



Cairo University



University of  
Cologne

## Master Dialog in Environmental Archaeology

### Project Overview

Based on 30 years of environmental and archaeological research in Egypt's Western Desert, the project aims at rounding off established study programmes by a fruitful integration of humanities and natural sciences.

The graduates of this scheme will be fit for future challenges within archaeology as well as for interdisciplinary tasks beyond. Gradually they will create a sustainable base for more efficiently studying, preserving and presenting Egypt's archaeology and raise general awareness of the intimate interrelation of nature, society and history, thereby promoting a more sustainable handling of the cultural and natural heritage.

Contact: CAIRO: Dr. Abou Al-Hassan Bakry, Faculty of Archaeology – COLOGNE: Prof. Dr. Olaf Bubbenzer, Institute of Geography, and Dr. Rudolph Kuper, Heinrich-Barth-Institute e.V.

### Programme Structure and Content

#### Archaeogeography

Overview of basic principles in geosciences, esp. geoarchaeology, geomorphology, cartography, remote sensing, GIS and palaeoclimatology (with field practica). Courses in fundamentals of physical anthropology, archaeozoology and archaeobotany.

#### Means and Methods in Archaeology

Introduction into aims, history and methods of archaeology, such as relative and absolute dating (e.g. typology, statistics, C14 and luminescence dating etc.). Training in documentation and analysis of finds (stone artefacts, ceramics etc.) as well as in experimental and ethno-archaeology.

#### Pre- and Protohistory

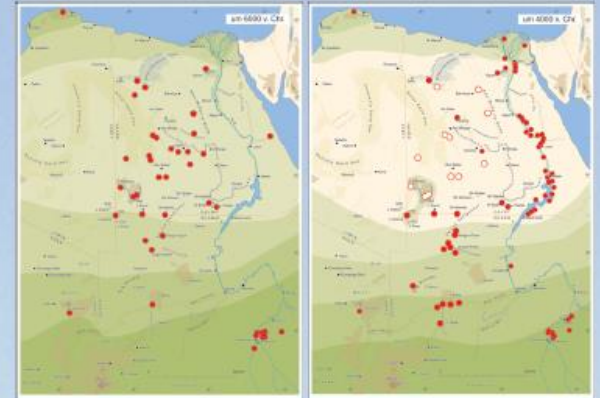
Cultural history of human evolution from the origins of Homo to the rise of early complex societies with special emphasis on periods of crucial socio-economical change (such as the process of Neolithisation) with focus on Egypt and special topics of African prehistory (specifically rock art).

#### Landscape Archaeology

Interrelations between palaeo-environment, climate, landscape, ecology and humans. Human response to environmental changes as manifested in adaptation, migration or failure with focus on the Holocene in Egypt.

#### Cultural Resources Management

Preparation and implementation of archaeological field surveys and excavations: Principles of sustainable monument protection and conservation including »invisible heritage«. Communicating scientific results to the public (museums, media and tourism).



Human response to climatic change: Distribution pattern of human settlement in northeastern Africa between 6,000 and 4,000 BC

A seminar in the desert: At a stone age site near Dakhla Dr. Heiko Riemer explains methods of recording »invisible archaeology«.





## Facts & Figures

Target group: BA-graduates in archaeological sciences with Premaster or Diploma (grade 2 or better). Period: 4 terms (with 1 semester in Cologne, including participation on excavations in Germany), plus 2 terms for writing the thesis.

## Partners

- Faculty of Archaeology, Cairo University
- Supreme Council of Antiquities Cairo
- Institute of Prehistory, University of Cologne
- Institute of Geography, University of Cologne
- Cologne African Studies Centre
- Heinrich Barth Institute e.V. Cologne

## Chances

- to gain practical field experience
- to join an international interdisciplinary network
- to train constructive scientific criticism
- to promote »Preventive Archaeology«
- to raise awareness of environment and heritage
- and thus to give a future to Egypt's past and nature



Practical field course in geomorphology conducted by Prof. Olaf Bubenzer (center) in a beet field near Cologne.



Giraffes telling the story of environmental change: Dr. Rudolph Kuper explaining rock engravings in the desert near Dakhla.



Learning in an other environment: Dr. Georg Roth explaining the remains of an iron age fortification in a forest near Cologne.