

COURSES AND CREDITS – SPRING 2017

Dr. Robert Rosenswig will teach the two field school courses: Aant 335 (3 credits) and Aant 338 (6 credits). The latter is an intensive field course of practical instruction and hands-on learning that comprises the 8 hours per day (5.5 days per week) of field work. The former consist of evening lectures, lab training and weekend field trips to archaeological sites in the region.

Aant 335: Field Methods in Archaeology (3 credits)

Instructor: Dr. Robert Rosenswig (rrosenswig@albany.edu)

This course introduces undergraduates to field and laboratory techniques in archaeology through lectures, practical demonstrations and exercises in the field, and readings. It will be taught in tandem with Aant 338 under the auspices of the *Las Mercedes Archaeological Project* in Costa Rica, Central America. Students will acquire skills in setting up excavation units, recording elevations, selecting excavation strategies and areas to test, filling out field records, making field observations, drawing plan, profile, and site maps as well as laboratory processing of artifacts. These skills will be practiced daily in the field. Students will be required to pass a practical exam demonstrating competence in a full range of field skills and a written exam on field methods.

Aant 338: Archaeological Field Research (6 credits)

Instructor: Dr. Robert Rosenswig (rrosenswig@albany.edu)

Students will join the research team of the *Las Mercedes Archaeological Project* as assistant staff members in the exploration of the monumental core of the Las Mercedes site. This field research course will stress links between data collection and interpretation. The research objective of this project will be contextualized within the context of lower Central American archaeology. Lectures will cover a range of topics on archaeological research, and field trips will be taken to nearby sites. This course will be taught in tandem with Aant 335.

Aant 339: Archaeological Laboratory Techniques (3 credits)

Instructor: Dr. Marilyn Masson (mmasson@albany.edu)

This course will explore several approaches to the analysis of archaeological materials and the important links between data and scientific arguments about the social, political, or economic organization of past societies. Class time will divide evenly between lecture and discussion and hands-on lab work. Lectures, discussions, and presentations will provide examples of how archaeologists use data derived from analytical lab techniques. Lab time will provide you with skills at classifying materials.

AGOG 406: Topics in GIS: Geospatial Applications of Drones (3 credits)

Instructor: Dr. Alexander Buyantuev (abuyantuev@albany.edu)

In this 8-week long class you will be introduced to the drone technology and operations made possible by it. We will learn about the history, anatomy, applications, and the future of UAS. Everyone will participate in the class mapping project that will begin in Costa Rica when Dr. Buyantuev comes down and visits for a week with his drones. We will walk through the entire process of running an Unmanned Aerial System (UAS), a.k.a. drone, which includes selection of the platform and payload for aerial mapping, complying with current and anticipated rules for UAS operation, conducting an aerial survey and post-processing the acquired imagery. Projects on Las Mercedes data will be undertaken back at UAlbany.

The Department of Anthropology will offer **Archaeological Laboratory Techniques** and the Department of Geography and Planning will offer the **Geospatial Applications of Drones** as quarter classes that students can enroll in and begin once they return to Albany. Therefore, students participating on the program will receive a full load of 15 credits for the Spring 2017 semester. However, various other 8-week classes are offered at UAlbany each year and students are encouraged to explore their options.