Overview
The San Giuliano Archaeological Research Project (SGARP) is a transdisciplinary project that targets the archaeological past of San Giuliano, a site located approximately 70 km northwest of Rome within Marturanum Park in Lazio. SGARP’s goal is to reconstruct the long-term changes in human occupation of the San Giuliano plateau and the surrounding hills. Hundreds of rock-cut Etruscan tombs ring the plateau, while the plateau was likely the site of the associated Etruscan town. We seek to investigate the Etruscan occupation and understand the transitions that followed, including incorporation into the Roman Empire, transformations in the medieval settlement pattern, and the final abandonment of the site sometime before AD 1300.

We have focused our attention on the Etruscan and medieval periods as eras of particularly significant societal change. These two periods saw the most intensified use of the San Giuliano plateau. We are seeking to understand both the rise and fall of the Etruscan urban center and the medieval incastellamento (castle-building) process that reshaped the Italian landscape in the 10th and 11th centuries. SGARP’s first seasons of fieldwork comprised mapping, survey, and excavation of the plateau and the Etruscan necropolis. We focused on three tasks: 1) documentation and registration of the rock-cut Etruscan tombs that ring the plateau, 2) excavation of three tombs, and 3) survey, mapping, and excavation atop the San Giuliano plateau and along nearby communication routes.

We targeted the medieval ruins visible in an area of the plateau known as La Rocca. Early work has revealed a fortified zone with walls surrounding a small castle complex centered on a tower that, but for the base, has now collapsed.

Students have been integral in designing and executing the field research, and the subsequent laboratory work. The students remain involved in analyzing, displaying, and interpreting the data recovered. Future seasons will provide students with the opportunity to participate in aDNA and isotopic analyses of human and animal bone, detection of subsurface remains through geophysics (ground penetrating radar, magnetometry) and satellite imagery analysis, and a range of artifact analyses that includes paleoethnobotany, zooarchaeology, ceramic analysis, and metallography.

The San Giuliano Archaeological Project is led by Baylor University in collaboration with Anderson University, Virgil Academy, the Province of Viterbo, the town of Barbarano Romano, Civic Museum of Archaeology, Barbarano Romano, Museo della Tuscia Rupestre, Marturanum Regional Park, and the Italian Soprintendenza Archeologia, Belle Arti e Paesaggio per l’Area Metropolitana di Roma, la Provincia di Viterbo e l’Etruria Meridionale.

SGARP is supported by the Baylor’s Anthropology Department, Classics Department, Honors College, and Center for Global Engagement.

We are fortunate to have Virgil Academy as our partners in Italy. Virgil Academy facilitated the launch and local organization of our project. The group continues
providing logistical support for our research and teaching. In full collaboration with Virgil Academy, we aim to protect and enhance central Italian cultural heritage.

**Field School Activities**

Students will take ARCH 4810, a six-hour Archaeological Field School, lasting five and a half weeks (if necessary, students can leave early to take a 5Wk2 summer session back on campus; in any case, they will also be able to take a 3Wk1 course on campus before the program). For this course, students receive comprehensive training in site survey, mapping, excavation techniques, laboratory processing, restoration and analysis of archaeological materials through direct participation in SGARP.

Students in the field school participate in four types of activities: fieldwork, laboratory work, lectures, and field trips. Fieldwork consists of hands-on excavation on the San Giuliano plateau and in a rock-cut Etruscan tomb, and survey of the surrounding landscape. These sessions will focus on excavation, archaeological photography, mapping, documentation, drawing, the use of total station and other surveying methods, sampling, interpretation, and stratigraphy. Excavation and survey normally takes place five days a week from 8:00–17:00 (with lunch around 12:00).

Two or three days per week (depending on student interest), a half-day of laboratory work is possible in place of field work. This includes processing of excavated materials, and training in washing ceramics, cataloguing, data entry, identification of pottery and other materials, illustration, and other lab methods.

