Fall 2020
Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Positions

-AREAS/CONCENTRATIONS FOR RESEARCH-

Archaeology
Bioarchaeology
Environmental Social Science
Evolutionary Anthropology
Global Health
Museum Studies
Sociocultural Anthropology

Students should be certain to review all positions as many opportunities are combined with one or more other concentrations or disciplines.

Highlighted positions can be completed remotely and by online students.
Research Project or Internship Title: Arizona Youth Project

Academic Discipline: Sociocultural Anthropology

Project Description:
This project will examine how U.S.-born Latinx, Native American and White young adults perceive their identity and status as Americans in the context of rapidly changing economic, demographic, and political conditions. This project will further our understanding of ethnic and racial minority integration into U.S. society—particularly among U.S.-born young adults. This research advances the health and welfare of marginalized and vulnerable groups by understanding how the socio-political local context affect their sense of national identity and belonging. This study will also identify ways to promote political participation among young adults from different ethnic/racial groups.

This is a multi-method qualitative study using two research strategies: in-depth interviews, and Photovoice. The sample will consist of U.S.-born Latinx, Native American and White young adults between the ages of 18-25 living in five sites in Arizona. We will recruit 60 participants in each of the five sites –20 Latinx, 20 Native Americans and 20 whites—for a total of 300 participants. Participants will be interviewed two times: once before the 2020 elections and once after the 2020 elections. They will also be asked to participate in a Photovoice project by taking photographs reflecting what they define as American. Interview transcripts, photographs and fieldnotes will be downloaded to a qualitative data analysis software that supports continuous data inputting and analysis, and undergo a three-step coding process. Initial open coding will identify major themes, as well as locality, key political actors, and events.

Student’s Duties:
1. Student will attend a qualitative research training for 3-4 weeks.
2. Student will conduct a minimum of 4 interviews independently.
3. Student will learn to code interviews using MAXQDA coding software.
4. Student will write up a research memo (1-2 pages) for each interview they conduct.
5. Student will have the option of writing a journal article with the research team for publication.
6. Student will attend team coding meetings on Friday from 9-10 as needed with Estrada’s group and/or with the research team of other Principal Investigators.
Funding may be available for a stipend/salary for RAP intern(s).

Required Qualifications or Pre-requisites:
1. Undergraduate, M.A. and Ph.D. students are welcome to apply
2. We prefer that student has experience with qualitative research methods or if the student has taken a qualitative methods class.
4. Spanish language skills are not needed, but valuable for this project.
5. Ability to travel to the research site to conduct interviews (Most interviews will be in Tempe, Mesa and the Phoenix area).
6. Team player
7. Coachable
Project/Internship Location: 
Zoom/SHESC Building / Tempe Campus

Hours Per Week or Days and Times Needed: 
3 hours per week / Fridays from 2-4:45 PM/ in person (or zoom depending on Covid-19 updates)

Project Supervisor: 
Emir Estrada

Supervising Faculty: 
Emir Estrada

Contact Information: 
emir.estrada@asu.edu
Research Project or Internship Title:
Salado Ceramics in the Phoenix Basin

Academic Discipline:
Archaeology
Museum Studies

Project Description:
We are seeking student researchers to assist with a study of ceramics from several Hohokam sites in the Phoenix Basin. After ca. 1300 CE, a new and distinctive pottery type, Salado polychrome, appeared in the Phoenix Basin and became part of the late Classic period Hohokam ceramic assemblage. Numerous models have been proposed to account for the causes, meanings, and implications of the adoption of this pottery, but a lack of empirical data has precluded rigorous testing of these models for the Phoenix Basin. This study aims to build an understanding of Salado ceramic production and distribution, vessel form, attributes, and assemblages, and change through time, in order to establish the data necessary to evaluate previous ideas and propose new explanatory models for the Salado pattern in the Phoenix Basin. This study works with archival data, documents, and museum collections. For Fall 2020, the work will involve digitizing archival records, compiling and entering data from multiple site excavations, and creating digital maps. All necessary tasks for Fall 2020 can be done remotely, using open source software and/or resources provided by ASU. Depending upon safety and scheduling considerations, students may have an opportunity to assist in ceramic analysis and experimental work.

