

The 2009 Idaho State University Archaeological Fieldschool: The Gault Site, Texas

Fieldschool will run from June 1-30, 2009. We will be housed at the Gault site, with portable living quarters, showers, cooking facilities, and a laboratory building. All food and equipment will be supplied. Students will be expected to take turns cooking and doing routine cleaning of the camp.

Our work week will be 5.5 days a week. Saturdays we will work only in the mornings with afternoons reserved for laundry and planned excursions. The first week will be devoted to overviews and training in basic field and laboratory skills. Weeks 2-4 will be engaged in excavation and preliminary analyses. Students will be divided into four crews, with alternating duties. Each week, one crew will be in camp assigned to processing artifacts and excavation records and the other three in the field excavating. Each week, crews will rotate so that all gain the same experience: excavation, surveying, note-taking, and basic data building. Selected students will be given the opportunity of contributing to publications resulting from our work.

Our fieldschool will consist of approximately 20 graduate and undergraduate students. We will be joined by groups of K-12 teachers, Idaho Museum of Natural History volunteers, Texas Archaeological Society volunteers, and other students and on-site visitors.

We are engaged in a public archaeological project and will be representing Idaho State University. We are also guests of the landowners, the Texas Heritage Commission, and will be working with lead archaeologists from other universities and programs. As such, students will be held to the normal code of conduct at Idaho State University. No firearms or illegal drugs will be allowed, and there will be an emphasis on courteous behavior.

Typical Schedule: Monday – Friday

Saturday afternoons will be used for laundry and planned excursions

6:00-7:30 breakfast

7:30-11:30 excavation for field crews; lab duties for lab crew

11:30-1:00 lunch

1:00-5:00 excavation and lab work

5:00-6:30 free time

6:30-8:00 dinner

8:00-9:30 lectures, demonstrations, relaxing

On planned Saturdays and Sundays, transportation will be supplied to Austin and other nearby sites of interest.

Personal gear:

Students will not need to bring any excavation, recording or surveying equipment. All necessary field equipment will be supplied. All cooking equipment will also be supplied. Some students may choose to bring light backpacking tents. These are not necessary but may be preferred by some folks.

Students need to bring adequate clothing for 4-5 days in the field. Saturday afternoons will be used for laundry runs. Personal items such as toiletries, medications, sun & bug screen, flashlights, sleeping bag, hats, etc. are the responsibility of the student.

Remember that central Texas in July, will be hot and perhaps rainy. Poison oak lines the streams and there are a variety of biting insects and reptiles. Good comfortable boots are needed. Hats are highly recommended. The old maxim, dress in layers, is very appropriate. Light, stuffable raingear is a smart addition. Clothing should be loose and light.

Field Administration:

Dr. E.S. Lohse will act as field director, assisted by an experienced MA level graduate student as the assistant director. Dr. Lohse is a Professor of Anthropology at Idaho State University, Chair of the Anthropology Department, and Director of the Idaho Museum of Natural History. He has directed over twenty fieldschools and has conducted excavations in the western United States and Polynesia. Dr. Michael Collins, Director of the Gault Project, Texas Archaeological Research Lab, University of Texas, assisted by members of his TARL team, will be on-site routinely, and will be interacting closely with our ISU students.

More Information:

Prospective students should consult the Gault site website at <http://www.texasbeyondhistory.net/gault/index.html> and the connections to Austin website at <http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/austinairport/>.

Field School credit information: tuition and fees

All fieldschool students will pay resident fees.

Resident:

Anth 486 (3-6 credits) \$236.00 per 1 credit $\$236.00 \times 3 \text{ cr} = \708.00 $\$236.00 \times 6 \text{ cr} = \1416.00

\$90.00 per credit activity fee = \$270 for 3 credits or \$540 for 6 credits

Total cost for 6 credits = \$1956 Anth 586 (3-6 credits) \$276.00 per 1 credit $\$276.00 \times 3 \text{ cr} = \828.00 $\$276.00 \times 6 \text{ cr} = \1656.00

\$90.00 per credit activity fee = \$270 for 3 credits or \$540 for 6 credits

Total cost for 6 credits = \$2196

Activity fees cover transportation to and from Austin-Bergstrom International Airport, and all food and equipment required for the fieldschool.