

# CURRICULUM VITAE

## FRANCESCA SIMI

### RESUMÉ

My educational background starts at the University of Pisa, where I graduated in Archaeology of Ancient Near East in 2012. As a student I, participated in numerous excavations and archaeological surveys in Syria, Turkey, Iraq and Italy. During my doctoral studies, I developed an interest in Landscape Archaeology and I directed the Tell Gomel Archaeological Survey (TGAS), an intensive survey of the Navkur Plain (Iraqi Kurdistan): The results of this activity, presented in my thesis, contributed to the diachronic reconstruction of the human settlement in said plain, as well as to the understanding of the ways in which this fertile territory was exploited throughout the millennia and shed light on the importance of the archaeological site of Tell Gomel within the region. In 2019, I got a post-doctoral position as a Research Assistant at the University of Oxford within the project “Endangered Archaeology in the Middle East and North Africa - EAMENA”. This opportunity allowed me to improve my knowledge of GIS and photointerpretation, and to enter the field of the protection and monitoring of endangered cultural heritage. My current fieldwork focuses on the Region of Iraqi Kurdistan where I am Deputy Director of the Land of Nineveh Archaeological Project. Most recently I am also active in the field of Public Archaeology and Ethics. I took part in numerous international conferences and workshops (also as invited speaker) and I co-organized several international workshops and one international conference for early career scholars in my field of research. My research results have been published in high-impact international peer-reviewed journals as well as in public-reach venues (such as blogs, newsletters, and non-academic journals).

### EDUCATION

- **01/09/2014-14/11/2019**

PhD in Archaeology of the Ancient Near East

Ca' Foscari Venice University in "cotutelle-de thèse" with the Eberhard-Karls-Universität Tübingen (with honours). Dissertation: The Tell Gomel Archaeological Survey. Surface research and off-site investigations in the heart of the Navkur Plain, Iraqi Kurdistan. Supervisors: Prof. D. Morandi Bonacossi and Prof. P. Pfälzner

- **01/04/2012-31/05/2014**

Postgraduate Degree (Diploma di Specializzazione) in Archaeology of the Ancient Near East

Scuola Interateneo Di Specializzazione In Beni Archeologici, Trieste, Venice and Udine Universities (with honours)

- **01/10/2009-23/02/2012**

Master of Arts (MA) in Archaeology of the Ancient Near East - University of Pisa

- **01/09/2006- 29/09/2009**

Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Cultural Heritage - University of Pisa

### ACADEMIC POSITIONS

<b>01/02/2021- present</b>	<b>Research Fellow.</b> Università degli Studi di Udine, Udine, Italy. Land of Nineveh Archaeological Project (LoNAP, Kurdistan Region of Iraq).
<b>01/02/2021-31/01/2022</b>	<b>Affiliated Research Fellow.</b> University of Oxford (School of Archaeology), Oxford, United Kingdom. Endangered Archaeology in the Middle East & North Africa - EAMENA Project
<b>01/07/2019-31/01/2021</b>	<b>Postdoctoral Researcher.</b> University of Oxford (School of Archaeology), Oxford, United Kingdom. Endangered Archaeology in the Middle East & North Africa - EAMENA Project.
<b>01/02/2019-31/07/2019</b>	<b>HiWi (Hilfswissenschaftler – Research Assistant).</b> Eberhard-Karls-Universität Tübingen, Tübingen, Deutschland. Eastern Ħabur Archaeological Survey (EHAS, Kurdistan Region of Iraq).

