

2005 University of Nebraska – Lincoln Summer Field School in Archaeology

For the 36th consecutive year, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln will offer a Summer Field School in Archaeology. The course will run for 8 weeks during UNL summer sessions, from May 16 to July 8, 2005. This period includes both the 3-week pre-session and first 5-week session. The field school is taken for 9 credit hours where students can enroll in a combination of courses (ANTH 280/281, 480/481). The course offers students a practical introduction to the basic techniques of modern field archeology by involving them in two exciting research projects.

Archaeological Exploration of Nebraska's Historic Trails

This multiyear research project initiated in the summer of 2004 will map, document, and interpret the dynamic patterns of frontier life along surviving portions of Nebraska's historic overland trails. Initial research in archaeological and historical records has revealed several geographical areas containing trail sites with high research potential. Preliminary field investigations will focus on 3 locations: 1) Roland Reed Ranch Site, on the Nebraska City Trail near Beaver Crossing, NE; 2) Junctionville, the nexus of the Oxbow and Nebraska City Trails near Doniphan, NE; and 3) several sites in Jefferson County situated on the Oregon Trail and Pony Express Route, along the Nebraska-Kansas border, near Endicott, NE. Students will be trained in GPS survey techniques, mapping, historic artifact identification, and excavation methods. During this project, students will live on campus or at home. Everyday a van will bring the field party back and forth between Lincoln and the sites. Dr. Paul Demers, Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Geography will teach this part of the field school with a graduate assistant and staff members from the NSHS.

Tracing the Prehistoric Hopeton Earthwork, Ohio

A portion of the field school team will travel to southern Ohio so that they can take part in a major research project undertaken by Dr. Mark Lynott, Director of the National Park Service, Midwest Archeological Center. The focus of the research is the Hopeton Earthwork, a huge complex of mounds, enclosures and ditches created by the prehistoric Native American Hopewell culture. Dr. Lynott has been investigating the Hopeton Earthwork for several years. His project involves archeologists and geophysicists from the National Park Service and several major universities. The focus of work will be to use geophysical survey techniques together with targeted excavations, and systematic surface collecting to locate ancient earthwork structures that have been damaged by historic development. Through this work field school students will learn specialized geophysical surveying methods, mapping, artifact identification, and data recording. While in Ohio, field school students will stay in comfortable housing near the site. Simple food storage and preparation facilities will be available, but most meals will have to be purchased. Housing costs will be covered and while at Hopeton, all students will be registered as "Volunteers-in-Parks (VIP's) and receive a small stipend to defray dining expenses.

For information on the Hopeton Project, visit:

http://www.cr.nps.gov/mwac/hopeton/hopteton_main.htm

OVER

Estimated Costs

All students will register for 9 credits of field work and laboratory work in archaeology. These credits may be taken as either ANTH 280/281, or ANTH 480/481. The usual pattern is 3 credits of 2/480 during the 3-week pre-session, and 6 credits of 2/480 or 2/481 during the first 5-week session.

Tuition and Fees: Please consult the UNL Office of Registration and Records for rates
<http://www.unl.edu/regrec/registration/tuition.shtml>

Transportation Fee, Insurance, and Tool-kit: approximately \$250.00

Students will provide their own housing while the field school is in Nebraska. Housing and partial food support will be provided during the Ohio portion of the summer.

Application, Registration, and Contact Information

Students must apply for admission through the Department of Anthropology and Geography. Applications are available in 126 Bessey Hall, UNL, Lincoln, NE 68588-0368.

For more information, please contact Dr. Paul Demers, (402) 472-8872, pdemers2@unl.edu or Dr. LuAnn Wandsnider, (402) 472-8873, lwandsnider1@unl.edu