



## SEEKING EUROPE'S FIRST CIVILIZATION: TELL YUNATSITE, BULGARIA

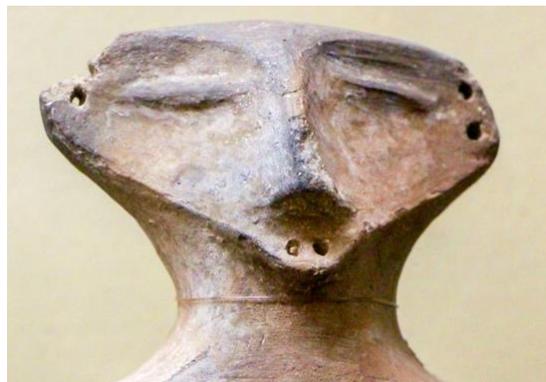
Course ID: ARCH 365S

July 9–August 6, 2022

**DIRECTORS:**

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## OVERVIEW

The aim of the project is to provide participants with theoretical background on the development of Neolithic cultures in Southeastern Europe with focus on Final Neolithic/Chalcolithic Europe's first civilization<sup>1</sup> and with practical experience in excavating a complex prehistoric tell-site.

During the seventh and sixth millennia BCE, the Balkan Peninsula was a gateway through which farming, animal husbandry and generally Neolithisation spread from Anatolia and the Near East to Europe. This new population gradually settled down and got familiar with the surrounding areas, suitable agricultural areas, raw sources and so on. In the sixth millennium BCE their economy, social organization, trade and cultural contacts evolved, to reach their peak in the fifth millennium BCE. In the beginning of the fifth millennium the earliest metallurgy in European and global prehistory (the processing of copper, and soon after – gold) appeared in the Balkans. Thus, this period is known as the Copper age, Chalcolithic or Final Neolithic.

The continuative inhabitants of the same suitable places during these millennia led to the formation of a settlement phenomenon, characteristic of the Near Eastern and Balkan prehistory – the multilayered tell-sites.

Tell Yunatsite is located near the modern village of Yunatsite in Southern Bulgaria. It is among the biggest tells in Europe with a diameter of approximately 110 m/360 ft and height of 12 m/39 ft above the modern surface. Tell Yunatsite was first excavated in 1939 by the Bulgarian archaeologist Vasil Mikov. In 1976, regular excavations were carried out on an annual basis. Since then, research at Tell Yunatsite has grown into an important research program under the National Institute of Archaeology and Museum, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. At times, Greek and Soviet archaeologists joined research at the site and today this is an international research effort directed by Bulgarian scholars. The field school will be held for the seventh year and is a joint cooperation between Balkan Heritage Foundation (BHF), the Regional Museum of History in Pazardzhik, the Tell Yunatsite Excavation Team from the National Institute of Archaeology and Museum, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, and the Institute for Field Research.

To date, approximately one third of the tell has been excavated. This work yielded rich collections of archaeological materials, and the sterile soil has not yet been reached. There is a medieval cemetery at the top of the tell, followed by a Roman period level, two Iron Age levels, another dated to the Early Bronze Age, and finally a Chalcolithic/Final Neolithic layer. It is unknown if the cultural history of the tell begins in the Chalcolithic/Final Neolithic period or whether older Neolithic occupation layers exist.

The archaeological field school takes place at the Tell Yunatsite lowest excavated layer, which corresponds to the time of Europe's first prehistoric civilization in the fifth millennium BCE. The intense study of these very first complex societies in Europe began 40 years ago with the excavation of the Varna Copper Age necropolis. That excavation was the first to demonstrate the rise of social complexity in the region. It is during this time that metal processing became widespread and it is the earliest date for such transformative technological innovation. Data suggest that it is the world's earliest mass production of both copper and gold (the world's oldest gold treasure was found in the Varna [Copper age necropolis](#)), the first urban settlements in Europe, distinct social and political stratification, and pictograms and characters interpreted by some scholars as the world's oldest script (as on the Gradeshnitsa tablet, for instance). The area of this civilization stretches from Anatolia across the Balkans to the Carpathian basin and the steppes of Eastern Europe. It collapsed around the end of the fifth millennium BCE under the pressure of drastic social and demographic changes, which were presumably caused mainly by climate change but were exacerbated by foreign invasions.

