UNIVERSITÉ PARIS 1
PANTHÉON SORBONNE

UNIVERSITÉ PARIS 1 – EUR ArChal

TRAINING WEEK MAY 2026

FRANCE 2030

ANR

ARCHEOLOGICAL CHALLENGES

ArChal

# TRACES OF CONSERVATION, TRACES OF CARE

**TUESDAY 26TH – FRIDAY 29TH MAY 2026**

**DIPARTIMENTO DI STORIA CULTURE CIVILTÀ**
**ALMA MATER STUDIORUM – UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA**
PIAZZA SAN GIOVANNI IN MONTE 2
BOLOGNA

**Methods**
François Giligny (Paris 1)

**Challenge 4: Techniques & innovation**
Andrea Gaucci (UNIBO)

How have objects been preserved over time, and how can we recognize and interpret these practices today? This seminar week, organized within the framework of EUR ArChal (défi 4), places objects at the center of inquiry, approaching them as material traces of actions of care, maintenance, conservation and transmission.
Rather than considering objects as passive remains, the program explores them as dynamic entities shaped by continuous intervention. Marks of repair, surface modifications, reinforcements, and patterns of wear all testify to efforts to extend an object's life over time.
Theoretical and scientific approaches are fundamental to identifying and understanding these processes, allowing us to reconstruct the biographies of objects and revealing how societies engaged with questions of durability, value, and transmission. The object is no longer limited to its visible form, but includes its material composition, its history of transformations, and the layers of action that have shaped it over time.
By examining how objects were preserved and transmitted in the past, we are also encouraged to reconsider our own relationship with material culture today. The study of past practices of care offers a critical lens through which to think about sustainability, heritage, and responsibility. To care in order to preserve, and to know in order to transmit, ultimately means acknowledging that every act of intervention contributes to redefining the object itself—its meaning, its history, and its future.

## Tuesday 26th May – Bologna, DiSCi, Aula Grande

**10-10.20** - Haris Procopiou, Welcome and Introduction

**10.20-11.10** - Gianenrico BERNASCONI (Professor, University of Neuchâtel) – *Cultures techniques de la réparation : approches sur la longue durée*

**11.10-12.00** - Clémentine MARTAL (Postdoctoral Researcher, *ArchAM* – UMR 8096) – *Evidence of care, maintenance and life cycles of earthen architecture in the northern Andean region of Ecuador*

**12.00-12.50** - Pauline DEBELS (Postdoctoral Researcher, *Trajectoirs* – UMR 8215) – *Weary pots. Technical Recipes, Economic Choices, and Cultural Practices in Prehistoric Pottery Care*

**- Lunch break -**

**14.00-14.50** - Morgane MONNIER (PhD student, Paris 1) – *The maintenance of Mycenaean copper-based vessels and repair strategies in the Bronze Age*

**14.50-15.40** - Sara FIORENTINO (UNIBO) – *Detecting Conservation traces: protocols and good practice in archaeometry*

**- Coffee break -**

**16.00-16.50** – Federica GUIDI, Marinella MARCHESI (Civic Archaeological Museum of Bologna) – *Preserving to Know, Knowing to Preserve*. *Case studies in archaeological conservation and research at the Museo Civico Archeologico of Bologna*

**16.50-17.40** – Laurent NESPOULOU (Professor, INALCO) – *Miroirs chinois dans les tombes du début de notre ère jusqu'au Ve siècle de notre ère au Japon* (online)

## Wednesday 27th May – Bologna, DiSCi, Aula Prodi

**9.30-10.20** - Davide DOMENICI (Professor, UNIBO) and David BUTI (Researcher, CNR) – *The European Afterlives of Nahua Objects: Material Transformations of a Mask and Pictorial Manuscript*.

**10.20-11.10** - Laura Sofia DI GIORNO (PhD student, Sapienza, Rome) - " *MendingMemories" in Etruria: Case Studies of Conservation Practices from the Po Valley*

**- Coffee break -**

**11.30-12.20** - Tanja SCHREIBER (Research associate, Freie Universität) – *Communities of Care: Cooperation and Enduring Defensive Practices in Northwest Siberia*

**- Lunch break -**

**13.30-16.00** - Visit to Palazzo Poggi Museum and to MEUS – Museum of European Students

## Thursday 28th May – Faenza, International Museum of Ceramics

Bologna-Faenza (train): 8.34-9.15

**9.45-12.00** – Visit to the MiC and its deposits

**12.00-13.00** – Baptiste DAZAS (Lecturer, Institute of Chemistry of Environments and Materials, Poitiers, IC2MP) – *Clay minerals: insights across scales and materials*

**- Lunch break -**

**14.00-15.00** – François GILIGNY (Professor, Paris 1) – *Methods of mark recording on pottery in 2D/3D: microtopography, multispectral imaging, RTI and 3D modelling*

**15.00-16.00** – Cristina CHIAVARI (Professor, UNIBO) – *Archaeometric techniques for metals*

**16.00-17.00** – Madeleine DASTE (PhD student, Paris 1/UNIBO) – *Museums in Times of War: Reassembling and Researching the Provenance of Ceramic Collections*

Faenza-Bologna (train): 17.35-18.26

## Friday 29th May – Ravenna, DiSCi, Aula Bovini

Bologna-Ravenna (train): 9.05-10.17

Morning: visit to the Byzantine monuments, with a focus on maintenance, restoration, reuse (Giulia MARSILI, UNIBO)

**- Lunch Break -**

Afternoon (DiSCi, Aula Bovini): Students' projects

Ravenna-Bologna (train): 18.43-19.55