

THE UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS
DEPARTMENT OF EARTH SCIENCES
WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGY FIELD CAMP INFORMATION
2011

Course - ESCI 4325, Archaeological Field and Lab Techniques, 6 semester hours of undergraduate credit.

Dates – Sunday, May 15 to Saturday July 2, 2011 (includes travel to and from Memphis). The field school is organized into three 10-day sessions lasting from May 23-June 1, 2011, June 6-June 15, 2011, and June 20-June 29, 2011. A pre-session held in Cody, Wyoming and Crow Agency, Montana, will begin on May 18, 2011. Two 4-day breaks will be spent in Cody, Wyoming.

Location - Two sessions of the field camp will be held at Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area in northwest Wyoming and southwest Montana. The third session will be held in the Absaroka Mountains near Dubois, Wyoming. Pre-session field trips will include visits to local museums and archaeological sites with an overnight stay at the Crow Indian Reservation in Montana. All students should be prepared to spend the full six weeks tent camping.

Prerequisites - Students must have instructor permission before registering for this class. While there are no formal prerequisites, introductory level classes in archaeology, anthropology, history, and/or American Indian studies are preferred.

General Objectives - Students will learn basic skills needed to conduct successful archaeological fieldwork and the collection of field data, artifact identification and analysis, and how to prepare maps. Other skills students will learn are general knowledge of High Plains and Rocky Mountains culture history and ethnology, regional geoarchaeology and paleoenvironmental history, and vertebrate taphonomy.

Grades – The majority of the course grade is based on participation. Students are expected to keep a daily field book that is a record of their activities. Students will also take three quizzes during the course of the six weeks.

I. Costs

There are two charges:

- Field Camp fees
- University of Memphis tuition

Field Camp Fees

These fees cover the costs of food, transportation, and supplies. Food will be provided during two of the three scheduled pre-session days and during each of the three scheduled 10-day sessions. Students will be required to provide their own food during the travel to and from Wyoming and during the two 4-day breaks. Transportation will be provided roundtrip from Memphis. Students may choose to provide their own transportation, but this **WILL NOT CHANGE** the total course fees. Supplies will cover manuals and reading packets-, field notebooks, maps, air photos, camping fees, park entrance fees, etc. Students should budget additional money for miscellaneous expenses. Many field camp students end up calling home for more funds. We recommend a minimum of \$500 for out-of-pocket expenses. A bank money card or a credit card is a big help.

University of Memphis Tuition -

- Estimated Tuition for in-state students - \$1,998 (6 credit hours)
- Estimated Tuition for out of state students- \$5,340 (6 credit hours)

Tuition payment instructions and deadlines will be provided to you after you complete the camp registration process.

Tuition listed here is current for the Spring 2011 term. If increases occur before the summer 2011 term, you will be notified. Such increases are usually announced on very short notice and are not under the control of the Department of Earth Sciences.

Once you are accepted to both the U of M and field camp you may register online at <http://www.memphis.edu/registrar/student/register/index.htm>. For further details, see below under Registration. If you have questions about the application process contact [Dr. Finley](#).

II. Admissions

Admission to the Archaeology Field Camp: Admission is on a first come, first served basis. A field camp application form is available from the Field Camp Director (see also at the end of this document). Fill the form out and give or send it to the Field Camp Director by April 1, 2011:

[Judson Finley](#)
Field Camp Director
Department of Earth Sciences
The University of Memphis
Rm. 1 Johnson Hall
Memphis, TN 38152-3550

Notification of acceptance will be made through email by April 15, 2011. The notification email will include a URL for fee payment through the UStore site. The Field Camp fee (\$800.00) **IS DUE BY May 1, 2011**. Students will receive a full refund if withdrawn by May 13, 2011.

Admission to The U of M: Students not already accepted at The U of M must apply, not only to field camp, but also to The U of M via the Admissions Office. These admission instructions are only for students who are not currently admitted to the University. We cannot finish your field camp application until you are fully accepted at The U of M. Appropriate forms and information are available at <http://www.memphis.edu/admissions/transfers.php>. **APPLY FOR ADMISSION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

You must be accepted to The U of M for credit to be given. You must be a student in good standing (GPA 2.0 or higher on a scale of 4.0) or have graduated from a recognized university or college for admission to the U of M. If you are currently enrolled in a university, the application to The U of M must be accompanied or followed by a statement of standing from your school's Registrar, or a transcript. If you have graduated and are not currently enrolled in a university, you must send a transcript. Colleges take a surprisingly long time to issue transcripts. If you are serious about The U of M's field camp, have the transcript sent immediately. By the time it actually arrives, all your other paper work will be here. Please note this is an **undergraduate and graduate** course at The U of M.

Have a statement of standing or transcript sent from your Registrar to the address below. Fill out the U of M admission application form, either on-line or as a mail-in form, indicate at the appropriate question that you are not seeking a degree from the U of M, and send (or submit via the web) the form with your application fee (\$25) to:

Admissions Office
101 Wilder Tower
The University of Memphis
Memphis, TN 38152

Direct questions to 901-678-2111.

