis, shedding a new light on archaeological stratigraphy and the identification of human activity.

Programme
The Certificate in Archaeological Soil Micromorphology and Phytolith Analysis is a one-week summer training programme in English including preparatory readings, high-quality lectures, intensive microscopy sessions and an on-site visit in the Brussels area. It is divided into two courses:

1. Introduction to archaeological soil micromorphology
   - General introduction to soil micromorphology: concept and principles
   - Introduction to optical soil mineralogy
   - Application of soil micromorphology to archaeology

2. Introduction to phytolith analysis
   - General introduction to phytolith studies: concept and principles
   - Introduction to phytolith studies in archaeological soil thin sections
   - Application of phytolith analysis to archaeology

Selected participants will receive a list of required preparatory readings. The final assessment will take place at the end of the week. It will be based on image analysis and the description and interpretation of a soil thin section.

Learning outcomes
This training programme aims to provide participants with the basic skills required for performing a comprehensive micromorphological study. They will learn:

- the basic principles of soil micromorphology, optical mineralogy and phytolith studies
- how to perform microscopic observations on soil thin sections, describe soil thin sections and interpret their observations
- how to integrate their data within the larger framework of geoarchaeological studies.

Target audience
This programme is designed for graduate students, PhD students, researchers in archaeology, history, art history, geology, agronomy, anthropology and for professionals in archaeology. It is accessible to candidates holding a bachelor degree or through recognition of prior learning.

Course leaders
Sébastien Clerbois, Prof.
Yannick Devos, Researcher
Luc Vrydaghs, Researcher
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http://crea.ulb.ac.be

Nadine Mattielli, Prof., Laboratoire G-TIME, ULB
http://gtime.ulb.ac.be

Credits
Participants will receive 10 credits upon successful completion of the programme.

Practical information
- Application: https:summerschool.ulb.be
  Applications will be reviewed by the jury in early April. Enrollment is limited to 15 participants.

- Fees: €500 (tuition and coffee breaks)
  Accomodation fee (student house, optional): €235

- Location: Solbosch Campus, ULB, Brussels

- More information:
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