## SELECTED ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK

2021 – present	<b>Deputy Director of the Tell Gomel Archaeological Excavation</b> , Tell/Gir-e Gomel Kurdistan Region of Iraq. Directors: Prof. Daniele Morandi Bonacossi and Dr. Bekas Hasan.
2019 – present	<b>Deputy Director of the “Kurdish-Italian Faida Archaeological Project”</b> , Faida, Kurdistan Region of Iraq. Directors: Prof. Daniele Morandi Bonacossi and Dr. Bekas Hasan.
2019 – present	<b>Deputy Director of the Land of Nineveh Archaeological Project (LoNAP)</b> , Kurdistan Region of Iraq. Director: Prof. Daniele Morandi Bonacossi
2013 – present	<b>Member of the Italian Archaeological Mission in the Kurdish Region of Iraq (LoNAP, Land of Nineveh Archaeological Project)</b> , Kurdistan Region of Iraq. Archaeologist, member of the survey and excavation team. Director: Prof. D. Morandi.
2017	<b>GIS specialist and satellite imagery interpretation expert</b> in the Northern Lebanon Project (NoLEP), Lebanon. Director: Prof. M. Iamoni, University of Udine.
2015-2017	<b>Director of the Tell Gomel Archaeological Survey</b> (Kurdistan Region of Iraq), part of the Land of Nineveh Archaeological Project (University of Udine).
2012 - 2013	<b>Member of the Ushaklı Höyük Archaeological Project</b> (University of Florence), Turkey. Field archaeologist. Director: Prof. Stefania Mazzoni.
2008 - 2010	<b>Member of the Italian Archaeological Mission at Tell Afis</b> (University of Pisa), Syria. Field archaeologist. Director: Prof. Stefania Mazzoni.

## SUMMER SCHOOLS/INTERNSHIPS

6-31 July 2023	<b>Visiting Scholar</b> at Penn Museum of the University of Pennsylvania to work on a MSCA Global Fellowship proposal with Dr E. Hammer.
14 - 18 July 2014	<b>Summer School: “Open School of Archaeological Data 2014”</b> held by the University of Pisa.
01/01- 31/03/2013	<b>Internship:</b> Soprintendenza per i Beni Archeologici della Toscana (Tuscany Archaeological Heritage Department), Pisa, Italy.

## SCHOLARSHIPS/GRANTS

2023	Small Grant (Voucher) from the University of Udine to support the writing of a Marie Curie Global Fellowship application (5,000 €) Funding body: Università degli Studi di Udine.
1/01-31/04 2018	DAAD Short Grant Scholarship (4,000 € research grant for the study of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Millennium Settlement Pattern of the Navkur Plain, Kurdistan Region of Iraq) Funding body: DAAD. German Academic Exchange Service.
2014	3-years PhD Scholarship (40.915,41 €) Funding Body: Ca’ Foscari Università di Venezia.
2011 - 2014	3 OrMe Foundation Fellowship (for the digitization of Tell Afis Mission photographic archive)
2012 - 2013	Tuscany Regional Authority Grant to attend the Postgraduate Program in Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (Scuola di Specializzazione in Beni Archeologici).
2011	Fellowship from the "Tramonti" project to take part in the archaeological surveys in Val di Vara, La Spezia, Italy (1,000 €).
2008-2011	3 merit prizes for student achievements from the “Homo sapiens sapiens” initiative, INPS (Italian Government).

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTANCIES

02/07/2019 – 15/12/2021	<b>Consultant for Oxford Archaeology.</b> Remote survey (potential archaeological site identification) for the Al Ula Survey Project (Saudi Arabia) and trainer/instructor for the Arches database.
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**2017-2019**

**Technical consultant for the Eberhard-Karls-Universität Tübingen.** Digitization in Adobe Illustrator of small finds and pottery drawings for several projects (namely the SOJAS – South of Jiroft Archaeological Survey, the KUGAMID - Kurdish German Archaeological Mission in Dohuk and the EHAS- Eastern Ḥabur Archaeological Survey).

#### **SELECTED CONFERENCE PAPER AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS (\* INVITED)**

\*17-18 November 2023, **Asolo – International Conference “Freya Stark tra Occidente e Oriente”**, Museo di Asolo. Paper presentation (with D. Morandi Bonacossi): From the Tigris’ eastern bank to the Zagros foothills: investigation, documentation, and protection of the archaeological landscapes of Duhok Governorate (Kurdistan Region of Iraq).