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<sup>1</sup> Also known as Civilization of Old Europe.

Recent excavations at Tell Yunatsite indicate that the Chalcolithic/Final Neolithic period settlement covered an area far larger than the tell itself and consisted of uptown (acropolis?) and a downtown distinct. The uptown section was surrounded by a five meter wide clay wall and a broad and deep ditch. Buildings at this part were placed close to each other, creating an almost unbroken urban fabric. The Chalcolithic/Final Neolithic settlement experienced a violent event at *ca.* 4,200-4,100 BCE. Evidence suggests deliberate destruction by outsiders. Many skeletons of children, elderly men, and women were found scattered on floors, suggesting a massive massacre. Those who survived returned and resettled at the Tell, but soon even they left. At that point, Tell Yunatsite and the area around it were abandoned for more than 1,000 years. During this time, a sterile layer accumulated over the last Chalcolithic/Final Neolithic layer.

Excavations in the last years shed new light on the stratigraphy and development of the Chalcolithic/Final Neolithic, and brought new interesting discoveries. Among them are a golden bead and a golden amulet, which are among the earliest golden artifacts in the world.

This field school provides a unique glimpse into the rise and fall of arguably the earliest European civilization. In 2022, field school students will take part in further excavation of the burned Chalcolithic/Final Neolithic layer buildings. Faculty and students will work together and explore why and how one of the earliest proto urban centers in Europe emerged in the beginning of the fifth millennium BCE, and what are the reasons that caused its collapse 800 years later.

#### **ACADEMIC CREDIT UNITS & TRANSCRIPTS**

**Credit Units:** Attending students will be awarded 8 semester credit units (equivalent to 12 quarter credit units) through our academic partner, Connecticut College. Connecticut College is a highly ranked liberal arts institution with a deep commitment to undergraduate education. Students will receive a letter grade for attending this field school (see assessment, below). This field school provides a minimum of 360 hours of experiential education. Students are encouraged to discuss the transferability of credit units with faculty and registrars at their home institution prior to attending this field school.

**Transcripts:** An official copy of transcripts will be mailed to the permanent address listed by students on their online application. One more transcript may be sent to the student's home institution at no cost. Additional transcripts may be ordered at any time through the National Student Clearinghouse: <http://bit.ly/2hvrkl>.

#### **PREREQUISITES**

None. This is hands-on, experiential learning and students will study on-site how to conduct archaeological research. Archaeology involves physical work and exposure to the elements and thus requires a measure of understanding that this will not be the typical university learning environment. You will have to work outdoors and will get sweaty and tired. Students are required to come equipped with sufficient excitement and adequate understanding that archaeology requires real, hard work, in the sun and wind, on your feet, and with your trowel. The work requires patience, discipline and attention to detail.

The field school at Tell Yunatsite will host students and professionals of archaeology from all over the World. With such an international team it is vital that all students respect the IFR code of conduct, each other's cultures, and local social and cultural rules and laws.

### DISCLAIMER – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Our primary concern is with education. Traveling and conducting field research involve risk. Students interested in participating in IFR programs must weigh whether the potential risk is worth the value of education provided. While risk is inherent in everything we do, we do not take risk lightly. The IFR engages in intensive review of each field school location and programming prior to approval. Once a program is accepted, the IFR reviews each program annually to make sure it still complies with all our standards and policies, including those pertaining to student safety.

The IFR does not provide trip or travel cancellation insurance. We encourage students to explore such insurance on their own as it may be purchased at affordable prices. [Insuremytrip.com](http://Insuremytrip.com) or [Travelguard.com](http://Travelguard.com) are possible sites where field school participants may explore travel cancellation insurance quotes and policies. If you do purchase such insurance, make sure the policy covers the cost of both airfare and tuition.