Preferred applicants should possess basic computer skills and an interest in archaeology and archaeological data. Experience with ceramic materials, spreadsheets, databases, data entry, Inkscape, and working with a GIS would be a plus, though students lacking this experience should not be discouraged. Students will be trained in all necessary tasks. Students would also have the opportunity to use project data for research (term paper, thesis, or conference presentations) alone or in collaboration with the project supervisors.

Student’s Duties:
1) Digitize vessel profiles from sites across the Phoenix Basin
2) Work from archival records to build and check a database of archaeological ceramics from Phoenix Basin Hohokam site excavations. (Scanning documents, data entry, database management)
3) Work from archival records to digitize site features in a GIS. (scanning maps, digitizing features)

Possible/Optional:
4) Assist in ceramic attribute analysis. (working with museum collections)
5) Assist in experimental work with ceramic materials.

Required Qualifications or Pre-requisites:
Preferred applicants should possess basic computer skills and an interest in archaeology and archaeological data. Experience with ceramic materials, spreadsheets, databases, data entry, Inkscape software, and working with a GIS would be a plus, though students lacking this experience should not be discouraged. Students will be trained in all necessary tasks. All necessary work for Fall 2020 can be done...
remotely, though there may be opportunities for students to assist in ceramic analysis and/or experimental work on campus.

**Project/Internship Location:** Remote (or SHESC 154, ASU Tempe campus)

**Hours Per Week or Days and Times Needed:**
3-6 hours/week, negotiable.

**Project Supervisor:**
Caitlin A. Wichlacz

**Supervising Faculty:**
Dr. Matthew Peeples

**Contact Information:**
caitlin.wichlacz@asu.edu
Research Project or Internship Title: 
Comparative ethnobotany of Middle America

Academic Discipline:
Physical Anthropology
Archaeology
Sociocultural Anthropology
Global Health
Bioarchaeology
Environmental Social Science

Project Description:
Ethnobotany is the study of the human use of plants. This project is focused on the compilation of primary and secondary ethnobotanical data. The sources of these data will include research articles, books, and primary historic and ethnohistoric data. The goal of this project is to maintain a very large and centralized dataset on the wide use of plants in Middle America (Mexico and Central America). Many scientific and historical studies demonstrate the importance of the plant world in medicine and health, subsistence strategies, spiritual life, and many other economic practices. Yet a centralized dataset that is continuously updated does not exist. Students can choose a range of topics to focus on during this project, and they will enter botanical information from articles and books on this topic into the database. This approach allows students to work with the PI to develop interests that mesh well and reinforce the student’s broader goals at ASU. For example, a student might decide to select the topic of indigenous reproductive health. The student would then be assisted in researching articles, book chapters, and books on this topic that contain a botanical element and entering botanical data into the dataset. Currently, two databases are being maintained, and students can select which one they would prefer with which to work. One is focused on ethnobotany in ethnographic and historic literature. Another is a comparative compilation on botanical data recovered and identified from archaeological excavations of past communities and cities. This can be done remotely.

Student’s Duties:
1. Learning how to navigate several searchable databases for scientific literature
2. Entering data into a relational database in Microsoft Access

Required Qualifications or Pre-requisites:
Ideally intro courses in biology, anthropology, archaeology

Project/Internship Location:
Remote or in SHESC 110

Hours Per Week or Days and Times Needed:
Times are flexible and built on productive results, especially given the flexibility of remote work. In the past, however, at least 4 hours a week is typical. Also, the student must be able to attend at least one short weekly check-in meeting, which can be through Zoom or other means. We will also try to have group meetings if possible

Project Supervisor/Faculty:
Dr. Chris Morehart

Contact Information:
Christopher.Morehart@asu.edu
Research Project or Internship Title:  
Northern Basin of Mexico Historical Ecology Project

Academic Discipline:  
Archaeology  
Bioarchaeology

Project Description:  
The Northern Basin of Mexico Historical Ecology Project is a regional archaeological field project that Dr. Chris Morehart has run north of Mexico City since 2012. This project studies the impact of changing political and environmental circumstances on local communities’ economic and ecological relationships. This project has approached this topic by combining (1) archaeological excavations, (2) archaeological survey, (3) paleo-ecological investigations, (4) primary historical data, (5) the analysis of a range of archaeological data (i.e., pottery, stone tools, botanical remains, human remains, soils, etc.). This work produces a large body of data in several formats: tabulated, hand-written, hand-drawn maps and excavation plans and profiles, digital mapping data, etc. When we are not in the field, we spend time centralizing all these data into central databases and digital files. This project seeks focuses and meticulous students who can tabulate primary archaeological data into relational databases (i.e., MS Access) or other digital spreadsheets (i.e., excel) and/or who can learn to digitize hand drawn illustrations. As students progress, they can make modifications in their direction depending on their interests. Opportunities to collaborate with the PI on research topics and publications also exist.