22-26 May 2023, **Copenhagen – 13th International Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (ICAANE)**. Paper presented: 1) with P. Sconzo: “Waiting for the deluge? Some thoughts on the impact of dams on the heritage in the MENA region”; 2) with P. Sconzo and A. Titolo: “From the Tigris to the Euphrates banks: post-flooding assessment at the Tishreen Dam Reservoir, North Syria”; 3) with C. Coppini et al.: “Wine for the King: wine production for the Assyrian imperial elite at Khinis, ancient Khanusa”; 4) with K. I. Ihsan and D. Morandi Bonacossi: “Public Archaeology challenges and perspectives in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq: the case of Faida (Duhok Governorate)”.

\*5-6 May 2023, **Venezia – International Workshop “Wine Culture: Gandharan Crossroads”**, Ca’ Foscari Università di Venezia. Paper presentation (with D. Morandi Bonacossi and C. Coppini): “An Assyrian Winery in Khinis, Ancient Khanusa (Kurdistan Region of Iraq). The Production of Wine for the Assyrian Imperial Elite”.

\*3 May 2023, **Milan/Dublin (online) – International Workshop “Shifting Paradigms. Postcolonial Archaeology and Ethical Challenges in MENA Countries”**, Università di Milano and Trinity College of Dublin University. Paper presentation (with K.Y. Ihsan and D. Morandi Bonacossi): “Public Archaeology Challenges and Perspectives from the Kurdistan Region of Iraq: The Case of Faida (Duhok Governorate)”.

\*27 April 2023, **Leicester – International Workshop “Other Egypts: Heritage, Archaeology, and Landscape Transformations”**, organized by the Center for Endangered Archaeology and Heritage of Leicester University. Paper presentation (with M. Kenawi): “Life and Death at the fringes of Great Sand Sea”.

\*27 January 2023, **Palermo – Seminars of the Doctoral School in Heritage Studies of Palermo University**. Paper presentation with P. Sconzo and A. Titolo. “Paesaggi sommersi. Metodologie di monitoraggio, prevenzione e salvaguardia dei siti a rischio del bacino della diga di Mosul, Iraq. Il progetto ReLand”.

15 December 2022, **Udine – International Workshop “Ten years of joint archaeological research of the Udine University and the Duhok Directorate of Antiquities in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. A provisional balance and future perspectives”**. 1) Paper presentation: Bridging the Public with the Archaeological Sites in KRI: Re-joining the Local Communities with their Shared Heritage. 2) Paper presentation with C. Coppini and D. Morandi Bonacossi: Wine for the King: New Discoveries on Winemaking at Assyrian Khanusa (Khinis).

\*2 December 2022, **Udine – Discussant in the event titled “Il patrimonio culturale tra percezione, riconoscimento e tutela nel confronto tra culture ed esperienze”** organized in the framework of “Divagando. Geografie e dintorni a cura dei geografi dell’Università degli Studi Udine”.

\*26 October 2022, **Cairo – American Research Center in Egypt**: Book presentation “Gara. A Forgotten Oasis in Egypt’s Western Desert” with M. Kenawi.

\*17-18 Febbraio 2022, **Krakow - International Workshop in Search of Ancient Gaugamela**, Jagiellonian University in Kraków. Paper presentation: “Recent Research on the Urban and Funerary Landscapes of the Navkur Plain”.

11 December 2021, **Chicago – ASOR Virtual Meeting 2021. 1)** Paper presentation (with P. Sconzo): “Drowned Landscapes: A Multidisciplinary Approach to the Archaeological Heritage of the Mosul Dam Reservoir.” 2) Poster presentation (with P. Sconzo and A. Ahmadpour): “Hunting along the Tigris: New Interpretations of Earthworks and Monumentality”.

2 November 2021, **Vienna – CHNT (Conference on Cultural Heritage and New Technology)**. Paper presentation (with P. Sconzo and A. Titolo): “The submerged archaeological sites of the Mosul Dam Reservoir. Evaluating emergence patterns with a new cost-efficient tool.”

\*19 October 2021, **Erbil - 2nd Archaeological Study Day**. Archaeological Research in Iraqi Kurdistan. Rencontre organized by the French Institute of the Near East (Ifpo) and the General Directorate of Antiquities (GDA). Presentazione del paper (con D. Morandi Bonacossi): “The Discovery of the Faïda Canal and Rock Reliefs and the Archaeological Park of Sennacherib’s Irrigation System in the Duhok Governorate”.