We do our best to follow a schedule of activities, methods training, and programming as outlined in this syllabus. However, this schedule can be easily disrupted by any number of unforeseen circumstances, including revised decisions by local permitting agencies, political unrest, and changes in the weather. While this schedule represents the best of the director(s) intentions, we—students and staff alike—need to be adaptable and tolerant of necessary alterations. This adaptability is an intrinsic part of all field research. Participation in the project is not recommended for individuals with solar allergies or other special illnesses that might be exacerbated during intensive outdoor activities. The average summer temperatures in the area are 25-35° C (77-95° F). Participants should bring clothes and toiletries suitable for hot and sunny weather but should also prepare for possible rainy, windy and chilly days. All participants should bring clothes and toiletries suitable for hot and sunny weather but should also prepare for possible rainy, windy and chilly days. Participants are also expected to prepare for the dig by reading at least the BHFS handbook that will be sent by email before the beginning of the project. Participants will use the tools and equipment available at the site and are not expected to bring any additional equipment.

If you have any medical concerns, please consult with your doctor. For all other concerns, please consult with the program director and staff.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES

To introduce students to:

- Field archaeology and finds processing methods considering the specifics of excavating a tell;
- The archaeology of the Neolithic and Chalcolithic periods in the Balkans;
- Methods for documentation and analysis of prehistoric pottery;
- Finds processing and documentation procedures: cleaning, sorting, labeling, documenting, and storing archaeological finds, flotation and processing soil samples;
- Contemporary standards of work on an archaeological site, including 3D intra-site modeling and documentation;
- Health and safety requirements at an archaeological site.

To prepare students to perform:

- Basic excavation tasks: to use proper excavation tools and techniques, follow excavation procedures, recognize artifacts and ecofacts, and distinguish archaeological contexts during involvement in excavation activities;
- Basic field documentation tasks during an ongoing excavation project: the use of measuring and documentation tools, creating a written, graphic and photographic record.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students participating in this field school will gain basic knowledge of excavation techniques, field documentation practices and finds processing, leaving them better prepared for future archaeological fieldwork projects. They will have certain knowledge of the Neolithic and Chalcolithic periods in the Balkans and GIS spatial analysis in archaeology. During the outlined activities participants will learn skills transferable outside of excavations, such as analytical thinking, teamwork, the ability to meet deadlines and adapt to outside conditions, which will aid them when seeking employment in any work field.

## ASSESSMENT

| % of Grade | Activity                                                                                                          |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 20 %       | Exam                                                                                                              |
| 20 %       | Excavation (use of tools, digging, scraping, brushing, cleaning, sieving, etc.)                                   |
| 20 %       | Field journal and context sheets/labels                                                                           |
| 10 %       | Leveling, measuring and scale-drawing (ground plan/ cross section/ specific archaeological structure or feature); |
| 10 %       | Photography                                                                                                       |
| 10 %       | Finds processing: washing and sorting, labeling and registration                                                  |
| 10%        | Flotation and processing of flotation samples.                                                                    |

## ATTENDANCE POLICY

The required minimum attendance for the successful completion of the field school is 85% of the course hours. Any significant tardy or early departure from an activity will be calculated as an absence from the activity. An acceptable number of absences for which a medical or reasonable excuse is provided will not be taken into account if the student catches up on the field school study plan through additional readings or personal consultations and tutorials with program staff members.

## TRAVEL, ROOM & BOARD, & SAFETY LOGISTICS

**COVID Disclaimer.** The logistics outlined below for this IFR field school were written according to the most current and accurate information available to IFR. We recognize that the best practices for preventing the transmission of the coronavirus may change in the coming months. The IFR will be revisiting program-specific plans periodically throughout the enrollment period and will update program details according to new developments, new travel protocols, and updates to local policies.

