

### **General Information**

Aging is a topical issue all over the world. It is something we are encountered with on a daily basis. If we are lucky, one day we all get old. But what does that mean, growing old? What is happening to the changing taste buds? How do people experience care in their old age? What measurements are taken to fight social isolation? Does the third age include any form of subculture? Do elderly consider expat retirement in an age of mobility?

This thematic unit encourages you to ask such questions and explore the topic of aging. The field where you will discover aging is Gozo. It can offer you a unique glimpse on diverse aspects of aging; being an island, part of the Maltese Archipelago and part of the Mediterranean culture. This project is designed to increase your knowledge and experiences about aging in Gozo from a collective angle.

Starting off individual interests and/or research topics will be debated and further refined in discussion with the group and your personal mentor(s). Guidance will be offered throughout the whole process according to personal demands. Participants are encouraged to experiment with different research methods to enhance their skills, gain practical experience and develop professional competences.

We strongly believe in the strength of interdisciplinary work, hence this project is lead by two mentors from different disciplines. The objective of the project is to finalize a publishable journal volume containing articles from each participant.

The Off The Beaten Track program itself, wherein our module takes place, is focused on fieldwork, data collection and primary analysis. Writing and editing of the articles will be done after the program through online collaboration.

#### Goals

- Develop a personal research topic in cooperation with the other participants of the program and even with the other projects (food, sensoriums, oral history).
- Enhance your participant observation skills through ethnographic fieldwork.
- Find access to your field, collect and align your primary data.
- Explore the potential of interdisciplinary methods and different ways of representation.
- Contribute to a scientific publication, and/or make your own.

#### Directed at

There are no specific requirements to apply for the Off The Beaten Track Summer School and more specific this project. We invite participants from different practical and academic backgrounds. In order to be part of this, please request the application form for the Off The Beaten Track program on our website. Note that it is mandatory to contact the leading researcher beforehand concerning your research ideas.

# **Leading Researchers**

Mirjam Bussels mirjam.bussels@xpeditions.be Bryce Peake bpeake@umbc.edu

# **Program director**

Sam Janssen sam.janssen@xpeditions.be

## **Program Cost**

3.250 euros Discounts and scholarships are available.

## **Timing & Location**

Summer 2017, Gozo (Malta)

# **Application & information** www.anthropologyfieldschool.org