8 April 2021, **Bologna – 12<sup>th</sup> International Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (ICAANE)**. Paper presentation, title: “Settlement Pattern, Land-use and Demographic Dynamics in the Navkur Plain (Kurdistan Region of Iraq) from the Early Bronze Age to the Iron Age.”

\*25 November 2020, **Oxford – Oxford Fieldwork Seminar**, School of Archaeology (University of Oxford). Lecture: “Surveying beyond the Tigris: new data from the Navkur Plain (Iraqi Kurdistan)”

9-11 January 2020, **Oxford – British Association of Near Eastern Archaeology (BANE) Conference**. Paper presentation, title: “Trajectories of change in settlement pattern and agricultural strategies in the Navkur Plain (Iraqi Kurdistan)”

24-28 June 2019, **Berlin – Broadening Horizons 6**, International Conference of Young Researchers Working in the Ancient Near East. Paper presentation title: “Changing Patterns of Land Exploitation and Settlement Dynamics in Upper Mesopotamia: the Navkur Plain through the Bronze and Iron Age”

3-7 April 2018, **Munich – 11<sup>th</sup> International Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (ICAANE)**: a) Poster presentation (with F. Tambone, A. Zerboni, F. Bedussi, D. Morandi Bonacossi), title: “Detecting Manuring Practice and Site Boundaries Through Soil Phosphorus Analysis: New Evidence from the Tell Gomel Archaeological Survey (Iraqi Kurdistan)”

5-8 June 2017, **Udine – Broadening Horizons 5**, International Conference of Young Researchers Working in the Ancient Near East. Paper presentation, title: “The Gomel Archaeological Survey, surface research and Off-site Investigations in the Heart of Navkur Plain.”

\*18-20 May 2017, **Poznań – Current Research on Assyrian Landscapes**. Paper presentation, title: “The Tell Gomel Archaeological Survey: Preliminary results from the 2015 and 2016 campaigns.”

25-19 April 2016, **Vienna – 10th ICAANE, the International Congresses on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East**. Paper presentation, title: “The Tell Gomel Archaeological Survey. Preliminary results of the first field campaign.”

3-4 February 2016, **Udine – Land of Nineveh Archaeological Project 2016 Workshop**. Paper presentation, title: “Tell Gomel Archaeological Survey. Risultati preliminari della prima campagna di ricognizione intensiva nella piana di Navkur.”

7-9 January 2015, **London – British Association of Near Eastern Archaeology (BANE) Annual Meeting**. Poster presentation, title: “The Tell Gomel Archaeological Survey. Surface research and off-site investigations in the heart of the Navkur Plain, Iraqi Kurdistan.”

## CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS ORGANISATION

- 24 May 2023** **Copenhagen** – Co-organizer of the International Workshop “Drowning landscapes: Multidisciplinary approaches to the archaeological heritage of Dam Reservoirs”. Workshop organised with P. Sconzo in the framework of 13th ICAANE.
- 15 December 2022** **Udine** – Co-organizer of the International Workshop “Ten years of joint archaeological research of the Udine University and the Duhok Directorate of Antiquities in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. A provisional balance and future perspectives”. Workshop organised with Prof. Morandi Bonacossi at the Department of Humanities and Heritage of the University of Udine.
- 8 April 2021** **Bologna** – Co-organizer of “Reconstructing Population Dynamics from Eastern Mediterranean to Central Asia, Challenging Ancient Demography through Landscape Archaeology”. Workshop organized with R. Palermo in the framework of 12th ICAANE.
- 5-8 June 2017** **Udine** – Co-organizer of “Broadening Horizons 5, International Conference of Young Researchers Working in the Ancient Near East”. Member of the organizing committee with M. Iamoni, K. Gavagnin, C. Coppini, R. Palermo.

