

12th IAS International Summer School of Sedimentology

September 6th–12th, 2027 (Tremp-Aínsa, Spain)

Depositional environments and source-to-sink systems in the South Pyrenean Foreland Basin

UAB Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

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IAS

Key dates:

- November 1, 2026 - Opening of online application
- December 31, 2026 - Application deadline
- March 1, 2027 - Notification of acceptance
- April 15, 2027 - IAS Travel grants announced
- May 1, 2027 - Registration fee (300 EUR) payment deadline
- May 31, 2027 - Deadline for refunds
- September 6-12, 2027 – Summer School

Why the South-Pyrenean Foreland Basin?

- Well-preserved example of foreland basin formed synchronously with development of Pyrenean mountain range (Alpine orogeny).
- Excellent opportunity to study tectono-sedimentary in coeval and nearby carbonate to siliciclastic depositional environments, with a source to sink perspective.
- Has received sedimentary geologists for decades, doing research and field training activities at all levels, from undergraduate to postgraduate, and industry professionals.
- Contains two UNESCO Geoparks (Origens and Sobrarbe), working to promote / protect the geological heritage.
- Therefore an excellent location to organize an IAS Summer School.

Summer School Leaders:



Dr Miquel Poyatos Moré

Associate Professor of Stratigraphy

>10 years of research and field trip organization in the Pyrenees. Founder member of IAS ECSC, evaluator of the IAS Judith McKenzie Field Work Award



Dr Marta Roigé Taribó

Assistant Professor in Sedimentary Petrology

9 years of research in sedimentary petrology and provenance analysis in the Pyrenees

+ additional experts will contribute to some field days and lectures/exercises.

Logistics:

Ground transportation: Bus transport from / to Barcelona airport and during the trip will be provided by Franch Tours, a local bus company with more than 40 years of experience with geology trips in the Pyrenees. All field activities will be within no more than 45 minutes drive from accommodation.

Accommodation: A range of suitable and good-value accommodation exists in the area, including local hotels and hostels because the southern Pyrenees are a popular tourist destination. Organisers will contact successful applicants with details of the precise accommodation being used at a later stage.

Catering: The organisers will arrange all meals (including breakfast, packed lunches and dinners which will be provided by the hotels). A last evening farewell dinner is planned in Ainsa medieval town centre. Allowances for common dietary requirements will be made, such as food allergies and vegan and vegetarian options. This information will be requested from the successful applicants by the organizers well in advance of the summer school.

Safety and physical demand:

A comprehensive hazard and risk assessment has been carried out and is attached below. The physical demand of the summer school is low; the participants are expected to have basic physical condition levels. Outcrops are in road cuts, in quarries, and in hilly terrain. There will be some easy walks in rugged terrain, but without any prolonged steep ascends or descends. **Participants will be required to hold their own travel insurance** appropriate to the activities of the Summer School.

Hazard(s) identified	Control measures
1. Nature of the site: semi-remote area in Spanish Pyrenees. Temperate region, reasonably hilly with potentially steep outcrops with loose rock. Field areas located in dry river valleys and quiet road-side sections.	Field activities will involve working as a group at all times, although there is mobile phone coverage across the area. The leaders have a large experience in the area, but the group will be equipped with maps/GPS.
2. Environmental conditions: day temperatures in September 25-35C, night temperatures 10-20C. Moderate to high UV. Medium to high sunlight/heat exposure.	Regular fluid intake, adequate water (>3 litres) to be carried at all times, with additional water storage in bus. Drink bottled water. Suitable field clothing to be worn (hats and sunglasses to protect from direct sunlight). High factor sun protection (>50) to be applied regularly. Participants should not start to suffer from excessive exposure to the elements. If one feels this happening, make this known to leaders. One should first take some rest in a shaded area before leaving the field. Carry rain gear at all times, sudden downpours may occur. Carry a spare top in case temperatures fall. Outdoor working in rural areas, away from local residents and in groups. Do not litter and show care and respect for the environment.
3. Site-specific conditions: cliffs and steep gradient outcrops. Road-side outcrops. Low risk of exposure to local wildlife (snakes, scorpions, wild boar, ticks).	Wear appropriate footwear with sufficient grip and ankle protection (i.e., walking boots with ankle protection). wear long trousers to protect from animal bites and spiky undergrowth. Wear hard hats (provided) when working under cliffs or slopes with loose rocks. Avoid hammering of outcrops. Participants should have reasonable level of fitness. In road-side outcrops, wear reflective jackets (provided) to increase visibility to road users. Use insect repellent and avoid contact with local wildlife.
4. Transport: bus transport from/to Barcelona airport and during the whole duration of the trip.	In the bus, passengers should remain seated and seat belts must be worn at all times. Be aware of potential for sudden brakes due to hidden dips, changes in road surface and unmarked turns whilst passing through secondary roads.
5. Equipment: standard field kit: hard hat (provided), reflective jacket (provided), camera, GPS/tablet, compass/clinometer, face mask, antibacterial hand gel.	Use equipment safely, using appropriate eyewear protection when using hammers. Wear face mask inside the bus and maintain social distancing in the field. Regularly sanitise hands.
6. Violence: low risk	Fieldwork will be undertaken in areas of very sparse populations.
7. Individual(s): dietary requirements, medical conditions, young inexperienced participants, disabilities etc.	Participants will be required to hold private travel insurance. Participants should inform the excursion leaders (in strict confidence) of any relevant medical condition which may affect their performance in the field. Dietary requirements will be timely informed to the hotels before the trip.
8. Work Pattern: 9am to 5pm with breaks for lunch and rest.	Only working and travelling to and from the field during day-light hours. No fieldwork or off-road driving will be undertaken at night.
9. Permissions Required: Contact details, visas, and letters of permission, restrictions and other details of permissions.	All public right of way, no permissions required. Travelling visas for overseas participants will be dealt with individually prior to the trip. Check requirements at: https://www.exteriores.gob.es/en
10. Other Specific Risk Assessments	The mobile phone signal is good and reliable in this area should it be necessary to call emergency services.
11. Vaccinations Required	We'll monitor and follow strictly government restrictions and guidelines.
12. First Aid Provision: first aiders in the group, first aid equipment, access to medical equipment and hospitals**.**	Field trip leaders and bus driver are first aid trained. There are local emergency hospitals, and the team have the phone numbers in case of incident. Each leader will have a first aid kit in backpack, plus another one in the bus. Additional private car (Miquel Poyatos Moré) for any eventual Health or safety emergency.

