Introduction

Field Work in Archaeology
Doing fieldwork is perhaps one of the most important aspects of archaeological research. More than any other approach to the study of culture, it is the primary defining criteria for the field and its practitioners. For most archaeologists, having done fieldwork is both a fundamental rite of passage that moves one to a professional status and an important life event that in some fashion shapes the individual herself. This course attempts to recognize the importance of fieldwork to the student personally as well as to introduce the student to a series of methods that archaeologists use in the process of doing fieldwork and gathering data.

Purpose of the Program
The purpose of the program is to train graduate and undergraduate students in archaeological field methods and basic laboratory procedures. The program will satisfy some course requirements in the Department of Anthropology, and some research components of majors. The course is entitled ANTH 4824 "Field Methods in Archaeology" (Study abroad), and is intended as a 6 credit hour course. The program encompasses six weeks of field work.

Research Area and Research Design
During the late Pleistocene and early to middle Holocene, the Pacific coast of southern Manabi Province, was part of a large tropical forest spreading from the eastern flank of the Andes down to the coastal plain. Today, the area is characterized by its rich natural resources such as: mangroves and bay (both shallow and deep water) suitable for the exploitation of maritime resources; alluvial valleys with good agricultural land; and low hills and mountains suitable for the exploitation of wood and hunting (Harris et al. 2004; Martínez et al. 2006; Martínez and Walter 2010).

The major alluvial valleys of the region have been previously surveyed (Graber 2010; Damp 1984; Smith 1985; Stahl 1991). Preliminary results show that the area was continuously occupied since early times. At about 5,000 years ago humans were adapted to these sub-tropical lowlands, organized around settlements with a mixed economy (horticulture, fishing, and hunting). Through time, communities with intensive agriculture and trans-oceanic long distance trade emerged. By the time of the arrival of the Spanish, the area was characterized by the presence of several ranked societies with very complex socio-political organizations (see Marcos and Norton 1981, Norton 1986).

Unfortunately, very little further systematic investigation has been carried out in the southern Manabi Province. As a result, a comprehensive reconstruction of the prehistory of the region is not available. For example, a securely dated cultural chronology is lacking; a reliable reconstruction of the ancient environments is also lacking; and precise information on the different subsistence strategies developed by its inhabitants is limited.

The goal of FAU's Field School research program is to reconstruct the prehistory and paleoecology of the region, concentrating efforts on the investigation of two different alluvial valleys: Rio Blanco and Ayampe. These valleys have been selected for several reasons: they are both typical of the region; previous survey efforts report the presence of single and multi component sites; furthermore, some sites are in danger of destruction due to annual floods and sporadic El Niño events.

To accomplish the above goal investigations will focus on the excavation of a series of monumental sites, and a systematic survey of the valleys. Preliminary investigations report rich sites associated with the Mantello culture (1552 A.D.).
A series of general research issues can be addressed by investigating these sites. The issues include: analysis of chronology, environmental reconstruction, site formation processes, resource exploitation, technological organization (ceramics, lithics, and shells), and bioarchaeology. Accomplishing research into these varying dimensions of the archaeology will permit a greatly expanded understanding of the region.

1. **Chronology**: The cultural sequence of the region is adequately understood, but it is poorly defined in terms of radiocarbon chronology. Previous investigations have usually concentrated their efforts on dating the earliest occupation of the area (i.e. Valdivia), while later periods are poorly documented chronologically and behaviorally. Primary goals of the research will be the accurate identification and dating of the different cultural entities. The principal method for addressing chronological problems will be radiocarbon dating of charcoal from well-defined stratigraphic and cultural contexts and relative cultural sequence through the identification of diagnostic pottery.

2. **Environmental Reconstruction**: A detailed reconstruction of past environments in the area is not available. Thus, these types of studies are necessary to provide information on the site’s immediate setting and surrounding areas. The primary goal is the determination of the different resources (plant and animal species, raw material, etc.) available for the inhabitants of the site. The methods used to reconstruct the environment include analysis of phytoliths, pollen, macro flora, and micro fauna.

