

Requirements for Summer Archaeological Fieldwork Practicum (3 cr.)

Practicum Objectives

The primary objective of the practicum is to provide students with instruction and practical experience in basic methods and techniques of archaeological fieldwork. The experience is gained in the context of a long-term research project designed to produce specimens, records, and data that will support further laboratory analysis and eventual publication of research results. Students thus will be making important contributions to the research while they are learning basic field methods.

The field and laboratory methods include:

site gridding
use of leveling instruments
floor plan mapping
wall profile mapping
feature excavation
square excavation
completion and processing of level forms, feature forms
collection and processing of soil samples, radiocarbon samples
GPS mapping
compass work
processing of site forms
production of site maps
lithic inventory and cataloging
faunal inventory and cataloging
lithic artifact classification
lithic raw material identification
faunal classification
collections cataloging and coding
exposure to regional culture history
exposure to regional geology

Evaluation

Grades for the field school will be based on performance in excavation, survey, laboratory, final report-presentation, and a research paper. Performance evaluation will be based not only on knowledge and demonstration of the skills involved in the methodology, but on teamwork and attitude. Field schools are unique learning experiences. We will all be living and working together for approximately two weeks: teamwork and attitude can make or break everyone's experience.

- You have to submit after the fieldwork the following documents to the department

- Field journal (reporting your research schedule for each day and how your research was progressed through that schedule) – 30 %
- Field report (which is based on field journal) – 20%
- Final report-presentation on the base of field report – 20%
- Active participation – 30% (discipline, responsibility, diligence, etc.)

Field report should consist of literature review, overall description of archaeological site or sites, methods of excavation process, and significant outcomes.

Camp Life

The summer season is presented by 14-day session (see the attached schedule for details). Everyone is required to be present and participate in fieldwork according schedule.

You have to be prepared for a variety of weather conditions. Since we'll be camping for the summer you should try to be as comfortable as possible.