

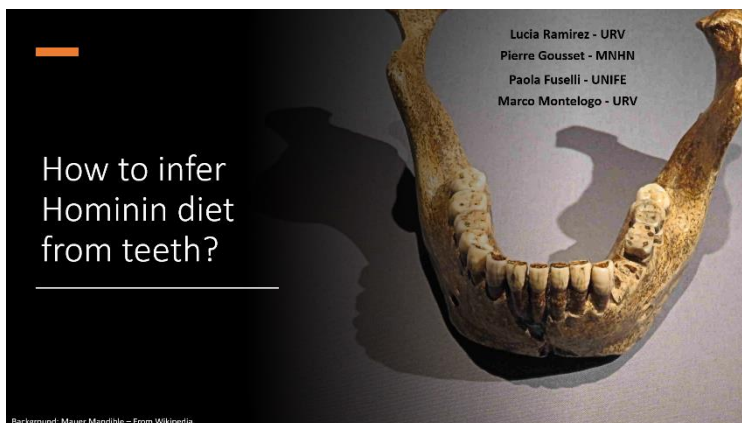


IMQP



How to work in a group despite being far away one from another?

We were 4 students in the Erasmus mundus master in Quaternary and Prehistory: Paola Fuselli, an Italian student from **Ferrara University**, Marco Montelogo, a Uruguayan student, and Lucia Ramirez Garcia, a Spanish student, both from **Tarragona University**, and Pierre Gousset, a French student from the **Natural History Museum**.



We were supposed to meet at the beginning of March, in Isernia, a city where there is a middle-pleistocene archeological site, to attend paleoanthropology conferences for 2 weeks, and do a presentation about **Hominin diet inference from teeth**.

Containment rules decided otherwise. The trip to Isernia was canceled and the oral presentation was to be prepared and performed at our respective homes.

But that was not enough to demotivate us. We did not less than 4 visio meeting, which represents 4 hours of work altogether, using Whatsapp for the written communication and Skype for the oral one.

Firstly, we all tried to have a general idea of each discipline related to the articles we were sent by Julie Arnaud, our coordinating professor. We worked on the reconstruction of changing Hominin diets that are linked to many aspects of their evolution. We focused on the numerous information that can be deduced from their teeth. We described the anatomical approach through the analysis of micro- and macro- dental wear, and the molecular one, through the study of stable isotopes and DNA



Figure 1 : Mauricio Anton/Science Source



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extraction from dental calculus. For each of these technics, we chose study cases to show the potential, the limitation, but also the complementarity of these different approaches.

Once we all had a clear idea of the entire topic, we individually specialized in one of the methods listed above. Despite this task division, we all kept an eye on each other's work. This allowed us to write an introduction and conclusion on our own, before discussing it altogether.

Each of us benefited from the others' knowledge, as we come from different fields: archeology, biology, geology and even architecture! This is a key-aspect of the master we are involved in.

We faced a little language issue, as we do not all speak and understand English as well. But between Latin languages and thanks to other language skills (in Spanish, Italian and French), we reached a good distance communication. Eventually, we were all capable of doing the oral presentation in English and were congratulated by our professors for our efficient teamwork.

The team

Marco Montelogo, Uruguay



Universitat Rovira i
Virgili, Tarragona, Spain

Pierre Gousset, France



Muséum national
d'Histoire naturelle,
Paris, France

Lucia Ramirez Garcia, Spain



Universitat Rovira i
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Paola Fuselli, Italy



Università Degli Studi di
Ferrara, Italy

International master in Quaternary and Prehistory YouTube channel

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOKahiMQc7ZYaa7pU6_wREQ