3. **Site Formation Processes**: According to Shiffer (1987) a number of natural and cultural processes can affect the deposition of a site and/or artifact assemblage structure and distribution. Rarely have natural processes been taken into consideration when analyzing the archaeological record of coastal sites in Ecuador. The setting of the site is alluvial and, as result, patterns of landscape deposition and stability have had an enormous effect on the formation of the site’s archaeological record. This requires determining the depositional context of archaeological materials. Different methods will be used to understand natural site formation processes, one of which will be the analysis of organic matter, including phosphates which can originate from depositional, anthropogenic, pedogenic or other post-depositional processes. Others include analysis of micro fauna, soil profiles, etc.

4. **Resource Exploitation**: Analysis of fauna, macro flora, lithic raw material, and clay sourcing will be the main methods for documenting resources used by the inhabitants of the site. Information on resource exploitation and environmental reconstruction studies will further allow the determination of the different subsistence strategies developed through time in the region.

5. **Technological Organization**: Ceramics, lithics, and shell will be collected and analyzed for the reconstruction of cultural behavior and the organization of technology. Organization of technology includes issues such as: raw material selection, techniques of manufacture, forms of artifacts and artifacts usage and discard processes.

6. **Bioarchaeology**: Excavation and analysis of human remains from sealed contexts (i.e., undisturbed graves) will provide the opportunity to document health and demographic issues.

**Survey**

The survey will be conducted for one week only. It will start with the prospecting of the Rio Blanco Valley. The goals are: the identification of the different geomorphological features of the valley; to identify the presence of sites along the bank of the river; and to identify natural areas suitable for the collection of sediment samples. The methodology of survey will depend on the area vegetation cover, which appears to be dense. Thus, 100% coverage is impossible in some sectors.

In those areas with good visibility we will perform a pedestrian survey, walking various transects with a physical separation of 15 meters or less. All types of cultural features and distribution of surface artifacts will be documented in standardized forms. Cultural artifacts will not be collected. In those areas in which the vegetation does not allow a 100% survey, a sub-surface prospection will be carried out. This includes the excavation of small units (shovel test) to investigate the sub-surface archaeological record.
Excavation Plan

The sites will be first mapped and a grid system established to secure a permanent horizontal and vertical control. To facilitate data collection, the sites will be divided into at least two different sectors of excavation. In each sector a standardized sampling unit and a large aerial excavation will be opened.

The sampling units (1m x 1m) will be entirely excavated by arbitrary levels of 10 cm. These units will be used for systematic collection of pollen, phytoliths, and micro fauna. The aerial excavation units will provide data on site structure, subsistence strategies, artifact concentration, and any other behavioral phenomena. The aerial excavation units will be excavated following the natural stratigraphy of the site. Special samples (charcoal, phytoliths, pollen, etc.) will also be collected from the aerial excavation units when possible.

Field data will be recorded in standardized forms. Photographs and drawings are also part of the documentation. Removed soil will be screened through a 1/8" mesh screen and all cultural specimens will be collected in bags.

Cultural materials will be processed in the laboratory. Laboratory processing includes cleaning, sorting, and labeling field specimens in order to preserve provenience and contextual data. Artifacts will be cataloged with field reference numbers. Preliminary analysis will be conducted in the laboratory.

References Cited


Living Conditions in the Field

The field school base of operations is the Salango Research Center, Manabi Province. It is located on the coast, approximately four and a half hours from the main city of Guayaquil. Telephone number is 011-593-4-2-780-304.

The research center is a walled compound located virtually on the beach. This center includes a number of different facilities that provide an excellent site for lodging students and processing and curating archaeological materials. Facilities include: cabañas, a large Natienda house, kitchen and dining room, laboratories, offices, storage rooms, the museum, a small library, bathrooms, and showers.