Registration and Fee Payment:

- U of M students – Refer to the on-line Schedule of Classes and Bursar's Office web site.

- Non U of M students - You can find information through the University of Memphis web page at www.memphis.edu. Go to the admissions web page to apply for admission to the University of Memphis (<http://www.memphis.edu/admissions/transfers.php>). After you have been admitted you may register online at <http://www.memphis.edu/registrar/student/register/index.htm>. After you have registered, you can pay tuition using the TigerXpress system (<http://bf.memphis.edu/finance/bursar/>).

III. Program of Study

We will spend 20 days (two 10-day sessions) at Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area, which is an area connecting the Bighorn Basin and Montana High Plains and has extensive archaeological occupations. The focus of our work there is the documentation of tipi rings, circular stone structures that once held down the edges of buffalo-skin tipis. We teach the fundamental techniques of archaeological survey that includes artifact and feature identification. Students Learn to map these extensive surface features using traditional planview maps (AKA the 'Tipi Quick' method) and survey-grade GPS. We emphasize map reading and map making as part of landscape analysis, and students will gain a great deal of familiarity with GPS surveying equipment.

Bighorn Canyon is also located in close proximity to the Crow Indian Reservation. In addition to our emphasis on archaeological field methods, we place a high priority on regional ethnology and ethnohistory and its role in the contemporary practice of archaeology. Lectures focus specifically on Crow and Shoshone ethnohistory with an understanding of the role of tipis in domestic and social life. The emphasis on landscapes extends beyond that of identification and analysis of archaeological artifacts and features to include the place of the landscape in indigenous traditional culture.

The third field camp session will be held at the Wyoming Game and Fish Kirk Inberg/Kevin Roy Wildlife Management Area in the Absaroka Mountains northeast of Dubois, Wyoming. This session will document and test a remotely located, high-altitude archaeological site with occupations spanning the last 10,000 years. Students will camp at the Bear Creek Campground, which is prime grizzly bear habitat. We will take appropriate food storage precautions to insure the safety of all participants.

Camping and camp life are a major component of any archaeological field camp. All students are expected to take part equally in camp chores including cooking, cleaning, and other basic camp needs. A typical day starts with breakfast at 6:00 am. Work at the site begins at 7:30 am and continues until around 4:30 with a 30-60 minute lunch break. Lectures and field trips are a regular part of our teaching routine. Dinner is typically at 6:30 pm, after which students are free to read, study, or simply enjoy time around the camp fire. Flintknapping and other craft activities are a regular part of camp evenings. Archaeology field camp is about work, so come prepared to do so.

IV. General Comments

Travel Plans: Students using The U of M transportation will assemble at 7 a.m., Sunday, May 15 in the parking lot adjacent to (west of) Johnson Hall for the drive to Wyoming. Those who use their own transportation will meet us at either Johnson Hall on the specified date and time of departure or in Cody, Wyoming on Tuesday, May 17. The pre-session officially begins on Wednesday, May 18 and ends on Wednesday, June 29. Thursday, June 30 closing the field camp and preparing for the return trip to Memphis. We will leave Cody early in the morning of Friday, July 1 and arrive in Memphis some time on July 2.

Camp Travel Rules: Note: these limitations apply to those using The U of M transportation to and from Wyoming. Each student who rides to Wyoming in The U of M vehicles is limited to a volume of baggage not to exceed one duffel bag (or large suitcase) and a bedroll/sleeping bag. Camera, boots, and purse may be carried extra. You may want to bring all of your gear in a single, large backpack. Please contact the field camp director if you would like to bring. Please be mindful of space and keep your gear to a minimum. Any additional personal effects can be mailed or expressed to the field camp.

Private cars: Students may drive to the field camp in their private cars. Specific directions will be given later. **DO NOT ARRIVE AFTER 5:00 P.M. of the Tuesday prior to the Wednesday that camp starts.** If you cannot arrive by that time, please contact the camp director.

Flying to Field Camp: The nearest airport is the Yellowstone Regional Airport in Cody, Wyoming. The camp director or other designated staff can pick you up there. You may also fly into Billings, Montana, but you will need to make travel plans to Cody, Wyoming. Please coordinate your plans with us before making them final.

Camping: ALL STUDENTS MUST BE PREPARED TO CAMP FOR THE ENTIRE DURATION OF THEIR TRIP!!!

Shots: Tetanus inoculations are required. Shots can be arranged at university health centers or may be administered by any physician.

Health and Accident Insurance: All field trip participants are required to have some sort of health and accident insurance, which will cover them for the duration of the trip. **Bring the policy information.**

Acrophobia: We have had problems in the past with students who have a phobia about heights. Although you will never be asked to go where the faculty have not gone before, you will find yourself at the top of some steep-appearing hills from time to time.

Firearms: No firearms of any sort are permitted in the field or in the dorms. Do not bring a gun.

Smoking: The U of M vans are non-smoking areas. We also prohibit smoking on any archaeological site. You may smoke at the edge of the road, usually during designated work breaks. Smoking is allowed in the field camp, but every smoker must be responsible for the disposal of cigarette butts. Due to extreme wildfire conditions, the National Park Service, US Forest Service, or Wyoming Game and Fish may institute a smoking ban at any time. We will adhere to those rules.