## PUBLICATIONS (ARTICLES AND BOOKS, \*PEER-REVIEWED)

\***Simi F.**, K. Y. Ihsan, D. Morandi Bonacossi, **in preparation**. Public Archaeology Challenges and Perspectives from the Kurdistan Region of Iraq: The Case of Faida (Duhok Governorate), to be submitted to *Archeostorie. Journal of Public Archaeology*

\*Sconzo P., **Simi F.**, Titolo A., **in press**. The submerged archaeological sites of the Mosul dam reservoir. Evaluating emergence patterns with a new cost-efficient tool, in Proceedings of the International Conference on Cultural Heritage and New Technologies, Vienna, 26.

\*Sconzo P., **Simi F.**, Titolo A., 2023. Drowned Landscapes: The Rediscovered Archaeological Heritage of the Mosul Dam Reservoir, *BASOR*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1086/724419>

Kenawi, M., **Simi F.** 2023, *L'Oasi di Gara. Egitto, nuove scoperte nel deserto occidentale*, Verona. ISBN: 9788899398583

Kenawi, M., **Simi F.** 2022, *Gara a forgotten oasis in Egypt's Western Desert*, Manar al-Athar, Oxford. ISBN: 9781739660109

Morandi Bonacossi, D., **Simi, F.**, Turri, L. (eds), 2022. *Dal Centro dell'Impero. Nuove scoperte archeologiche dell'Università di Udine nell'antica Assiria/From the Core of the Empire. New Archaeological Discoveries of the University of Udine in Ancient Assyria*, 2022, Udine. ISBN: 9788895752426

**Simi, F.**, 2022. L'Assiria dal cielo e dallo spazio / Assyria from Air and Space, in Morandi Bonacossi, D., Simi, F., Turri, L. (eds), *Dal Centro dell'Impero. Nuove scoperte archeologiche dell'Università di Udine nell'antica Assiria/From the Core of the Empire. New Archaeological Discoveries of the University of Udine in Ancient Assyria*, Udine, 104-123.

**Simi, F.**, 2022. Assiria in pericolo / Endangered Assyria, in Morandi Bonacossi, D., Simi, F., Turri, L. (eds), *Dal Centro dell'Impero. Nuove scoperte archeologiche dell'Università di Udine nell'antica Assiria/From the Core of the Empire. New Archaeological Discoveries of the University of Udine in Ancient Assyria*, Udine, 124-141.

\*Fradley M., **Simi F.**, Guagnin M., 2022, Following the herd? A new distribution of hunting kites in Southwest Asia, *The Holocene*, 32(11), 1160–1172. <https://doi.org/10.1177/09596836221114290>

\*Fisher M, Fradley M, Flohr P, Rouhani B, **Simi F.** 2021. Ethical considerations for remote sensing and open data in relation to the endangered archaeology in the Middle East and North Africa project. *Archaeological Prospection*: 1–14. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1002/arp.1816>

\*Sconzo P., **Simi F.** and Ahmadpour A. 2021. Social Lives of Monumental Walls: Hunting along the Upper Tigris, *Journal of Field Archaeology*, 46:3, 153-171. DOI: 10.1080/00934690.2021.1878621

Fradley M. and **Simi F.** 2021. Remote Survey of Desert Kites in Northern Arabia, *The IASA Bulletin* 26, 43-44

Coppini, C., **Simi, F.** (eds), 2020. *Interactions and New Directions in Near Eastern Archaeology. Volume 3. Proceedings of the 5th "Broadening Horizons" Conference (Udine 5-8 June 2017)*, Trieste, EUT Edizioni Università di Trieste, 2020, pp. 419.

\*Sconzo, P. and **Simi, F.**, 2020. Settlement Dynamics on the Banks of the Upper Tigris, Iraq: The Mosul Dam Reservoir Survey (1980), *Journal of Open Archaeology Data*, 8: 3. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5334/joad.63>

\***Simi, F.**, 2020. The Tell Gomel archaeological survey. Preliminary results of the 2015-2016 campaigns, in: Costanza Coppini, Francesca Simi (eds), *Interactions and New Directions in Near Eastern Archaeology. Volume 3. Proceedings of the 5th "Broadening Horizons" Conference (Udine 5-8 June 2017)*, Trieste, EUT Edizioni Università di Trieste, 2020, pp. 279-292.