The cabañas have the capacity to lodge 30 people. The laboratories (2) are large adequate areas where classification and further analysis of materials can be performed. You will be assigned a room with at least two other people. The rooms have bathrooms, electric outlets and light, although electricity is likely to be intermittent.

Visitor Policy: Occasionally a student has had a friend from home visit while the field school is running. Visitors will be accommodated on a space-available basis and will be charged $12.00/night, regardless of sleeping arrangement.

All your meals, including weekend meals at the Center, are covered by the program fees. They are prepared by locals hired by the research center. The diet is a basic coastal Ecuadorean meal plan, which means that variety is limited. Expect an emphasis on foods that include fruits, rice, beans, potatoes, plantains, chicken, and locally caught fish. Vegetables are supplied daily, but not in the large quantities to which North Americans might be accustomed. Students should not expect meals of North American or European style, but one will not go hungry on our project unless they choose not to eat. As with eating in any foreign country, an open mind helps.

There are no washing machines. Thus, laundry is your responsibility. Arrangements can be made to hire some local women to perform this task. Laundry expenses depend on your personal weekly load and how dirty you get. Be sure to include in your personal budget a cost of $10.00 per week approximately for this activity, if you wish to have somebody else to do it for you.

The center is located in the small town of Salango. The population is about twelve hundred and they mainly live from the products of the ocean. However, the area is slowly developing and small stores have opened in town and on the different beaches nearby. The village has a few small stores that sell soft drinks, food items, cigarettes, beer, etc. A fairly well known restaurant, the Delfín Mágico, is near the road and serves fresh seafood prepared in various local styles. The modern town of Salinas, located 2 hours away, has many stores and at least one major supermarket, and a mall. All these stores offer a wide variety of goods. Prices vary according to where the products have been manufactured.

Salango has no local banks, so make sure you bring plenty of cash and one major credit card. The nearest bank is located just 10 minutes away. The students organized trips to the nearest bank, when necessary.

Phone Availability
You will be able to call internationally with the use of prepaid calling cards available in Salango or Puerto Lopez, from a phone kiosk that allows international dialing that is located close by. For emergencies the following cell phone numbers can be used: 011 593 93363643 and 011 593 80620712.

Email: There are a couple of email kiosks in the Comuna building and the nearby town of Puerto Lopez. You can check your mail accounts there using a web browser.
Medical Emergencies
There are two hospitals nearby. One is a military hospital in the city of Salinas and the other is located in the city of Jolijapa, about 2 hours from Salango. There is also a small dispensary in Puerto López (10 minutes from Salango) and a local doctor is available. Part of the student fee has been allocated for emergencies that might require returning any student to the United States as soon as possible in case of serious sickness.

Recommended Living Supplies
Sleeping bag or blanket (At night it gets chilly)
Pillow and set of bed sheets
Mosquito netting for your bed, bug repellent
Ordinary personal items: toiletries (soap and soapbox, usual stuff for teeth, hair, etc.)
Towels, swimsuit, etc.
Light durable clothes, including long-sleeved shirts, sweater or sweat shirt (It gets chilly at night)
1 lightweight rain poncho (a must)
Sandals, walking shoes or tennis shoes for excavation and strong/supportive boots for survey (rough terrain)
Alarm clock, a flashlight, camera, batteries
Basic small medical kit (aspirins, alka seltzer, topical antibiotic cream, band ailes, antihistamines -if you tend to have allergies, etc.).
Pocket knife (packed in your suitcase; do not hand carry)
Water bottle/canteen
Small backpack (the type that students use to carry books)
Hat, sun block
Extra eyeglasses or contacts in case of loss
Many of these items (except for the sleeping bag) can be obtained locally.