An IFR field school is designed to provide positive, constructive experiences for communities, students, and researchers. Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the following protocols have been developed based on the assumption that any participant in an IFR field school may be an asymptomatic carrier of SARS COVID-19 and any of its variants. Our goal, with these protocols, is to reduce the possibility for COVID-19 transmission among participants, staff, and local community members. IFR depends on the complete and sustained commitment of all students to stay healthy and to help others stay healthy. On enrollment, students commit to comply with all aspects of the IFR COVID-19 avoidance policy as well as any/all policies specific to their respective IFR field school.

## **PRIOR TO TRAVEL**

We ask that all students participating in IFR programs be **fully vaccinated** prior to travel. Furthermore, all eligible vaccinated students are **required to have received a vaccination booster**.

Students must arrange a test for current infection for COVID-19 through a RT-PCR test for themselves in their home location within 72 hours prior to the start of the program and upload proof of a negative result to their IFR application portal.

After demonstrating they tested negative, students must take all precautions possible to ensure they remain COVID-19 free prior to and during travel to the field school. Students should plan to travel in the safest manner that they are able (e.g., avoid flights with long layovers and multiple connections). In addition, we require the following from all students: use of a face mask during travel to, from, and on airlines, ferries, trains, buses, and the like; regular washing of hands; and, in so far as possible, maintain social distancing of 6 feet / 2 meters in airports and other spaces.

On arrival at Sofia International Airport, students will need to take a PCR test at the airport labs and then self-quarantine at a recommended airport hotel overnight. Students are responsible for these costs—the PCR test and the hotel room— and should make a room reservation prior to travel. Please see below for more information.

## **VISA REQUIREMENTS**

Citizens of the US, Canada, Japan, Republic of Korea, Australia and New Zealand **do not need a visa** to visit Bulgaria for up to 90 days. Citizens of all other countries may need a visa. The Balkan Heritage Foundation can send an official invitation letter that should be used at the relevant embassy to secure a visa to the program.

For more information visit the [Balkan Heritage Foundation web site](#) and links provided there.

Citizens of other countries are asked to check the embassy website page at their home country for specific visa requirements.

## **TRAVEL (TO AND DURING THE PROGRAM)**

Due to ongoing uncertainties regarding the travel regulations related to COVID-19, IFR will assess the local conditions closer to the travel date (5-6 weeks prior to the program beginning) and will make Go/No Go decisions then. We urge you to participate in the mandatory orientation meeting when we will discuss the latest travel information and regulations. We also suggest you consider postponing the purchase of your airline ticket until after the program orientation.

Please frequently consult the website of the US Embassy in Bulgaria for the most up-to-date travel restrictions/protocols <https://bg.usembassy.gov/covid-19-information/>

If a student is held at the border for health reasons, they should contact the program director or appointed staff member for their field school at the numbers provided in their orientation materials.

On arrival at Sofia International Airport, students will need to take a PCR test at the airport labs (app. cost 48-56 USD) and then self-quarantine at a recommended airport hotel overnight. The BHF recommends the [Best Western Premier Sofia Airport Hotel](#)\*\* for the one night quarantine after arrival. Students are responsible for these costs—the PCR test, the hotel room (should make a room reservation prior to travel) *and the shuttle cost (35 EUR) to the project venue*. All students with negative PCR test results will be picked up from the hotel by a shuttle and delivered to the project hotel - [Hotel Primavera](#) in the district town of Pazardzhik the next day. The project cost covers the shuttle price. Once at the project venue students and project staff will travel to and from the excavation site daily by shuttle (short 15 minute ride in each direction) that affords reasonable spacing of occupants. The wearing of face masks during travel is mandatory.

Students are able to get general information, essential travel basics and tips concerning the project location and the country at <http://www.bhfieldschool.org/countries/bulgaria> (**for Bulgaria**) and <https://www.bhfieldschool.org/program/first-civilization-in-europe-tell-yunatsite-excavations> (**for the project / see the map on the bottom of project web site**). All students will receive a travel info-sheet with specific travel details prior to departure.

