

ARCHAEOLOGY 306
FIELD COURSE IN ARCHAEOLOGICAL TECHNIQUES
Spring 2017
15 May–30 June

Instructor: Dale Walde and Margaret Patton

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Lecture/Practical: MTWRF (9 hours per day, plus travel time, 5 days/week)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students will gain experience in all aspects of archaeological excavation. Archaeological excavation is a team effort and students will work in teams as they practice site excavation techniques; land navigation using map, compass, and global positioning instruments; total station data recording and mapping; excavation photography; planview and profile recording; note taking and form recording; artifact and sediment processing; and cataloguing of artifacts.

****Archaeology 306 is a 1.0 full course credit but only counts as 0.5 full-course equivalents for the Archaeological Techniques portion of the Major-Field requirements****

****A mandatory course supplementary fee of \$500.00 is charged for this course****

Lecture topics: (1) excavation techniques; (2) general site recording; (3) journal note-taking, floor plans, and site photography; (4) soils, sediments, stratigraphy, and profile drawing; (5) basic lithic, ceramic, zooarchaeological, paleoethnobotanical, and residue collection and analysis; (6) cataloguing; (7) basic Alberta archaeological history; (8) basic mapping and simple topographic mapping.

Course Outcomes

- By the end of the course, students should be able to work effectively as archaeological field crew members in academic and industry contexts.
- By the end of the course, students should be able to operate standard archaeological field data recording equipment including total stations, handheld geographic position system
- By the end of the course, students should understand methods of gathering and recording archaeological excavation data.
- By the end of the course, students should be able to understand the principles of archaeological record formation.
- By the end of the course, students should understand and be able to apply Canadian site location systems.
- By the end of the course, students should understand and be able to apply western Canadian cultural historical schemes.
- By the end of the course, students should be able to recognize basic artifact raw material and form types and be able to apply that knowledge to basic artifact cataloguing.
- By the end of the course, students should be able to understand and implement basic principles of site discovery and assessment.

GRADING:

Weekly Quizzes 25%
Skills Tests 10%
Field Work 40%

Field Notes 15%
Spreadsheet Catalogue 10%

No single component of the course must be passed to pass the course.

GRADING SCHEME

A/A+	87-100%	C	63-66%
A-	83-86%	C-	59-62%
B+	79-82%	D+	55-58%
B	75-78%	D	50-54%
B-	71-74%	F	<50%
C+	67-70%		