Weekends
The field school runs five days a week with weekends off. Transportation is covered by the program fees and we are back in time to have dinner at the center. You have weekends off to visit the numerous towns up and down the coast and the different interesting ecological zones. There is a surfing beach (Montañita or "Little Mountain") at approximately 45 minutes travel south. The Machalilla Rain Forest is located 30 minutes travel north. Whale watching by boat is available at this time of the year. Finally, all along the coast you will find small fishing communities that are very vibrant. The area is becoming a natural attraction for tourists, and as a result, restaurants have opened in nearby beaches (i.e. Olón, Mancora, Puerto López, etc.). In addition to restaurants, the modern town of Salinas has several bars and nightclubs that offer dancing, particularly on Friday and Saturday nights.

Transportation in the area includes walking, local componetas (truck taxis) and bus. "Componetas" and bus rides are fairly inexpensive and they run on a daily basis. Care should be taken when and where you walk. Never walk alone at night! The "buddy system" is recommended at all times and in particular after dark.

We do not recommend traveling far from Salango during the weekends; you are responsible for being on the job Monday at 7:00 a.m.

Local Weather
The climate of coastal Ecuador is tropical maritime and influenced by two ocean currents: one originating from the Antarctic, and another one originating from the Equator. Coastal Ecuador has an annual pattern of two distinct seasons. The hot and dry season starts around November and continues until May. From June to October it is cool and damp with low cloud and sea fog. Usually, early morning and evening temperatures are very pleasant and you might want to wear a light sweater.
In previous years, during the middle of the day and early afternoon, temperatures can go up to 80 to 85 degrees. Although we are going to be in coastal Ecuador during the dry season, it can still rain! So be prepared for some light morning showers.

Before Leaving

As you prepare for the field you are likely to feel excited and anxious. That is a natural reaction to facing the unknown. Part of undertaking field work is the process of coming to understand yourself. Gaining that type of self-knowledge is facilitated by taking yourself out of your ordinary, everyday context. Try to explore your concerns as you prepare for the field. What are you excited about? What makes you anxious? What are you imagining will happen? What are you afraid of? Ask yourself these types of questions. If you have any questions or concerns about living and doing archaeology in a small third world remote coastal area, feel free to contact Prof. Martinez.

Getting a Passport
Get a passport, if you don’t have one. You can do this through most county courthouses that stock and file the required U.S. government form. To get a passport you’ll need the correct type of photos, your birth certificate and other personal identification (e.g. social security number), and you’ll need to pay the passport fee. If you file through your local courthouse, you’ll receive the passport by mail within 6-8 weeks. You can pay an extra charge to have the application expedited and receive within three weeks. Another possibility is to go directly to the U.S. Dept. of State’s Passport Office in downtown Miami (or in that office in your particular state) with all of your documents, photos, and fees. Get there early and get in line. They can get you a passport in a day, but call first and be prepared to wait.

If you plan to visit other countries while in South America you should check with their consulates or with the airlines to see what documents you need.

Money In the Field
In 2000, Ecuador changed its currency to the US dollar.

For personal spending, a budget of $50.00/week is adequate. If you plan to do a significant amount of traveling after the field school has ended you should budget accordingly.

You generally can use your bank ATM cards at machines in Puerto López, Manta, Salinas, Guayaquil, and Quito. This is the preferred way of getting money today. The nearest bank is located at least 10 minutes away. Trip to the nearest bank are arranged by the students themselves, when necessary.

Cash is the easiest to exchange, but of course carries the obvious risks. For cash, bring crisp, new bills with no marking and you will find exchanging easier; the smaller the denomination the better.

MasterCard, Visa, or American Express cards: these can be used in most cities, larger hotels, stores, and city restaurants. It is a good idea to bring at least one credit card with you.

Do not leave money or valuables in plain view in your room. Neither the FAU program nor the Research Center is responsible for lost or stolen property.

Medical Preparation
We have had relatively few medical problems among students in the past. It is common to have a minor bout of diarrhea. The likelihood of becoming sick increases with your consumption of food and water from outside the Research Center. In general, when eating outside the Center consume freshly cooked, hot food. Don’t eat raw, unpeeled fruits or vegetables (e.g. lettuce). Anything you can peel, go ahead and eat. Drink bottled water and other bottled beverages. Please keep us informed of any health problems you experience.
Definitely use mosquito repellent when the bugs are biting. Use sunscreen on sunny days that you’re out in the field.

