AVVISO DI SEMINARIO

Martedì 25 Settembre
Alle ore 15:00 in AULA 20

il Dott. Thibaut Devièse
Research Laboratory for Archaeology and the History of Art,
University of Oxford

terrà un seminario dal titolo:

From chemistry to radiocarbon dating:
Improving the chronologies of the past using supercritical fluids and chromatography

The ERC-funded project ‘PalaeoChron’ is investigating the chronology for the dispersal of early anatomically modern humans outwards from Africa and into Eurasia between 60-40,000 years ago. The study of this key period, during which Neanderthals and other archaic humans disappeared to extinction, relies on the power of radiocarbon dating for the chronological framework underpinning it. There is a huge onus on reliable dating, but this is extremely challenging due to the overwhelming effects of even trace (~<1%) amounts of carbon contamination in archaeological bone samples. To overcome this, at the Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit, we have been developing new methods for the decontamination of archaeological bone samples prior to their measurement on the Accelerator Mass Spectrometer. This presentation will describe the development of our methods focussing in particular on the dating of specific amino acids separated using preparative-HPLC. Selected examples will be given to illustrate the impact of this new approach for dating bones and the implications in our understanding of the dispersal of modern humans out of Africa, their coexistence with Neanderthals and the disappearance of the latter.

Gli interessati sono cordialmente invitati a partecipare

Il Direttore
Prof. Maurizio Persico

Il Responsabile
Prof. Erika Ribechini