If you missed your connection or your flight is delayed, please call, text or email the field school director / project staff immediately (email: [bhfs.admissions@gmail.com](mailto:bhfs.admissions@gmail.com)). A local emergency mobile phone number will be provided to all enrolled students.

While the COVID pandemic persists, any leisure travel during the program and entailing use of buses, trains, and/or airplanes must be approved by the program director(s) prior to booking and departure.

## **LOCAL PROTOCOLS, REGULATIONS, & EXPECTATIONS**

Current Bulgarian entry requirements as per Health order of the Bulgarian Ministry of Health ([Order RD-01-49/28.01.2022](#)) are in effect from February 01, 2022, through March 31, 2022. These requirements may change in the following months according to the COVID-19 situation in the country. For most up to date information please check the websites of the [Bulgarian Ministry of Health](#) and the [US Embassy in Bulgaria](#).

The program will not include activities that promote extra-contact with people outside of the team and project hotel. Interaction with the local community must be limited to situations where everyone can maintain the required 6-foot/2-meter physical distance, wear masks, and ideally be outside.

In case of a COVID-19 outbreak, [Hotel Primavera](#) has all the facilities to guarantee a complete isolation.

Interaction with the local community must be limited to situations where everyone is masked when indoors and/or can ideally be outside.

Safety and health orientation will take place at the beginning of the program. The town of Septemvri offers medical care, first aid, and pharmacies.

## FACE MASKS / FACE COVERINGS

All students, faculty and staff are expected to wear face masks when in indoor spaces shared with others. Wearing face masks, combined with vaccination, are among the most effective ways of minimizing the spread of the coronavirus.

The objective of wearing a mask is to capture potentially infectious droplets from the wearer. Therefore:

- Masks or respirators that are equipped with an "exhalation valve" are not permitted, unless covered by another mask.
- Neck fleeces (gaiter masks) are considered the least effective form of face masks and are not permitted. (The material found in gaiters tends to break down larger droplets into smaller particles that are more easily carried away in the air.)
- Folded bandanas and knitted masks are ineffective and are not permitted.
- Masks must be worn so as to cover both the mouth and nose. If your mask becomes loose, it can be tightened by twisting the ear loops.

## ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation will be in the [Primavera Hotel](#) in the district town of Pazardzhik, Bulgaria – in comfortable rooms with 2-3 beds per room, bathrooms with shower and WC, TV, air-conditioning and free Wi-Fi. Single rooms are available upon request for the supplement of 150 EUR per week. Staying an extra day at the hotel costs 40 EUR (per night per person). Cheap laundry service is available at the archaeological site. Participants are not expected to bring any additional equipment, sleeping bags or towels. The hotel is located next to the main pedestrian area of the Downtown Pazardzhik. There are lots of shops, pharmacies, banks, ATMs, a hospital, taverns, bars, cafes, post office and tourist attractions around in the hotel area. Pazardzhik is a mid-size Bulgarian town (50,000 inhabitants). The town and its surroundings offer a variety of opportunities for good entertainment, sightseeing, sports, wine-tasting and shopping.

The excavation site, Tell Yunatsite is situated about 10 km away (15 min ride) from Pazardzhik and the hotel. Transport on work days will be arranged and covered by the Balkan Heritage Foundation (BHF). Next to the site is the archaeological base with running water, electricity, a field latrine, dining and lab facilities as well as a tool storage available to the students.

The cleaning staff in the hotel will clean and disinfect the rooms & bathrooms and common spaces every day. In the beginning of the field school students will be introduced to the safety protocol for the hotel, the shuttle and the site upon arrival.

### **Students must pay on their own for extra days or for single room accommodation.**

All participants in a field school, students and staff, will wear masks while indoors (i.e. during lectures, during labs, in shared residential spaces, etc.).

Regular hand washing will be a part of the project's daily schedule.