Eligibility and how to apply:

The Summer School is open to all IAS postgraduate research student members. Applications are made through the member portal on the IAS website and involve completion of the application form including a motivation statement, an up-to-date curriculum vitae, a statement of support from your research supervisor, and proof of enrolment as a postgraduate student. All of these are combined and uploaded as a single pdf file.

The Summer School has a capacity of 20 students. Selection of candidates will be based on the motivation statement, CV, and supervisor's letter of recommendation, but the organisers will also fully consider equality, diversity, inclusiveness and accessibility (EDIA) principles in their selection. All participants and organisers will be required to respect the IAS's Code of Conduct.

The IAS's EDIA statement and code of conduct can be viewed on the IAS website (https://www.sedimentologists.org/about-ias/about-the-association/).

Costs:

The registration fee for the Summer School is **300 EUR**. This covers all the field tuition and materials, local transport, and **includes** the costs of accommodation and the meals provided.

Participants accepted onto the Summer School will also be able to apply for IAS Student Travel Grants that will contribute towards their international travel costs. Note, these will not cover all the costs so participants will need to have access to some additional funding. The amount of the travel grant is based on distance of travel within a fixed total budget. Typical amounts would be from 150 Euro for short haul travel such as within Europe up to a maximum of 1200 Euro for ultralong haul travel (> 12,000 km).

Proposed activities:

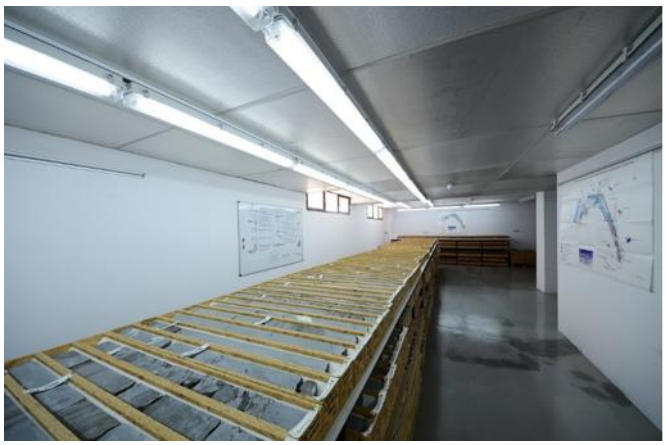
- Morning: field activities (hosted by local leaders)
    - Generic geology field data collection
    - Lithological recognition and point counting analysis
    - Sedimentary structure, fossil and trace fossil recognition
    - Sedimentary logging, facies and architecture analysis of excellent outcrops
    - Basin-scale source-to-sink and paleogeographic reconstructions




- Afternoon: lectures (+/- exercises)
    - Lecture and exercise sessions on alluvial, fluvial, shallow-marine (siliciclastic, mixed and carbonate) and deep-marine systems (delivered by the invited lecturers)




- Evening: student presentations (10'+10' Q&A)
    - Last evening: core logging exercise with Ainsa deep-water channel deposits (core store in Apolo Hotel)



Preliminary program:

Day 1 (Monday 6th Sept)
- Arrival and transfer from Barcelona Airport (3h)
- Icebreaker reception in Hotel Solé (La Pobla de Segur)
- Introduction to summer school (M. Roigé and M. Poyatos)
- Dinner and night in hotel (Tremp)

Day 2 (Tuesday 7th Sept)
- Morning (9-13): fieldwork data collection in an alluvial-lacustrine succession (Claverol)
- Afternoon (15-17): lecture and exercise on fluvial systems (Lecturer TBC)
- Evening (18-19:30): student presentations
- Dinner and night in hotel (Tremp)

Day 3 (Wednesday 8th Sept)
- Morning (9-13): fluvial facies and architecture (Montllobar-Mas de Faro)
- Afternoon (15-17): lecture and exercise on tidal systems (Lecturer TBC)
- Evening (18-19:30): student presentations
- Dinner and night in hotel (Tremp)

Day 4 (Thursday 9th Sept)
- Morning (9-13): recognition and measurement of tidal indicators (Àger)
- Afternoon (16-18): lecture and exercise on carbonate systems (Lecturer TBC)
- Evening (19-20:30): student presentations
- Dinner and night in hotel (Ainsa)

Day 5 (Friday 10th Sept)
- Morning (10-13): characterization of carbonate platform systems (Campo)
- Afternoon (15-17): lecture and exercise on deep-water systems (Lecturer TBC)
- Evening (18-19:30): student presentations
- Dinner and night in hotel (Ainsa)

Day 6 (Saturday 11th Sept)
- Morning (9-13): deep-water processes and deposits (Los Molinos)
- Afternoon (15-18): core logging activity (core store, Hotel Apolo)
- Farewell dinner (Ainsa old town)
- Night in hotel Apolo (Ainsa)

Day 7 (Sunday 12th Sept)
- Transfer to Barcelona Airport (4h)

Proposed field exercises / localities:

