



Organized in the framework of the GC-CIGA exploratory project (Ref. 2013.13937.PEX) granted by the Portuguese Science and Technology Foundation (FCT) to the HERCULES Laboratory of the University of Évora (PT), the Archaeological Centre of Mértola (PT), and the School of Arabic Studies of the CSIC (ES).

The workshop will be held at the University of Évora, Évora - Portugal, between the **22th and the 24th of June 2026**.

Organization committee of the workshop:

- Massimo Beltrame, Hercules Laboratory, Portugal
- Elena Salinas, School of Arabic Studies, Spain
- Susana Gomez Martínez, University of Évora – CEEACP, Archaeological Camp of Mértola, Portugal
- Stamatina Nikologianni, Hercules Laboratory, Portugal
- José Mirão, Hercules Laboratory, Portugal
- Patrícia Moita, Hercules Laboratory, Portugal

Aims. The workshop aims to bring together scholars from different research institutions working on the archaeology and archaeometry of Islamic ceramics, fostering an interdisciplinary dialogue between archaeological questions and archaeometric solutions. It will provide a platform to share the most up-to-date research results, methodologies, and case studies, promoting collaboration and the integration of scientific approaches in ceramic studies. A key objective is to bridge the gap between material culture interpretation and analytical techniques, highlighting how archaeometry can address complex issues related to production, provenance, and technology. In addition, the workshop is designed to train students and early-career researchers in the application of analytical methods to the study of Islamic ceramics, **with particular emphasis on ceramic petrography**. Through lectures, discussions, and practical sessions, participants will gain both theoretical knowledge and hands-on experience, contributing to the development of new skills and future research perspectives in the field

Registration to the workshop

All participants are invited to register to the workshop using the following link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeqI1i7VZuTkTUBqBMn-gbdZxwR7AOmGY5b77pElR6aeFRAFA/viewform?usp=publish-editor>

While there are no limits for the participation to the workshop during the first day (22th of June 2026), due to the restricted number of petrographic microscopes available, practical sessions (23th and 24th of June) will be limited to maximum 18 participants. There are no fees to pay to attend the workshop. A certificate of presence will be delivered to all participants.

Bring your samples – thin sections

Whether you give a contribution during the first day of the workshop or you register both to attend and to practical sessions, feel free to bring your samples. It is important **“to share without preoccupation”** and we will be very happy to help you. If you have it, bring also a geological map of the area where your archaeological site is located.

22th of June 2026

Palácio do Vimioso, Largo Marquês de Marialva, 8, 7000-809 Évora.

Hybrid in presence – online (link zoom).

30 minutes – 20 for presentation plus 5-to-10-minute questions (ideally)

Morning session – Islamic ceramic in the context

ZOOM LINK:

<https://zoom.us/j/98434274421?pwd=IWTNMIq6DHE96G9bwMmuzP1DLyTTQ.1>

Meeting ID: 984 3427 4421

Password: 853789

8:50 – 9:00. ***The “Islamic Ceramic Archaeology and Archaeometry workshop”***. Massimo Beltrame, Hercules Laboratory, University of Évora, Portugal.

9:00 – 9:30. ***Islamic ceramic of the Garb al-Andalus***. Susana Gomez Martínez, Department of Archaeology – Archaeological Centre of Mértola, University of Évora, Portugal.

9.30 – 10:00. ***Centres and Peripheries: Technology, Glazing, and Economic Networks of Ceramics in al-Andalus***. Elena Salinas, CSIC, School of Arabic Studies, Granada, Spain.

10:00 – 10:30. ***Typological and technological characterization of the ceramics from the Emirate pottery centre of Cordoba***. Marina González Virseda, CSIC, School of Arabic Studies, Granada, Spain.

10:30 – 11:00. Coffee break.

11:00 – 11:30. ***Late Andalusian ceramics from southeastern al-Andalus 12th to 16th centuries***. Alberto Garcia Porras, Department of Medieval History and Historiographic Sciences and Techniques, University of Granada, Granada, Spain.

11:30 – 12:00. ***The Islamic ceramic of the Albalat archaeological site.*** Sophie Gilotte, Catherine Richarte, Claudio Capelli, CNRS – CIHAM, Lyon, France - University of Genova, Genova, Italy.

12:00 – 12:30. ***Rethinking pottery production and circulation in Ifriqiya and Sicily (9th-11th): problems and new approaches.*** Viva Sacco, University College London, Institute of Archaeology, London, UK.

