

ANTH 279: Archaeological Field School

INSTRUCTOR:	Susan C. Ryan, Ph.D.
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COURSE CREDIT:	6 undergraduate credits
DATES & TIMES:	Sunday, May 24, 2015: 6:30 – 8:00 pm May 25 – June 27, 2015, 5 Weeks, Monday-Friday: 8:30 am – 12:00 pm 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Through immersion in a five-week experiential learning program, undergraduate students will learn the fundamental techniques of archaeological site identification and recording, excavation, and basic artifact processing and analyses. Additionally, undergraduate students will learn instrument surveying and remote sensing surveying techniques. Evening programs, field trips, and public events expand these essential skills and present real-world opportunities to practice the principles of conservation archaeology. Undergraduate students will work in groups throughout the program, rotating through the training modules that offer different, but complementary skill sets. Undergraduate students interact with archaeological professionals while conducting fieldwork on ancestral Pueblo sites located in the Mesa Verde region of southwestern Colorado.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify and record an archaeological site.
2. Demonstrate the ability to perform basic procedures of excavation including:
 - a. Lay out an excavation unit.
 - b. Use standard tools and techniques to excavate the unit to professional standards.
 - c. Fill out paper documentation.
 - d. Complete plan and profile maps.
 - e. Photograph the excavation unit.
3. Indicate a basic understanding of archaeological method and theory.

4. Reproduce basic laboratory processing techniques.
5. Employ archaeological ethics.
6. Summarize U.S. archaeological law.

TEXTS, READINGS, INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES:

- <http://www.crowcanyon.org/fieldmanual>
- <http://www.crowcanyon.org/labmanual>
- <http://www.crowcanyon.org/peoplesmesaverde>
- <http://www.crowcanyon.org/ethicslaw>
- <http://youtu.be/zwDrLqThhYY>

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Attendance:

Attendance will be checked. Each student is allowed 1 missed class with no penalty. Each subsequent missed class will result in a 1% reduction in the participation grade. The only exceptions granted will be for a *documented* emergency such as a sudden illness, traffic accident or bereavement.

Participation:

I expect everyone to join in discussions. Obviously, you can't participate if you are not in class, but that is only the first step. Be an active participant in class discussions. Join in. Have fun. Ask questions. Think out loud. Finally, feel free to disagree with me, each other, or any of the readings, but do it respectfully.

Finally, threatening and/or disruptive behavior will be taken very seriously. Please see the appropriate sections of the Student Code of Conduct for discussions of threatening and disruptive behavior.

Note: Cell phones may not be used during class—that includes texting. Please turn off the ringer.

In class activities:

- a. Attend each class session and participate in class discussions, projects, activities, field trip, and evening programs.
- b. Create a paper-based portfolio by doing the following activities:
 - i. Writing in student's field journal.
 - ii. Writing an excavation unit summary.
 - iii. Keeping field and laboratory documentation.
- c. Present research project results.

Outside activities:

Each student will complete the following:

- a. Assigned readings.
- b. Research project readings.
- c. Prepare research project presentation.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION AND SCALE:

Grade Distribution:

Class Participation	10%
Attendance	10%
Paper-based portfolio containing the following:	
Field Journal	20%
Excavation Unit Summary	20%
Field and Laboratory Documentation	20%
Research Project Presentation	20%
 Total	 100%

Grade Scale:

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
59 and below	F

OR

Pass/Fail: If registered for the pass/fail option undergraduate students need a minimum of 70% to pass.

CLASS SCHEDULE:

WEEK ONE May 24-29, 2015

- Introduction to Crow Canyon and the project
- Introduction to archaeological method and theory
- Introduction to research designs
- Introduction to site survey and mapping techniques
- Introduction to archaeological law
- Introduction to archaeological ethics
- Introduction to archaeological excavation techniques
- Introduction to basic laboratory techniques
- Introduction to research projects

WEEK TWO June 1-5, 2015

- Excavation
- Survey
- Mapping
- Artifact processing
- Introduction to remote sensing techniques
- Field trip to Mesa Verde National Park
- Introduction to chronometrics
- Introduction to collections management

WEEK THREE June 8-12, 2015

- Excavation
- Survey
- Mapping
- Artifact processing
- Field trip to Fortified Spur, a Pueblo I period village
- Introduction to the curation crisis in America
- Introduction to human osteology
- Introduction to fauna

WEEK FOUR June 15-19, 2015

- Excavation
- Survey
- Mapping

- Artifact processing
- Field trip to Lowry Pueblo and the Woods Canyon community
- Introduction to archaeobotany
- Introduction to experimental archaeology and flintknapping
- Introduction to the history of archaeological work in the region

WEEK FIVE June 22-26, 2015

- Excavation
- Survey
- Mapping
- Artifact processing
- Field trip to the Goodman Point community
- Introduction to modern Ute culture
- Introduction to modern Pueblo culture
- Introduction to archaeological report preparation
- Archaeology as a career
- Student research project presentations
- Portfolio due June 26th