



Gotland Archaeological Field School, Sweden Curriculum Summer 2015



Gotland Archaeological Field School is a part of **Arendus Ltd**, a company dealing with cultural heritage management in a broad sense, mainly devoted to work on the island of Gotland, but also on mainland Sweden, as well as international. Field courses have been carried out during the last 25 years, and open for international participation since 1998. The course, as well as the head of the department, Associate Professor Dan Carlsson, are Registered Professional Archaeologists in Boston RPA

The field course is carried out as a five weeks course, mainly concentrated to field work and, last week, lab work and reporting. Plans are that we will have an introductory course week before the field work, dealing with **GIS and archaeology**.

The year 2013-2016, the excavation site is the Viking Age harbour site called Paviken on the island of Gotland, one of the best preserved Viking harbour sites in Sweden. In 2015, the excavation will be concentrated to a Viking Age settlement in the southern part of the area, and there are also plans to open up one or two graves in the area.

The following list gives an idea of content of the course. The participants will be divided into smaller groups with a maximum of 5-6 people. The head of the excavation is Associate Professor Dan Carlsson, Arendus Ltd.



The course contained the following elements:

Practical elements:

- **Excavation methodology**
Including the use of a Total Station, hand-drawing plans and profiles, interpretation of field-work, and general excavation techniques.
- **Sorting, handling and field conservation of metal.**
- **Find processing**
Cleaning and documentation of artefacts; analyses of art, function and dating; digital registration; use of databases.
- **Osteology**
An introduction to osteology determination of animal bones, recording and statistic calculations and analyses.
- **Landscape analysis**
Especially making use of old maps, field investigations and interpretations, as well as using the digital register of ancient monuments.
- **Digital mapping**
Introduction to GIS, GPS, metal detecting and phosphate mapping.
- **Individual research**
In the form of a short presentation or paper on topic approved of by supervisor



Theoretical elements:

In general, there will be 2 lectures a week by teachers from Arendus Ltd, but also from Uppsala University and Stockholm University. Excursions are carried out two times to investigate, and interpret the prehistory and Middle Ages history of the island, as well as a visit to the Regional Museum.

Associate Professor Dan Carlsson

Gotland Archaeological Field-school

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