Bioarchaeology, or the study of human skeletal remains from archaeological contexts, tackles questions in the search for answers about human life in the past. What is the optimal method to excavate human skeletons? Can we identify the human bones found in an archaeological context? How their careful analysis and application of innovative techniques contribute to the investigation of life in the past? This course will discuss the contribution of different scientific fields (archaeology, history, physical anthropology, paleopathology and chemistry) in order to better understand aspects of everyday life in the past, such as mortality patterns, the role of different segments of the population (women/men/children), disease patterns and diet. A special emphasis will be given to the study of children remains, a topic that is currently gaining significant interest among researchers, enabling us to reconstruct, through specific examples what was to be a child in the Greco-Roman world (lectures will be given in English)

Location: Department of Geosciences, University of Fribourg, Chemin du Musée 6, CH-1700 Fribourg, Switzerland (www.unifr.ch/geoscience/geology)
Time: 9h15-12h00 – 13h15-17h00
Organisation: Prof. Vincent Serneels
Information and registration: Email: vincent.serneels@unifr.ch, tel: +41263008931
Participation fee: CHF 50.-/day for non-students, students are free of charge