

## BIWEEKLY COLLOQUIUM

Semester topic "Human and natural resources in prehistory:  
qualitative and quantitative analyses"

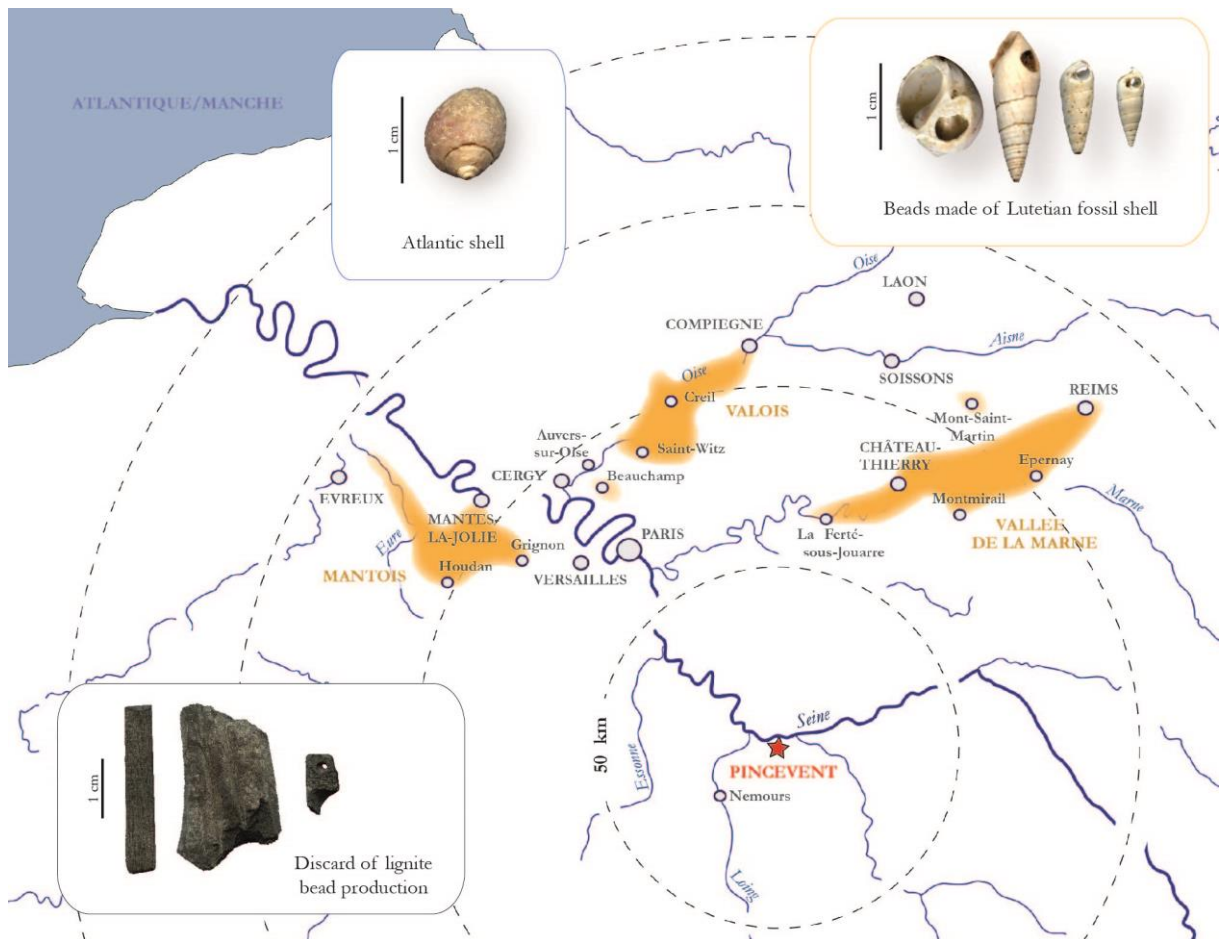
Monday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 4:15 p.m.

**Origins and circulation of bead materials: example from French  
archeological sites during the second part of the Upper Paleolithic  
(20 000 – 10 000 BP)**

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In Prehistory, personal ornaments are considered rare items with a strong symbolic value. Probably used as objects of exchange, they could travel very long distances, up to 800 km on the longest routes. For this reason, the study of the provenances of bead materials can teach us about the circulation and supply territories of prehistoric axes. Because of their restricted origins, rocks, mainly lignite and amber, and shells transformed into ornaments are particularly relevant to address this question. Combining geological, morphometric and technological analysis, it is possible to reconstruct the frequented spaces and the modalities of exploitation.

In this way, we focus on the acquisition of bead materials in French sites (among which abri Lachaud, abri Fritsch, Oisy, La Garenne, La Marche, Le Taillis des Coteaux, Pincevent) dated to the second part of Upper Paleolithic - that is to say during the Solutrean, Badegoulian and Magdalenian periods. The main results show discontinuities in supply used, which we interpret as depth and frequent reorganizations of used spaces. The same tendencies are already known for lithic procurement strategies. These corresponding economical spaces for the daily live raw materials are strongly imbedded in the cultural areas, which may be defined as territories.



Picture: The supply territory of bead materials from the Magdalenian site of Pincevent (Paris Basin, France).

Venue: Leibnizstraße 1, Seminar Room 204