The following immunizations are listed just as a medical precaution. Consult with your physician to determine your particular health care needs while away. You can call the Department of Health to arrange vaccinations (it’s best to call them a couple of months in advance). Some of the vaccinations listed below you will already have had, as a requirement for attending the university.

Required Vaccinations: MMR (measles, mumps, and rubella); DPT (diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus - updated every five years); Malarias prophylaxis (2 month supply - began two weeks before the trip and continued for six weeks after). You will need clearly written copies of all prescription drugs you take, their generic (not their trade) names, size and dosage.

You should also carry a copy of your glasses prescription, and an extra pair of your contact lenses.

Airline Departure and Arrival

You are responsible for making your own travel arrangements roundtrip to Guayaquil. We suggest that you arrange a flight that arrives during the daytime. You need to be in Guayaquil by the 25th of June. If there are a significant number of program travelers arriving on a flight we will do our best to have hotel transportation arranged (we will be in contact about this prior to the trip). We will send you instructions for getting to the hotel from the airport (see below General Travel Information). A dinner and next morning breakfast meals at the hotel are covered by the program. The next day, we will travel to Salango. This is a 4 hour trip by bus.

We will depart Salango as a group on August 6th, spend the night in Guayaquil, and you should depart on August 7th for home.

General Travel Information

Baggage: Try to keep your personal baggage to one checked bag of 50 lbs. or less and one SMALL carry on. Be careful not to pack dangerous items in the carry on bag.

Miami Departure: Be sure to be at the airport with at least three hours of anticipation.

When you arrive at Guayaquil International Airport, you will be directed through immigration and customs. Declare your status as a student, request a two month visa, and collect your luggage and customs check. Do not say that you are “working” (trabajando) in Ecuador at any time—this can cause confusion. Do your best to explain to the officers that you will be in Salango for two months in a university academic research program.

Airport transportation to hotel: It is your responsibility to transport yourself to the hotel located in the downtown area. Arrange a taxi from the airport (those are the most secure). The cost should be between $5-$10, depending on the number of people and luggage. Prior to departure we will contact you with hotel information (phone, address, etc.).

Hotel: Rooms with two and three single beds will be arranged. The cost of the room for two nights and breakfast for the following mornings is covered by the program fees. As soon as you are settled, please contact us. We’ll provide you with cell phone numbers to be used in Ecuador, prior to departure.

Travel to Salango: On 6/21 we will travel to Salango. It is a 4 hour ride. Be sure to pack some snacks and water for the trip. We will make stops as necessary. We will arrive in Salango for dinner.
Return to Guayaquil: On 8/1 the group will leave Salango for Guayaquil. The hotel and breakfast are covered by the program. Monday, students transport themselves to the airport by taxi. There is an Ecuadorian Airport Exit Tax of $28.00 that you are required to pay in cash before you exit Ecuador. The tax is not covered by the program fees.

Arriving and Adapting

When you enter the field you are likely to feel slightly disoriented. Again, this is a natural condition when faced with new situations. Your first goal is to begin the process of adaptation to your new environment. Some of the initial difficulties you can expect have to do with the ordinary tasks of everyday life: food, shelter, establishing a schedule, finding companionship, etc. Since you are staying at the research center, most of these difficulties are half-solved for you. Still, you will have to adapt to life in a new place, the new flora and fauna, the sights, sounds, and odors of an Ecuadorian coastal village, the taste of different foods, an unfamiliar bed, insects, intermittent electricity, no telephone, no television, no air conditioner, etc. And you must begin adapting to the human actors in your new landscape. These include not only local villagers, but the professors, fellow students, and staff. Frankly, it’s a lot to deal with all at once. Hang in there by being patient and by actively remembering that this is a good time to attempt to be culturally relative.

