COURSE TITLE: ANT 662 – FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY

Location: Taught in Northwest Portugal on Bronze Age/Iron Age/Roman Period sites (castros)
Dates: May 21 – July 7th
Dr. Mariah Wade
Teaching Assistants:
  Jordan Bowers
  John Duncan Hurt
Pre-requisites: Introduction to Archaeological Studies I: Prehistoric Archaeology Ant 304 or consent of the instructor.

Course Description: This is a six-week field methods course that trains students in traditional and new archaeological field methods and techniques (survey; excavation; stratigraphic profiling; mapping; drawing; Geographic Information Systems (GIS). The course exposes students to different techniques and ways of thinking about archaeology and archaeological problems and it challenges students to think innovatively about their work and their experiences. Students will learn about the archaeology of Iberia from the Bronze Age through the Roman Period and will be encouraged to work on archaeological materials from local castros for their Honors Thesis, MA Thesis and PhDs. This course also aims to expose the students to a foreign culture and promote interaction between the UT students and local archaeologists, museum staff and scholars. The mixture of activities in the program, including several cultural and archaeological field trips, is intended to provide ample learning opportunities and a good experience abroad.

This course is proud to carry two UT FLAGS: The Ethics and Leadership Flag and the Global Cultures Flag.
" Ethics and Leadership courses are designed to equip you with skills that are necessary for making ethical decisions in your adult and professional life. You should therefore expect a substantial portion of your grade to come from assignments involving ethical issues and the process of applying ethical reasoning to real-life situations."
" Global Cultures courses are designed to increase your familiarity with cultural groups outside the United States. You should therefore expect a substantial portion of your grade to come from assignments covering the practices, beliefs, and histories of at least one non-U.S. cultural group, past or present."

Texts: Iberian Archaeology Reader

Evaluation and Grading: Students are required to be on site according to the schedule, perform assigned field tasks, do lab work, go on field trips, know the contents of the assigned readings, attend lectures, take part in the discussions and complete field chores. Students are required also to do the assignments related to the two Flags this course carries. Students are to behave according to UT rules at all times and inappropriate behavior will affect grades, and may result in further academic sanctions.

Note: The following schedule shows the approximate sequence and coverage of field chores per week, but many of the techniques and learning procedures will take place simultaneously as different groups of students are engaged in different activities, which have to take place concurrently. All archeological fieldwork assignments and trips may be re-scheduled due to weather conditions and unforeseen events.

Approximate Weekly Schedule

Week 1
Orientation. Introduction; visit to the site; review excavation history of the site or sites; field work workshop; lay out an excavation unit; triangulation and leveling; troweling; recording; note-taking basics. Two field trips. Pottery workshop – Experimental Archaeology (Gondar)

Week 2
Field Work; basics of survey techniques; Total Station mapping and GPS mapping; excavation; screening; bagging and processing of artifacts; profiling; site, feature, and artifact completion of forms; pottery basics; site and feature mapping; soil sampling and basic analysis; stratigraphy. Corpus Christi (Cultural Flag). One field trip. Exam 1 on 06/01 at 5:30 pm. Open-end questions about methodologies and techniques.

Week 3
Field work; site and feature mapping; soil sampling and basic analysis; stratigraphy. basics of site photography; chronological methods; dating methods, review of field notes; review of field logs and photographic logs; laboratory cleaning and labeling of artifacts, identification and storage protocols; basics of conservation and reconstruction; Iberian Archaeology (north); 1 field trip. Trip to north of Portugal and Galicia - Orense and Compostela - Castros of Curalha, San Cibran de Las and Neixon. Three weekly labs.

Week 4
Field work (includes all procedures learned in previous weeks); assessment of units at this stage. Three labs. **Long weekend break.**

Week 5  
Field Work (includes all procedures learned in previous weeks); one field trip. S. John festivities. completion of units, profiles, maps and processing of artifacts; clean and prepare site for closing; review of field notes, site, feature, soil samples and artifact forms, field and photographic logs; **Exam 2 on 06/22 at 5:30 pm.** Open-end questions about methodologies and techniques.

Week 6  
Field Work (includes all procedures learned in previous weeks); Finalizing projects. One field trip. Departures.  
Note: there will be unscheduled activities on rainy days when we cannot work in the field. The Ethics Flag Workshop will be scheduled on a rainy day.

Activities for student groups during the four-week course include, but are not restricted to:

- Site gridding
- Triangulation techniques
- Set up and use of Total Station
- Total Station Mapping
- GPS Mapping
- Mapping floor plans, wall profiles
- Trowelling
- Square and feature excavation
- Screening
- Bagging and processing of artifacts
- Completion and processing of site, level and feature forms
- Production of site maps
- Collection of soil and radiocarbon samples
- Preliminary soil analyses
- Inventory and cataloging of fauna, flora, lithics and ceramics
- Lab protocols for cleaning and storing of material culture artifacts
- Basics of conservation and reconstruction of artifacts
- Basics of site photography
- Floatation techniques
- Drone
- Intensive exposure to northwestern Iberian archeology through lectures, visits to archaeological sites with on-site lectures; visits to museum and laboratory collections
- Exposure to the geography and geology of the region
- Intensive exposure to the regional culture and history