\*Iamoni, M., Haider, M., Turri, L., **Simi, F.**, 2019. The Northern Lebanon Project: Archaeological Survey of the Plain of Koura and the Province of Tripoli. First Season Report, *BAAL: Bulletin d'archéologie et d'architecture libanaises* 19, pp. 147-172.

## **PUBLICATIONS (DATASETS)**

2020. **Simi, F.** and Sconzo, P., "Archaeological Sites and Villages of the Mosul Dam Reservoir Survey (1980)", Harvard Dataverse, V2. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/DPNEXP>

2023. Sconzo P., **Simi F.**, Titolo A., *Drowned Landscapes: The Rediscovered Archaeological Heritage of the Mosul Dam Reservoir* DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.8190097

## **MUSEUM EXPERIENCE**

Exhibition Curator (together with D. Morandi Bonacossi, L. Turri e P. Visentini) of the archaeological exhibition "*Dal Centro dell'Impero. Nuove scoperte archeologiche dell'Università di Udine nell'antica Assiria/From the Core of the Empire. New Archaeological Discoveries of the University of Udine in Ancient Assyria*" held by Museo Archeologico di Udine from the 16<sup>th</sup> of December 2022 to the 4<sup>th</sup> of June 2023.

## **TEACHING AND TRAINING EXPERIENCE**

**March-May 2023** University of Udine. 12 hours seminar in "Methods and Techniques for Landscape Archaeology" for MA students in Archaeology.

**March 2023** Università di Roma La Sapienza. 2 hours of "Introduction to Public Archaeology in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq" in the Public Archaeology for graduate student course held by Prof. C. Conati.

**May 2022** University of Udine. 4 hours of "Introduction to Google Earth Pro and Google MyMaps for heritage sites mapping" in the Laboratory of Islamic Archaeology held by Dr. V. Vezzoli.

**2020** University of Oxford. Recording of several Youtube videotutorials for the use of EAMENA Arches Database.

**2020** University of Oxford. Tutorial on Aerial Archaeology and Remote-Sensing delivered as part of the Mst course in "Landscape Archaeology of the Greek and Roman World" (Prof. Andrew Wilson) for graduate students (22 Jan 2020)

**2019-2020** Arches Database Training delivered to professional archaeologists as part of the EAMENA project, in the field at Al Ula (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, October 2019) and at Oxford (August 2019 and January 2020). Arches Database Training delivered to professional archaeologists as consultant (July 2020 and November 2020).



## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Peer Reviewer: Antiquity, Near Eastern Archaeology, Archaeopress

Grant Application Reviewer: ERC Consolidator Grant 2021 (external reviewer)

## OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

- January-May 2023** In relation to the exhibition “From the Core of the Empire” held in the Archaeological Museum in Udine, I organized a series of lectures, guided tours and theatrical guided tours in the framework of a large Public Archaeology project aimed at engaging with the exhibition visitors and the local community at Udine.
- 2021 – present** I am in charge of the community engagement program of the LoNAP project at the sites of Faida, Khinis and Gomel (KRI).
- 2015 – present** Social Media Manager of the Land of Nineveh Archaeological Project (LoNAP). Since 2015 I have been in charge of managing the social media accounts of LoNAP, namely the YouTube channel, Facebook page, Instagram and Twitter account.
- 2015 – present** I wrote several blogs (in Italian and English) on the archaeology of Iraq for LoNAP and EAMENA blogs (<http://lonapblog.blogspot.com/> <https://eamena.arch.ox.ac.uk/blog/>) and other online newsletters such as Mār Šiprim (the official Newsletter for the International Association for Assyriology (IAA)) and Archeorient (ArchéOrient-Le Blog of the Maison de l’Orient et de la Méditerranée - University of Lyon 2).
- 15 May 2020** I delivered two webinars to around 300 children (aged between 6 and 12 years old) from the Agora Cyberschool, PA (US) on “Archaeology and archaeologists”.

## LANGUAGES

Italian (Native), English (Advanced), German (Basic), Arabic (Basic)

## IT SKILLS

Adobe Photoshop (Proficient), Adobe Illustrator (Proficient), Adobe InDesign (Proficient), ArcGIS (Proficient), QGIS (Proficient)