During the first couple of days you aren’t expected to do much more than become accustomed to the center, to arrange your personal effects, and to explore your surroundings a little. There will be an orientation on Tuesday evening (7:30 p.m. in the social area).

Doing Archaeological Fieldwork

Field work in the subtropics at this time of the year is moderately hot, but it will be dirty, sweaty, and exhausting. Don’t worry; it can also be very fun. You are recommended to bring along the following items to be used every day in the field: wide-brimmed hat or cap, sunglasses, bandana, sun block lotion (SPF 15 or greater), insect repellent, pocket knife, and a water canteen or container (1 gallon containers are better).

Clothing for the field should be of two kinds. For survey purposes you should wear long pants, long sleeve shirts, and protective boots with socks. Remember that during survey practice we will be walking through areas where vegetation is frequently thick. For excavation purposes you might want to wear much more comfortable clothes such as shorts, t-shirts, and lighter shoes (i.e., tennis shoes, sandals, etc.).

You will need enough clothes to last several days minimum: 2-3 pairs of shorts, 1-2 pairs of pants, 4-5 t-shirts (figure on having your laundry done once a week). Women should remember that Ecuador is a conservative country and it is recommended that at night your attire should be more discreet, especially outside of the research center.

Light colored clothing is best for hot weather. Pure polyester and the like should be restricted to your rain poncho, jacket, and maybe a sweater. Mixes with some cotton are much cooler. If you plan to visit the highlands bear in mind that the climate there is completely different. It is cold, sometimes very cold; sometimes it snows or slents, especially in July and August. If you plan to visit the highlands after the field school ends bring some cold weather clothing, such as a relatively sturdy jacket, and make sure that your clothes are the kind you can layer up.

Excavations and laboratory practices are carried out on a daily basis. Transportation to the field is facilitated by rental trucks. The tentative daily schedule of activities is as follows:

7:15 am Breakfast at the center
7:55 am Departure to the field
8:20 am-12:00 am Fieldwork
12:00 am-12:30 pm Lunch (usually sandwiches, fruits, etc.)
12:30 pm-4:00 pm Fieldwork
4:00 pm-5:00 pm Laboratory practices (not every day)
6:00 pm Dinner at the center

Every other week a guest speaker will give a lecture on his/her research in the area. The lectures will be held in the conference room after dinner (around 7:30 pm). They include both local and foreign archaeologists as well as specialists in other fields.

Field Supplies
Every student must bring along a basic archaeological 'digging kit.' Below is a list of required items, the catalog number, and the 2013 cost (of some of them) from Forestry Suppliers Inc. (you don't have to buy the items from this company):

1 trowel 5-6 inch single forged; model #53718; $10.55 (not a gardening trowel)
1 pocket compass
1 steel 3 or 5 meter tape, #9471, cost $10.30
2 metal line levels
1 metric ruler, #7460, cost $0.80
1 whisk broom, #57811, cost $3.95
1 clipboard
1 notebook (spiral)
1 pair of garden or wood gloves
1 calculator (inexpensive)

To order from Forestry Suppliers, Inc. call the following toll free phone number: 1-800-647-5368; or non-toll free: (601) 354-3565.

Description of the Program
The program has been designed to train students to become field archaeologists. All participants are taught the different approaches to the practice of archaeology, including research design, site survey, excavation, data recording, laboratory skills, and report preparation.

Students work together in the field (excavation and survey procedures), and in the laboratory.
In the field, students learn how to record data, follow instructions, and how to handle and take good care of equipment. To record data, participants' daily log notes in specific forms and keep a personal field notebook. Under the supervision of an instructor, each student takes photos, elaborates different plan maps and sketches, and collects different soil samples (i.e. pollen, phytoliths, etc.). Forms and notebooks are updated daily by each student and they are graded (by the instructor) at the end of each field day.

In the laboratory, students are also expected to follow instructions, handle and take good care of lab instruments, and handle excavated materials. Activities in the lab include the proper cleaning, labeling, and classification of all materials recovered from the field. Furthermore, participants will learn some of the basic illustrative techniques available for archaeologists.