**Meals:** Three meals (Balkan cuisine) per day are covered by the tuition fee. This field school can accommodate vegetarians, vegans and individuals with gluten- and lactose-intolerance. Kosher-restrictions are impossible to accommodate in this location.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner meals will take place at the site during the work days. Other meals will take place at the hotel's restaurant. Brown-bag-lunches will be provided during excursions and days-off.

Safety and health orientation will take place at the beginning of the program. Pazardzhik has numerous pharmacies and drug stores as well as several hospitals providing regular and specialized medical care and first aid.

## MANAGING COVID-19 CASES & OUTBREAKS

In case of COVID -19 case with mild symptoms the student will be quarantined for 10 days (together with his/hers roommate/s, if any) in their hotel room. He/she will receive food in the room. Their laundry will be processed separately. If this occurs near the end of the field school, the student/s will have to cover the hotel expenses for the quarantine for the period after the end of the field school. The closest intensive care unit is located in Pazardjik.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

All IFR field schools begin with safety orientation. This orientation includes proper behavior at the field area, proper clothing, local cultural sensitivities and sensibilities, potential fauna and flora hazards, review of IFR harassment and discrimination policies, and review of the student Code of Conduct.

The Field School schedule consists of four modules:

**MODULE I** - Theoretical module. Consists of app. 25 hours of lectures.

**MODULE II** – Practicum (app. 145 hours). Consists of two components:

1. Field work, including the basic practices of excavation and archaeological records;
2. Workshops dedicated to primary archaeological finds processing and documentation.

**MODULE III** - Excursions accompanied by lectures, presentations and behind-the-scenes visits to sites of historical/archaeological significance (app. 15 hours), such as the Regional Museum of History in Pazardzhik; the Archaeological Museum, Roman monuments and Old Town Quarter in Plovdiv; Stara Zagora and its Museum of History, Roman monuments and the museum of Europe's best preserved Neolithic (5600 BCE) dwellings; the National Archaeological Museum and the Roman monuments in Sofia.

**MODULE IV** – Homework (app. 15 hours) will be assigned to all students, which will consist of editing and processing students' field documentation (field journal, context sheets, drawings, photos, etc.) and preparing presentations and reports.

| Day   | Morning                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Afternoon |
|-------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Day 1 | Arrive by noon at Sofia Airport in Sofia, Bulgaria, conduct a COVID-19 PCR* test on arrival at the airport and get self-quarantined for the period before the pick-up, at the <a href="#">Best Western Premier Sofia Airport Hotel</a> ** (these rules may be changed. The BHFS will provide ongoing updates on COVID-19 rules and restrictions in Bulgaria to all enrolled students). |           |

