

# UNIVERSITY OF Nebraska Lincoln

## *University of Nebraska-Lincoln Summer 2006 Archaeological Field School*



The 37<sup>th</sup> annual UNL field school in archaeology will offer students an interesting and informative hands-on introduction to the archaeology of Nebraska's historic trail sites. Occurring over eight weeks, May 15 – July 7, 2006, the field school will guide students in the course of archaeological field investigation at four historic overland trail sites:

- Beaver Creek Trail Crossing Site (25SW49) which includes the Roland Reed Ranch Site on the Nebraska City Cutoff/Steamwagon Road
- Junctionville Site at the intersection of the Oxbow and Nebraska City Cutoff trails.
- various Jefferson County sites on the Oregon Trail and Pony Express Route
- Sand Hill Pony Express Station (Hastings, NE)

The field school will be conducted by Dr. Paul Demers, Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Geography at UNL.



### ***Field Experience***

Because field experience is an integral part of an archaeology student's education, it is important to be skilled in numerous aspects of archaeological excavation. Over the course of the eight weeks, students will be taught various methods of site survey, excavation, mapping, and data collection as well as gain experience in artifact identification. Additionally, they will be involved in the collection and interpretation of geophysical data and GPS mapping. Additionally, the

student will be participating in and contributing to a lesser-known aspect of Nebraska archaeology. The data provided by the field school excavations will serve to encourage, bolster, and expand trails research as a whole.

### ***Logistics***

Housing during the field school will be the student's responsibility. All students will be transported from the UNL campus to the sites and back daily. The work schedule is Monday-Friday, 7:30am-5:30pm. Students will also be responsible for bringing a lunch and plenty of water to the site each day. Field equipment will be provided.

### ***After the Field School***

After the field season, there are several opportunities available to students to continue their involvement in the study of Nebraska's historic overland trails. In the fall of 2006, Dr. Demers will teach a course at UNL that devotes the entire semester to processing artifacts and information recovered during the summer from washing the artifacts to writing the final report. Students can also become involved by discussing research projects with Dr. Demers or becoming involved with the Nebraska Historic Trails digital database.

### ***Estimated Costs***

Transportation to and from the sites and insurance for travel and the laboratory fee will amount is \$250.00. The field school will be taken for 9 credits in a combination of courses:

#### Undergraduate:

- ANTH 280 (field work)
- ANTH 291 (lab work)
- ANTH 490 (advanced field work)
- 491 (advanced lab work)

#### Graduate

- ANTH 890 (advanced field work)
- ANTH 891 (advanced lab work)

Information on tuition and fees for the 9 credit hours can be obtained by contacting the UNL Office of Registration and Records at 402.472.3635 or online at <http://www.unl.edu/regrec/rhome.shtml>.



### ***Application Process***

To apply to the field school, fill out an application form and return it promptly to the Department of Anthropology and Geography (see address below). A committee of faculty members will review the applications and decide a student's acceptance or denial to the program. The student will be sent a letter confirming the outcome of the application process. Upon acceptance, additional materials concerning the specifics of the field school will be made available.

Department of Anthropology and Geography  
810 Oldfather Hall  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
Lincoln, NE 68588-0368  
402.472.2411

### ***Contact Information***

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Demers:

Email: [pdemers2@unl.edu](mailto:pdemers2@unl.edu)  
Phone: 402.472.8872

Also, there are several former field school students who are available for questions. If you'd like to speak to a student, please ask Dr. Demers for contact information.



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