Part of the student’s formal training includes weekly lectures. They are scheduled for Monday and/or Tuesday mornings from 8:30 to 10:00. Lectures focus on the process of archaeological research and the archaeology of coastal Ecuador. Students are expected to attend all lectures.

Evaluation Procedures
Evaluation criteria for grading are the following:

1. Field (academic and non-academic attributes): 20%
2. Field forms and personal journal: 20%
3. Laboratory duties: 15%
4. Weekly quizzes: 20%
5. Written report (group effort): 25%
TOTAL 100%

Performance in the field (20%) is evaluated on the basis of academic (i.e. competence, preparation, understanding and successful application of learned techniques, and reliability) and non-academic attributes (i.e. ability to adapt, ability to relate to others, and integrity). Evidence of progress and effort is monitored on a weekly basis.

Students are required to record field information in different forms and in their personal "field journal" on a daily basis. All these items (20%) are collected at the end of each week and evaluated on content and completeness.

Laboratory duties (15%) are mandatory and performed for an hour, on a non-regular basis, after field work. Activities include washing, cataloging, and classification of artifacts as well as flotation.

Weekly quizzes (25%) test knowledge of fundamental archaeological techniques (excavation and survey skills) and general prehistory of the area. There are four quizzes throughout the session, each worth 5 points. Each quiz can take up to 30 minutes.

The final written report constitutes a group effort (20%). Participants have 3 days to complete this report. The length of the report is no more than 50 pages and includes a full description of excavation and laboratory procedures.

NOTE: This syllabus is subject to change at any time. Students should understand that when doing research in a developing country one must be flexible. Weather conditions (we will be there by the end of the rainy season) and other factors will inevitably alter our working schedule.

Textbooks
Required Texts (DO NOT PURCHASE, WE PROVIDE THEM FOR USE IN THE FIELD):


Yes, we use old editions. Save the planet.

Syllabus and Schedule of Activities by Week
(Note: This syllabus is subject to change)

WEEK 1: Archaeological Reconnaissance and Site Survey
Readings: Hester, chapters 3, 4, and 9; Sutton, chapter 2

Orientation week; lectures on research design and field instruction on survey procedures (i.e. survey calculations and formulas, site reconnaissance and mapping, topographic mapping, plane table mapping, etc.). The week is devoted to archaeological and survey practices.

WEEK 2: Excavation and Data Recording
Readings: Hester, chapters 5, 6, and 7; Sutton, chapters 3, 4, and 5

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Quiz #1: Monday 8:00 a.m. Examination on survey procedures.

Lectures on excavation procedures and data recording. The week is devoted to excavation and survey practices. Laboratory work begins this week.

WEEK 3: Stratigraphy and Recovery of Special Samples
Readings: Hester, chapters 10, 12 and 13; Sutton, chapter 6, 7, and 11

Quiz #2: Monday 8:00 a.m. Examination on excavation methods and data recording.

Monday and Tuesday evenings lecture on stratigraphy and special samples recording methods. The week is a continuation of excavation, survey, and laboratory work.

WEEK 4: Chronological Methods and Excavation of Human Remains
Readings: Hester, chapters 8 and 11; Sutton, chapter 10 and 11

Quiz #3: Monday 8:00 a.m. Examination on stratigraphy and recovery of special samples.

Lectures on Chronological methods and Excavation of Human Remains. The week is a continuation of excavation, survey, and laboratory work.

WEEK 5: "Prehistory of Coastal Ecuador"
Readings to be announced in the field.

Quiz #4: Monday 8:00a.m. Examination on Chronological Methods and the Excavation of Human Remains.

Lectures on Prehistory of Coastal Ecuador. The rest of the week is a continuation of excavation, survey, and laboratory work.

WEEK 6: Report preparation
No readings and no quiz.