|        |                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Day 2  | All students with negative PCR test results will be picked up from the hotel by a shuttle to the <a href="#">Primavera Hotel</a> in Pazardzhik.                                           | Introduction, Orientation and Lectures.<br>Traditional Bulgarian welcome dinner.                                                                                                                                |
| Day 3  | Field work Instructions: Hygiene, health, and safety at the site.<br>Basic Field Methods and Practices for Excavation and Documentation.<br>Use of Tools and Working Techniques.          | Lectures: Warfare in Prehistory. From the Field to Storage: Review of Basic Methods for Uncovering, "First Aid", Consolidation in Situ, Cleaning, Sorting, Labeling, Documenting, and Storing Ceramic Artifacts |
| Day 4  | Field work Instruction: Introduction to the Field Journal; Contextual Sheets, Log Book and Other Forms                                                                                    | Tour of Pazardzhik Regional Museum of History<br>Workshop: Finds Processing & Flotation                                                                                                                         |
| Day 5  | Field work Instruction: Three Dimensional Positioning of Finds, Features and Structures. How to Use a Total Station                                                                       | Lecture: Understanding Pottery - part 1<br>Workshop: Finds Processing & Flotation                                                                                                                               |
| Day 6  | Field work Instruction: Horizontal and vertical Stratigraphy                                                                                                                              | Workshop: Finds Processing & Flotation                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Day 7  | Field work Instruction: Photography for Archaeologists                                                                                                                                    | Workshop: Finds Processing & Flotation                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Day 8  | Excursion: Plovdiv (the ancient city of Philippopolis) – Archaeological Museum, Roman monuments and the Old Town Quarter                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Day 9  | Day off                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Day 10 | Field work Instruction: How to Draw a Ground-plan/elevation-plan/Cross-section Using a Scale                                                                                              | Lecture and workshop: Artifacts recording – pottery                                                                                                                                                             |
| Day 11 | Field work Instruction: Excavations Preparation. Preliminary Indoor Research                                                                                                              | Workshop: Finds Processing & Flotation                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Day 12 | Field work                                                                                                                                                                                | Workshop: Finds Processing & Flotation                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Day 13 | Field work                                                                                                                                                                                | Workshop: Finds Processing & Flotation                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Day 14 | Field work                                                                                                                                                                                | Workshop: Finds Processing & Flotation                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Day 15 | Day-off.                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Day 16 | Day off                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Day 17 | Field work                                                                                                                                                                                | Lecture: An Introduction to GIS Spatial Analyses and Cartography Workshop: Finds Processing & Flotation                                                                                                         |
| Day 18 | Field work                                                                                                                                                                                | Workshops: Producing 3D Photogrammetric Models of Excavation Units Finds Processing & Flotation                                                                                                                 |
| Day 19 | Field work                                                                                                                                                                                | Workshop: Finds Processing & Flotation                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Day 20 | Field work                                                                                                                                                                                | Workshop: Finds Processing & Flotation                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Day 21 | Field work                                                                                                                                                                                | Workshop: Finds Processing & Flotation                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Day 22 | Excursion: Stara Zagora (the ancient city of Augusta Traiana): the Regional Museum of History, Roman monuments, and the museum of Europe's best preserved Neolithic (5600 BCE) dwellings. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Day 23 | Day-off                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Day 24 | Field work                                                                                                                                                                                | Workshop: Finds Processing & Flotation                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Day 25 | Field work                                                                                                                                                                                | Workshop: Finds Processing & Flotation                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Day 26 | Field work                                                                                                                                                                                | Workshop: Finds Processing & Flotation                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Day 27 | Field work                                                                                                                                                                                | Workshop: Finds Processing & Flotation                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Day 28 | Field work                                                                                                                                                                                | Exam<br>Presentation of the Excavation results. Evaluation meeting.<br>Dinner and farewell party                                                                                                                |

**TYPICAL WORK DAY**

|                   |                                     |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 6.15-6.30 am      | Travel to the site                  |
| 6.30-8.30 am      | Fieldwork                           |
| 8.30-9:00 am      | Breakfast at the site               |
| 9:00-11.00 am     | Fieldwork                           |
| 11.00-11.15 am    | Break                               |
| 11.15 am -1.00 pm | Fieldwork                           |
| 1.00-1.30 pm      | Lunch at the site                   |
| 1.30-1.45         | Travel to the hotel                 |
| 1.45 – 4.45 pm    | Siesta                              |
| 4.45-5.00 pm      | Travel to the site                  |
| 5.00-8.00 pm      | Lectures/Workshops/Finds processing |
| 8.00 – 8.45       | Dinner at the site                  |
| 8.45-9.00         | Travel to the hotel                 |

In case of rainy days, lectures and lab work will be performed.

**EQUIPMENT LIST**

- Work shoes (preferably closed shoes like sneakers or running shoes)
- An additional set of walking and hiking shoes.
- Clothing suitable for outdoor activities (consider weather conditions from hot and sunny to rainy and chilly).
- Wide brim hat
- A small backpack (for your food, bottle of water, wet wipes, camera, papers etc.)
- A light raincoat for possible rainy and windy days is recommended.
- Medication - It is not necessary to bring over-the-counter medicine from your country since you can buy all common types in Bulgaria (e.g. aspirin, anti-insecticides, sunscreen, etc). It is recommended, however, that you bring any individual prescription medicines.
- A converter to EU type electricity wall-plug if needed.
- A good attitude for work, fun, study, and discoveries.

