

**HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY & MODERN MATERIAL CULTURE  
FIELD SCHOOL**

**July 27-August 7, 2009**

**Location: Kampsville, Illinois, Center for American Archeology (CAA)**

**Instructor: Dr. Jamie C. Brandon, Arkansas Archeological Survey and University of Arkansas**

**Credits: 3 units of credit available through Arizona State University**

**Description:** This course will provide an overview of the field of historical archaeology—a field that is currently experiencing extremely rapid growth. Because of this rapid growth, it is a field with numerous theoretical and methodological approaches to a wide range of case studies from all corners of the world. We will sample historical archaeology by

- examining the history of the sub-discipline;
- looking at current (1999-2008) theoretical approaches; and
- doing some "hands-on" methodological exercises with artifacts and data.

This course will attempt to cover a lot of ground. Students will explore the methods and the theories at work in historical archaeology, as well as the history of their development and the connection between historical archaeology and other disciplines, such as cultural anthropology and history.

A second aspect of the course will consist of material culture workshops and tasks aimed at getting the student accustomed to working with the kinds of data generated by a typical historic-period site. These "hands-on" workshops are designed to familiarize students with the identification of historical material culture and how historical archaeologists "tell time."

Topics covered include the history of historical archaeology; archaeologies of class, gender and race; landscape archaeology; cemeteries; battlefields; representation; and historical memory. Material culture workshops (labs) will cover the analysis of bottles, historic ceramics, architectural materials, hardware and small finds.

**Class Structure:** The class will involve lecture and extensive "hands-on" exercises with historical material culture. Instruction will consist of lecture in the mornings and lab work in the afternoons.

**Course Outline:**

**Day 1**

- Why Do We Dig Up the Recent Past? (Morning)
- Glass Workshop 1. (Afternoon)

**Day 2**

- Archaeological Evidence at Historic Sites. (Morning)
- Glass Workshop 2. (Afternoon)

**Day 3**

- Chronology, Activities and Patterns. (Morning)
- Ceramics Workshop1. (Afternoon)

**Day 4**

- Documentary Evidence at Historic Sites. (Morning)
- Ceramics Workshop 2. (Afternoon)

**Day 5**

- Field Trip to Illinois State Museum.

**Day 6**

- Case Studies in Historical Archaeology. (Morning)
- Firearms and Personal Items Workshop. (Afternoon)

**Day 7**

- Hands-On Laboratory Day: Working with Collections.

**Day 8**

- Determining the Significance of Historic Archaeological Sites.

**Days 9 and 10**

- Field Trips to Historical Sites in the St. Louis Area

**Texts and Resources:** Readings will be assigned from a variety of articles and book chapters, and the following:

- Deetz, James (1996). *In Small Things Forgotten: An Archaeology of Early American Life: Revised Edition*.
- [Little, Barbara J.](#) (2007). *Historical Archaeology: Why the Past Matters*.
- Digital Type Collection at the Florida Museum of Natural History  
[http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/histarch/gallery\\_types/how-to.asp](http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/histarch/gallery_types/how-to.asp)
- The BLM/SHA *Historic Glass Bottle Identification & Information Web site*  
<http://www.sha.org/bottle/>
- African Diaspora Archaeology Network Web-based resources  
<http://www.diaspora.uiuc.edu/bookmark3.html>