12:30 – 14:00. Lunch break

Afternoon – Archaeometry of Islamic Ceramic

ZOOM LINK:

<https://zoom.us/j/91080207233?pwd=HY0cjU8eIV8t6rQjaNDeXaOh3pP>
[GAq.1](#)

Meeting ID: 910 8020 7233

Password: 467522

14:00 – 15:00. ***Thin Section Petrography, Geochemistry and Scanning Electron Microscopy of Archaeological Ceramics: Theory and Recent Applications from UCL IoA.*** Patrick Quinn, University College London, Institute of Archaeology, London, UK.

15:00 – 15:30. ***Sixth to eleventh century petrography of early Islamic utilitarian wares from the Vega of Granada (South-Eastern Spain).*** José Cristobal Carvajal López, CSIC, INCIPIT – Instituto of Sciences for Cultural Heritage, Santiago de Compostela, Spain.

15:30 – 15:50. ***Islamic ceramics from Évora, Mértola, and Silves: trade and technology in the southern Garb al-Andalus (X-XI century).*** Carlos Camara Vela, University College London, Institute of Archaeology, London, UK.

15:50– 16:10. ***Technological characterization of the late Islamic pottery centres of the southeastern Iberian Peninsula.*** María José Peregrina Sánchez, CSIC, School of Arabic Studies, Granada, Spain.

16:10 – 16:30. ***Petrographic studies on Medieval wares from Albalat and Southern Spain.*** Claudio Capelli, University of Genova, Genova, Italy.

16:30 – 16:50 Coffee break.

16:50 – 17:10. ***Rethinking pottery production and circulation in Ifriqiya and Sicily (9th-11th): the archaeometric approach.*** Claudio Capelli, University of Genova, Genova, Italy.

17:10 – 17:30. ***Metallic lustre glazed ceramic from Coimbra and Mértola, petrography and microanalysis.*** Matina Nikologianni, Hercules Laboratory, University of Évora, Portugal.

17:30 – 17:50. ***pXRF and petrography for the analysis of Garb al-Andalus Islamic ceramics.*** Massimo Beltrame, Hercules Laboratory, University of Évora, Portugal.

18:00. ***Visit to the Hercules Laboratory***

23th of June 2026

**Colégio Luís António Verney, Room 122, Universidade de Évora, R.
Romão Ramalho 59, 7002-554 Évora. Room.**

Covered topics during the practical session:

- Basic principles of optical microscopy
- Basic observations using a petrographic microscope
- Basics of minerals and rock fragments identification
- Description of a ceramic thin section: ceramic paste, porosity, and temper

Day 24th of June

**Colégio Luís António Verney, Room 122, University de Évora, R. Romão
Ramalho 59, 7002-554 Évora. Room.**

Covered topics during the practical session:

- Image analysis for temper analysis
- Ceramic grouping
- Technology and provenance interpretation

Some basic information about the city of Évora and the University

Évora is one of the most historically significant cities in Portugal and a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1986. Located in the Alentejo region, the city preserves an exceptional architectural and cultural heritage shaped by Roman, Islamic, medieval, and Renaissance influences. Among its most emblematic monuments are the Roman Temple of Diana, the Gothic

Cathedral, and the Chapel of Bones. Évora is also recognised for its strong cultural identity, traditional gastronomy, and central role in the historical development of southern Portugal.

University of Évora is one of the oldest universities in Portugal, originally founded in 1559 by the Jesuits and re-established in 1973. Today, it is an internationally recognised public university known for its interdisciplinary research and strong engagement with cultural heritage, sustainability, and scientific innovation. The university hosts several research centres and infrastructures of international relevance, including the HERCULES Laboratory, dedicated to heritage science and conservation. Its historical campus integrated within the city of Évora provides a unique academic environment where cultural heritage and scientific research closely interact

Hot to get at Évora. Évora can be easily reached from Lisbon by train, bus, or car. Direct trains operated by Comboios de Portugal (www.cp.pt) depart regularly from Lisboa Oriente and Entrecampos stations, with a travel time of approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes. Several bus companies (www.flixbus.pt from Lisboa Oriente station – www.rede-expressos.pt/pt from Lisboa Sete Rios bus Station) also provide daily connections (every hour more or less) between Lisbon and Évora, usually taking around 1 hour and 30 minutes. By car, Évora is accessible via the A6 motorway, with a journey of about 130 km that typically takes between 1 hour and 15 minutes and 1 hour and 30 minutes, depending on traffic.

EMAC2027: 18th European Meeting on Ancient Ceramics, Brussels (Belgium), 24-28 May 2027



[18th European Meeting on Ancient Ceramics \(EMAC 2027\) - Sciencesconf.org](https://sciencesconf.org)