Lectures take place twice a week in the evenings and focus on historical, archaeological and theoretical aspects or information that students need in order to contextualize their fieldwork. Field trips will consist of visits to local archaeological, historical, and natural sites. They will introduce students to the wide range of cultural and historical resources in Etruria and will provide further insight into Mediterranean archaeology. Students will also be expected to give reports and participate in a group heritage management project. Active participation in all activities is a precondition to fully benefit from this experience, and to be successful in the class. While we hope you fully enjoy the experience of living in an Italian village, it is important to the project that you are fully prepared for work each day.

**Grading**

Your grade has two components: Archaeological Field Methods and the Archaeology of Etruria. The first component covers the overall archaeological field and laboratory experience. Students will be graded based on their participation and ability to comprehend and perform basic field and lab methods (25%). In addition, students will keep an archaeological journal, which will be reviewed by the instructor every two weeks (15%) and complete a group heritage management project (10%).

The second component covers the basic archaeological history of the region, focusing on the cultural periods that are represented at the site and described in assigned readings and lectures as well as information presented during excursions to archaeological sites and museums. In addition the course presents an introduction to archaeological heritage management with a focus on Etruscan archaeology. Students will be graded on
the basis of participation in class projects, discussions, etc. (30%) and on a final examination (20%) at the end of the program. The San Giuliano Field School is a highly intensive program that requires students to invest a significant amount of time both at the site and in the laboratory. Students have a unique opportunity to gain hands-on experience while enjoying the picturesque landscape of central Italy.

Tentative Itinerary

**WEEK 1**

June 4 (Mon): Arrive in Rome (morning), coach transfer to Barbarano Romano (Viterbo)

June 5 (Tues)
Field work

June 6 (Wed)
Field work

June 7 (Thurs)
Field work

June 8 (Fri)
Field work

June 9 (Sat)
Minibus to Sutri/Capranica to catch early train to Rome; tour sites of the Ancient Center

June 10 (Sun)
Vatican Museum, Etruscan Museum and free time in Rome, evening train to Capranica

**WEEK 2**

June 11 (Mon)
Field work

June 12 (Tues)
Field work

June 13 (Wed)
Field work

June 14 (Thurs)
Field work

June 15 (Fri)
Field work
June 16 (Sat)
Minibus transfer to Sutri/Capranica, train to Viterbo:
Regional and Civic Museum, free time

June 17 (Saturday)

**WEEK 3**

June 18 (Mon)
Field work

June 19 (Tues)
Field work

June 20 (Wed)
Field work

June 21 (Thurs)
Field work

June 22 (Fri)
Field work

June 23 (Sat)
Bus trip to Banditaccia (Etruscan cemetery), lunch in Cerveteri, tour of castle at Santa Severa, free time

June 24 (Sun)
Field work

**WEEK 4**

June 25 (Mon)
Field work

June 26 (Tues)
Field work

June 27 (Wed)
Field work

June 28 (Thurs)
Field work

June 29 (Fri)
Depart for Venice; overnight in Venice

June 30 (Sat)
Day in Venice, departing for Prato ca. 5 pm; overnight in Prato
July 1 (Sun)
Take train from Prato to Florence; spend day in Florence and then meet the bus to return to Barbarano Romano

WEEK 5

July 2 (Mon)
Field work

July 3 (Tues)
Field work

July 4 (Wed)
Field work

July 5 (Thurs)
Lab work and site closure

July 6 (Fri)
Transfer by bus to Lake Bolsena

July 7 (Sat): Post-excavation work, free afternoon

July 8 (Sun): Post-excavation work, free afternoon

WEEK 6

July 9 (Mon)
Finalize post-excavation work

July 10 (Tue)
Transfer to Rome/FCO for students to continue their travels/return home

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class.

For study abroad courses, students requesting accommodations should notify their faculty leader as early as possible so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Note that while the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) does not extend beyond US borders, and international accessibility requirements vary broadly from US standards, UNT study abroad programs will endeavor to provide accommodations wherever practicable.

Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at http://disability.unt.edu/. You may also contact ODA by phone at 940.565.4323.