Monday and Tuesday will be devoted to finishing excavations and cleaning up the site. The rest of the week is devoted to report preparation. Monday lecture on report preparation will be held in the afternoon. The report should be turned in on Friday at 5:00 p.m. Friday night party. Saturday is a day off. Sunday return trip to Guayaquil. Monday return flight to the USA.

Safety Recommendations
The following safety recommendations are suggested for all team members participating in the Archeological Field School:
1) Intoxicating beverages are expressly prohibited during field and laboratory work;
2) Participants should wear appropriate clothing during field work;
3) An adequate supply of drinking water should be kept readily available;
4) Students should avoid any possibly toxic or hazardous substances, poison ivy, noxious woods, and similar plants, areas where herbicides were applied recently, any places where snakes, fire ants, or other insects are located;
5) A first-aid kit will be in the possession of the Instructor.

Basic Expectations
The following are general expectations of a student's behavior:
1) Students are expected to be familiar with materials and instructions in this manual;
2) Students are expected to be on time for the field, and ready to work and learn;
3) Students are expected to have read the relevant materials prior to lectures and work weeks;
4) Students are expected to put forth their best efforts while making sure that they are not over-exerting and over-extending themselves in the field;
5) Students are expected to communicate with the Instructor if there are any problems or questions;
6) Students are expected to have fun. After all, this is not boot camp!

Behavioral Guidelines and Procedures for Leaving Prior to the End of the Semester

Students are expected to follow all Florida Atlantic University Academic Policies and Regulations as listed in the FAU Undergraduate Catalog. The stresses associated with living and working in close proximity with other class members for an extended period of time in a foreign country may, for the student, become difficult to deal with. The Department of Anthropology faculty reserves the right to determine that a student’s behavior requires that the student cease participation in the field school.

The following are among the grounds for dismissal: severe difficulty adapting, consistent inability to get along with others, not completing work as part of a team, consistently not following instructions when asked, participating in excessive drinking of alcohol or any drug use, or developing serious problems with Ecuadorian villagers that threaten the integrity of the program. In the event that faculty feel that a student is not performing and behaving as required above, he/she will receive a warning first and then be dismissed if not compliant.

A dismissed student will be subject to the following protocol:
1. Field school faculty will contact the Department of Anthropology that a student is being dismissed and returned to the U.S.
2. The student will be transported to Guayaquil, housed there in a hotel, and placed on a flight as soon as possible.
3. All costs associated with dismissal will be borne by the student (hotel, food, transportation, extra airline fees, country exit fees, etc.).
4. Upon departure, field school faculty will contact the Department of Anthropology, advising them that the student has left Ecuador and a brief written report on the nature of the student’s problem will be faxed to the Department.

Students who wish to withdraw by FAU’s published deadlines may do so. The Department of Anthropology faculty will contact the University from Ecuador in this regard. The student will be transported to Guayaquil and flown back home as quickly as possible. Students are liable for any additional costs associated with this event (hotel fees, food, airline charges, exit fees, etc.).

Any student who withdraws from the program while in Ecuador will not receive a refund of program fees.

Those students, who leave before the field school is complete, but who do not withdraw, will be evaluated on the amount of work completed up to the point of departure. In all cases, students who withdraw, leave, or who are dismissed from the program are strongly advised to return to the U.S. as detailed above. In the event that a student declines to return to the U.S., he/she must leave the research center and a faculty member will contact the Department of Anthropology and be notified of the student’s decision.

Final Word

The course is a lot of work and you’re expected to be devoted to it over the six week period. The archaeological role can be very personally rewarding in the sense that you will come to have some understanding of a past culture, you will gain new perspective on yourself, and you will develop new relationships with individuals. Enjoy yourself and try to remain open to the situations into which you are thrown. If you have any problems, questions, or worries, please see any of your professors.
I have read the 2016 FAU Field School guidebook and understand the nature of the program, the activities and behaviors expected of me, and I agree to abide by the guidelines set forth.

Signed ___________________________ Date ___________________