Liquor: Possession of or consumption of alcoholic beverages, including beer, is prohibited in the field and in U of M vehicles. Drinking age is 21. Field camp is not a time to party.

Drugs: No drugs (except by prescription).

Pets: No pets of any kind in the camp or in the field.

Married Students: (and co-habiting adults): You are welcome, **provided** you are both taking the course for credit (see guests).

Guests: Short visits by family and friends are welcome at the field camp. We can accommodate camping space and meals for any visitors or volunteers. Visitors may want to stay in motels in Lovell, Wyoming while visiting Bighorn Canyon or Dubois, Wyoming, while visiting that project. **No one may have a "visitor" for the duration of the camp.** This is not a vacation.

Recreation: Fishing is excellent in many local streams (~\$30-\$100 for WY non-resident permit). A community recreation facility (pool tables, swimming pool, handball courts, gym, weight room, etc.) is available during the four-days in Cody, Wyoming. There are also many hiking and camping opportunities around Cody. Archaeological field camp itself is a six-week recreational adventure.

Shopping: A Wal-Mart and Sierra Trading Post are available in Cody, Wyoming. You will be able to purchase additional supplies at many of the local communities.

Phone: All field sites are remote and cell phone reception is spotty to non-existent. Be prepared to contact friends and family only when we are in town.

Emergencies: Have those involved call the NPS ranger at Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area, (307-548-2251) and the ranger or Park staff will contact us in the field.

V. Equipment

Personal gear and clothing:

FIELD DRESS CODE - all students must wear boots that support the ankle and long pants while in the field. Also essential is an easily carried rain suit or poncho, and some type of hat. Beyond these, bring clothes suitable for fieldwork. Band-Aids, aspirin, cortisone cream, insect repellent, chapstick, poison ivy remedy, and suntan lotion may also be needed but these can be purchased locally or will be available in the camp first-aid supplies.

1. You must bring your own tent (consider a 2-person backpacking tent), sleeping bag (consider a 10-20 degree bag), sleeping pad (consider a therma-rest), ground cover (i.e. tarp), and stout metal tent pegs. If this is a difficulty, please contact us and we can make arrangements for you to borrow some equipment. If you are coming with a friend, you may share a tent.
2. Two pairs of shoes in case you get wet. One pair should be hiking boots for archaeological survey.
3. Enough socks, underwear, pants, shirts for ten-day sessions.
4. Windbreaker, warm coat, thermals, winter hat and gloves. IT WILL GET COLD!!
5. Hat with a large brim for protection from sun.
6. Rain gear. IT WILL RAIN!!
7. Bandana.
8. Sunscreen. IT WILL GET HOT!!
9. Work gloves.
10. Alarm clock (do not plan to rely on your cell phone!)
11. Flashlight with extra batteries and/or mini lantern.
12. Toilet kit, including insect repellent, chapstick, camp towel/washcloth, biodegradable soap.
13. Daypack for field trips and survey.
14. Water bottle and/or Camelbak hydration system for hikes and field trips.
15. Backpacking backpack for the third session, in which you are able to fit all the gear you will need for 10 days. Make sure that you are properly fitted for the pack.

Other Optional Equipment

1. Small personal first aid.
2. Sunglasses.
3. Toilet tissue.
4. Pocket knife.
5. Cotton sheet for inside your sleeping bag.
6. Pencils, pens, clipboard.
7. Camera.

8. Swimsuit
9. Sewing kit.
10. Camp chair, stool, or lawn chair.
11. Wet wipes.
12. Trekking pole.
13. Sandals, Tevas, or Keens for downtime and for creek crossings.
14. Bandana.
15. Several pairs of wool socks.

Be prepared for a range of weather conditions in the mountain west during May and June. You should expect hot summer days, windy days, cold days, rainy days, and possibly snowy days.

**ADMISSION APPLICATION AND INFORMATION
THE UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS ARCHAEOLOGY FIELD CAMP**

Name _____ Male _____ Female _____

Signature _____ SSN _____

College or University _____ Year in School _____

School Address (where we can write you when school is in session)

Phone (include area code) _____

Home Address (where we can write you when school is not in session)

e-mail address _____

Requirements: There are no prerequisites for this course.

Application to The University of Memphis: Please apply for admission on-line at <http://www.memphis.edu/admissions/transfers.php>. Don't forget the \$25 application fee.

Application to Field Camp: Read the information sheet. Please have a faculty member at your home institution confirm your abilities and preparedness to complete a field camp course. Fill out and send this form (Admission Application) to:

Judson Finley
Department of Earth Sciences
The University of Memphis
Rm. 1 Johnson Hall
Memphis, TN 38152

Follow-up: You will be notified promptly about acceptance. Read the information sheet about the refund schedule and the schedule of payment for the balance of our field camp fees and for tuition. Note also the information about registration information from Admissions and Records.

FOR USE OF FACULTY AT APPLICANT'S HOME SCHOOL

In my opinion (student)_____ has the necessary background and is physically and emotionally capable of geology field work in hilly country.

Signature_____

Position_____