**PRACTICAL INFORMATION**

**Bulgarian dialing code:** +359

**Time Difference** (Summer time): UTC/GMT +2 hours (March through October).

**Measure units:** degree Celsius (°C), meter (m.), gram (gr.), liter (l)

**Money/Banks/Credit Cards:** The Bulgarian currency is the Bulgarian LEV (BGN). You cannot pay in Euros or other foreign currency, except in casinos and big hotels (where the exchange rate is really unfair)! Since 1997, the Bulgarian LEV has been pegged to the EURO at the exchange rate of 1 euro = 1.955 lev (usually sold for 1.94 lev). Bulgarian banks accept all credit cards and sometimes travellers’ cheques. Usually banks open at 8.30-9.00 am and close at 5.00-6.00 pm. They work from Monday to Friday. Shopping malls, supermarkets, and many shops in Sofia and/or bigger towns and resorts will also accept

credit cards. This is not valid for smaller “domestic” shops throughout the country where the only way of payment is cash! You can see Bulgarian notes and coins in circulation at:

[www.bnb.bg/NotesAndCoins/NACNotesCurrency/index.htm?toLang= EN](http://www.bnb.bg/NotesAndCoins/NACNotesCurrency/index.htm?toLang= EN)

Exchange of foreign currencies is possible not only at banks but also at numerous exchange offices. NB, Most of them don't collect a commission fee and have acceptable exchange rates (+/- 0.5-1,5% of the official rate) However, those located in shopping areas of big cities, resorts, railway stations, airports, etc., can overcharge you varying amounts. Ask in advance how much money you will get!

ATMs are available all over the country and POS-terminals are in every bank office.

If you plan to use your credit/debit card in Bulgaria, please inform your bank of your intention before departure! Otherwise it is very possible that your bank will block your account/ card for security reasons when you try to use it abroad! Unblocking your card, when abroad, may cost you several phone calls and a lot of money.

### Electricity

The electricity power in the country is stable at 220 - Volts A.C. (50 Hertz). Don't forget to bring a voltage converter, if necessary!



Outlets in Bulgaria generally accept 1 type of plug: two round pins. If your appliance's plug has a different shape, you will need a plug adapter.

### Emergency

National emergency number is 112.

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**Todorova N., Mazanova V.** Late Chalcolithic Ceramic Style at Yunatsite Tell (Approach to the Systematization of the Ceramics from the Newly Excavated Levels) – In: Nikolova L. (ed.) - Technology, Style and Society. BAR International Series 854, Oxford 2000, 331-361.

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#### **RECOMMENDED READINGS**

**Aslanis I., Y. Boyadzhiev.** Fleißdeponierung in der chalkolithischen Siedlung von Yunatsite – In: Prehistoric Thrace. Proceedings of the International Symposium in Stara Zagora, Sofia – Stara Zagora 2004, 370-378.

**Boyadzhiev K.** Development and Distribution of Close Combat Weapons in Bulgarian Chalcolithic - Studia Praehistorica 14, Sofia 2011, 265 – 281.

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**Boyadzhiev Y.** Ethnocultural Interrelationships in the Lower Danube Area during the Second Half of the Sixth and the First Half of the Fifth Millennium BC (According to Evidence from Cemeteries) - Studia Praehistorica 14, Sofia 2011, 205 – 223.

**Grant J., Sam Gorin and Neil Fleming.** The Archaeology Coursebook: an Introduction to Themes, Sites, Methods and Skills. Routledge, 2008.

**McIntosh, J.** Handbook to Life in Prehistoric Europe. New York, 2006.

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**Tell Yunatsite. The Bronze Age, Vol. 2, Part 1** (Moscow, 2007). (In Russian; a summary in English is available after each chapter.)

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