

## **ANTH 589: Archaeological Field School**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Susan C. Ryan, Ph.D.  
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**COURSE CREDIT:** 6 graduate 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, graduate students will learn the fundamental techniques of archaeological site identification and recording, excavation, and basic artifact processing and analyses. Additionally, graduate 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. Graduate students will work in groups throughout the program, rotating through the training modules that offer different, but complementary skill sets. Graduate 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.
7. Prepare research-based archaeological analyses and interpretations

### **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.*

#### **Papers:**

Over the course of the semester, you will write three papers. The first two will be 5 page analyses papers, with the third being a 15-20 page research-based paper. All papers will require outside research and the use of APA style citations. Topics and guidelines will be handed out well before the papers are due. Papers must be turned in at the beginning of class.

Late papers will not be accepted unless permission has been obtained *in advance* from the instructor. The only exceptions granted will be for *documented* emergencies such as a sudden illness, traffic accident or bereavement.

Some of the assignments in this class do not require citations, only because they do not involve outside research. However, if you do research anyway (on the web, in print or wherever) and quote, paraphrase, or summarize another author's writing, *you must employ proper citation no matter what—every time.*

All citations must follow the APA style guidelines for citations and references. Failing to cite another author's work (where necessary) constitutes plagiarism. See discussion of plagiarism below. Failure to employ the APA style for citations and references will result in a 20-point reduction of your grade on that assignment (e.g., an 86 becomes a 66). Discussions of the APA style can be found at:

[http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/p04\\_c09\\_o.html](http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/p04_c09_o.html)

<http://www.wisc.edu/writing/Handbook/DocAPA.html>

### **Cheating and Plagiarism:**

Don't cheat or plagiarize. Cheating and plagiarism are serious violations of the code. Any detected cases of plagiarism in writing assignments will result in a score of zero. Plagiarism is the use of another person's work without attribution (this also holds for web sources!).

### **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.
- d. Prepare research papers (two 5 page papers and one 15-20 page paper).

**GRADE DISTRIBUTION AND SCALE:**

**Grade Distribution:**

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

**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 graduate students need a minimum of 80% 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
- Paper #1 due June 5th

### **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
- Paper #2 due June 12<sup>th</sup>

### **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
- Paper #3 due June 26<sup>th</sup>
- Portfolio due June 26<sup>th</sup>