



Department of Engineering
Seminar Program
Wednesday, January 20, 2016
Shanahan Teaching and Learning Center
Lecture Hall 1430, 4:15pm

“Technology and Marine Archaeology”

Dr. Timmy Gambin

Department of Classics and Archaeology, University of Malta

Summary:

In the recent past, increased availability and affordability of marine technology has led to the discovery and study of numerous ancient shipwrecks throughout the Mediterranean. The classification and quantification of ancient shipwrecks highlights the fact that the vast majority of such sites are restricted to a period of 400 years, from circa 200 BC to circa 200 AD. New discoveries continue substantiate this dramatic increase of maritime transport in the Roman period. One of the rare exceptions to this rule is the Phoenician Shipwreck off Gozo, Malta. This talk will highlight elements of its discovery, exploration and survey that have been conducted for just under 10 years. These studies have shed light on trade patterns and networks in the Central Mediterranean during the Archaic period. Furthermore, there will also be focus on the methodologies and technologies being used to record this truly unique archaeological site.



Bio:

Dr Timmy Gambin has been Senior Lecturer in Maritime Archaeology in the Department of Classics and Archaeology, University of Malta, since 2012. He graduated in History from this University and went on to attain his Masters in Maritime Archaeology and History from the University of Bristol where he also got his doctorate in Maritime Archaeology. Dr Gambin has been involved in numerous collaborative research projects. These include the PaleoMed Project with the CNRS (Aix en Provence) which is aimed at the reconstruction of ancient coastal landscapes and environments of the Maltese Islands. The Ancient Cisterns Project with CalPoly and Harvey Mudd Colleges (USA) explores underground water management systems through the use of small remote operated vehicles armed with a variety of sensors. He has also co-directed numerous offshore underwater surveys in various parts of the Mediterranean including Spain, Italy and Croatia. Currently, he is working on the exploration and study of the Phoenician Shipwreck discovered off Gozo.