



Montana

Short-term Faculty-led Study Away Program • Summer Session • June 25 - August 1, 2012

Program Name:

Archaeological Fieldwork in the Pryor Mountains, Montana

Course Number: **ANT 351**

Credit hours: **6** (undergraduate)

Course Objectives

Participants in this program will gain:

- **Training in field methods** used to find, identify and excavate hunter-gatherer archaeological sites.
- **Experience in recognizing and classifying archaeological materials and artifacts.** This class will introduce students to the archaeological record of prehistoric hunter-gatherers who lived in the Rocky Mountains. Students also will become familiar with local prehistoric material culture, as well as the places they chose to live and the remains of the animals they ate.
- **Exposure to the Rocky Mountains and American West.** Students will spend 30 days living in the mountains of Montana and have opportunities to visit Yellowstone, Grand Teton and Glacier National Parks during free time.
- **Backcountry field camp experience.** Students will learn the methods and strategies field scientists use to set-up and maintain a remote research camp.

Estimated Cost: \$1,145

Includes: Meals and transportation in the project area during the three field sessions; field equipment and supplies; Study Away student fee. Separated costs not available.

Excludes: MSU tuition for 6 hours of undergraduate credit (NOTE: Any student enrolled in this class and program will be assessed the MO resident tuition rate, even if the student is not a Missouri resident); transportation to and from Montana; camping gear (tent, sleeping bag, daypack, etc.); meals, accommodations and transportation during days off; misc. personal expenses.

Nonrefundable deposit due with application by Mon., April 2, 2012: \$172 (will be billed to your student account)

Balance due Tues., May 29, 2012: \$973

Voucher Eligibility & Financial Aid

If you entered MSU as a freshman in 2009 or 2010, you may use the **Study Away \$500 voucher**. Students who receive financial aid through MSU may apply that aid to the program, if eligible. Contact the Office of Financial Aid at 836-5262 for more information.



Missouri State
UNIVERSITY

An EO/AA Institution

Informational Meeting(s): **TBA**

Pre-travel Class Meeting(s): **TBA**

Meet in Cody, Wyoming:
Mon., June 25, 2012

Depart Project Area:
Wed., Aug. 1, 2012

Interested in going?

Contact the Program Director, Dr. David Byers, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, for more information: 836-5973 or DByers@missouristate.edu

Study Away!

Missouri State University Study Away Programs

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Course Highlights:

This course provides a study away experience in the Rocky Mountains and builds on field work conducted during summer 2011. Study will include archaeological research in and around **Bear Canyon in the Pryor Mountains of Montana**. While receiving training in field methods, students will collect materials that will provide data for graduate and undergraduate research projects. Students also will have the opportunity to experience the culture and landscape of the American West.

Course Overview:

Archaeologists base their understanding of how people lived almost entirely on the material remains of human behavior. This course will introduce students to the fundamentals of archaeological field methods. We will explore how researchers locate archaeological sites and how they recover data through survey and excavation.

This research will be nested within the broader context of investigations into the impact of long-term climate change on North American ecosystems. Researchers have documented a relationship between climate, subsistence and prehistoric lifeways in other areas of western North America. Subsequently, the **MSU Pryor Mountain Project** has and will continue to focus on locating, evaluating and excavating archaeological sites containing evidence of the relationship between ancient environments and human adaptation.

The 2012 field season is tentatively scheduled to pursue three lines of research:

1. Excavation of a site in lower Bear Canyon that produced bighorn sheep remains in a test excavation and may contain the remains of a prehistoric hunting camp.
2. Excavation of a stone tool production site located at the head of Bear Canyon in the Pryor Mountains high country.
3. Continuation of the rockshelter and cave survey begun in 2011.

During the first two field sessions, students will learn how to excavate an archaeological site using modern, academic field methods. During the third session, students will participate in a pedestrian survey of the rugged Bear Canyon backcountry as they seek to locate and document caves and rockshelters with the potential to contain the material remains of the area's prehistoric occupants.

By the end of the class, students will understand how archaeologists excavate material from prehistoric sites, as well as be familiar with the issues, methods and theories central to understanding how upland foragers interact with their environments.

All instruction will occur in Montana. "Class sessions" will consist of **30 8- to 10-hour days of archaeological fieldwork dividend into three 10-day field sessions**. During these sessions, students will live in a remote camp where they will communally participate in cooking and camp maintenance.

Note: Students should know that much of this project will take place at elevations over 8,000 ft. On many days, students will hike extended distances across rough terrain or participate in strenuous activities associated with archaeological excavation.

Students will have **two four-day weekends** to use at their discretion to explore nearby attractions such as Yellowstone, Grand Teton and Glacier National Parks.

Tentative Course Schedule:

Pre-travel Class Meeting(s): TBA

8 AM Monday, June 25, 2012 - Students meet at a predetermined rally point. Note: Students are responsible for travel to and from Springfield to the project area.

Mon., June 25 - Wed., July 4:
Field Session 1

Thurs., July 5 - Sun., July 8: Free Days

Mon., July 9 - Wed., July 18:
Field Session 2

Thurs., July 19 - Sun., July 22: Free Days

Mon., July 23 - Wed., Aug. 1:
Field Session 3

Course Requirements & Assessment of Learning

Students will receive 6 hours of MSU undergraduate credit, pending successful completion of the course. Three evaluation measures will be used:

1. **Field notes** are an important part of archaeological field work and are often crucial in understanding and interpreting cultural materials in the lab environment. Students will be expected to keep detailed field notes during each of the three 10-day field sessions.
2. **In-field exam** covering basic excavation methods, as well as the method and theory used to understand the ancient lifeways of upland foragers

3. **Participation** (willingness to work and level of cooperation) during the project

Required text: None

Application & Payment Procedures:

Missouri State University and other students who are approved by the Program Director may apply. Instructions are included on the program application. This course is open to students of any academic major; however, **ANT 125 or 240** must be completed as a prerequisite. A **non-refundable deposit of \$172** will be billed to your student account upon application (due by **Mon., April 2, 2012**). The balance of the program cost (\$973) will be billed to your account on **Tues., May 29, 2012**.

The published program cost is based on rates in effect on the publication date of this flyer and may be subject to change.

Program participants agree to a potential increase of up to 10% in the program fee if costs increase before or during travel.

Cancellation & Refund Policies:

- Students who withdraw prior to **May 1, 2012**, will receive a refund of fees paid, less their deposit and any non-refundable purchases made on his/her behalf.
- If a student is forced to withdraw after **May 1, 2012**, for a bona fide medical reason, s/he will receive a refund of fees paid, less their deposit and expenses. A certificate of incapacitating illness or injury from a licensed physician is required.
- Students withdrawing voluntarily after **May 1, 2012**, or withdrawing due to medical reasons not protected under the fees refund policy, receive no refund.
- Once the program has started, students withdrawing receive no refund under any circumstances.
- All notifications of withdrawal must be made in writing and sent to the Program Director and to Elizabeth Strong at the Study Away Office, Jim D. Morris Center, Suite 403. **Non-payment of fees does not guarantee automatic withdrawal.**
- The program may be cancelled if enrollment is fewer than 6 participants. In this event, students will receive a full refund.