Student’s Duties:  
1. Reviewing scans of field and lab data  
2. Entering data into a relational database in Microsoft Access  
3. Entering data into a Excel  
4. Digitizing in Adobe Photoshop or Illustrator (optional)

Required Qualifications or Pre-requisites:  
Ideally intro courses in anthropology, archaeology

Project/Internship Location:  
Remotely or in SHESC 110

Hours Per Week or Days and Times Needed:  
Times are flexible and built on productive results, especially given the flexibility of remote work. In the past, however, at least 4 hours a week is typical. Also, the student must be able to attend at least one short weekly check-in meeting, which can be through Zoom or other means. We will also try to have group meetings if possible

Project Supervisor/Faculty:  
Dr. Chris Morehart

Contact Information:  
Christopher.Morehart@asu.edu
Research Project or Internship Title:
Doing Science in the Time of COVID-19

Academic Discipline:
Global Health
Sociocultural Anthropology
Social Sciences

Project Description:
The purpose of the project is to understand the adaptations professors are making to their research programs in light of COVID-19. We are particularly interested in how the COVID-19 crisis will impact STEM researchers who are in the early stages of their career, who have greater caretaking responsibilities, and/or whose work is dependent on accessing specialized research facilities. The results of the study will improve understanding of how COVID-19 is affecting the conduct of academic scientific research, including its impacts on academic careers.

Student's Duties:
- Assist the graduate research associate with collecting and entering data about faculty from university websites and academic curriculum vitae.
- Assist the graduate research associate with transcribing recorded faculty interviews about the effects of COVID-19 on their scientific research and academic careers.
- Assist the graduate research associate in building a national online questionnaire and organizing and cleaning the resultant data.
- Participate in research design and protocol meetings to ensure project goals are being met.

Required Qualifications or Pre-requisites:
- Familiarity with Microsoft Suite, especially Word and Excel
- Ability to work with minimal supervision
- Working knowledge of Google Drive

Project/Internship Location:
Fully Remote (Online)

Hours Per Week or Days and Times Needed:
Flexible; most work can occur on your own time.

Project Supervisor:
Aliya Hoff

Supervising Faculty:
Monica Gaughan

Contact Information:
Dr. Monica Gaughan
School of Human Evolution and Social Change (SHESC)
Mail Code: 2402
Phone: 480-727-9973
Research Project or Internship Title:
Culture, Health, and Environment Laboratory Intern

Academic Discipline:
Global Health
Sociocultural Anthropology

Project Description:
The Culture, Health, and Environment Laboratory (CHEL) has several ongoing projects each semester that combine methods and theory from anthropology, public/global health, and sustainability. Primarily, our work focuses on the Global Ethnohydrology Study (GES), a transdisciplinary, multi-year, multi-site research project that examines cross-cultural perceptions of water issues in the context of globalization, urbanization, and climate change. Our work this semester will primarily focus on water sharing as a form of disaster response. CHEL’s internship program operates each semester with approximately 15 undergraduate interns who work collaboratively with each other and graduate students in data management, analysis, and tool design. The program is designed to encourage students to return in subsequent semesters to develop more advanced research skills. Typically this research apprenticeship is in-person but due to the unforeseeable future of COVID-19, some assignments may be done remotely.

Student's Duties:
As a result of our many projects, students’ duties will vary. Each student will likely participate on more than one project within the lab. First-time interns will begin with data entry and data quality management of the 2020 GES. Returning interns will be working on qualitative data coding of GES surveys. Other duties and projects may develop throughout the semester.

Required Qualifications or Pre-requisites:
There are no requirements or pre-reqs; we welcome interns at all stages of undergrad study. *Please indicate if you are fluent in languages other than English on your application.
*Please indicate if you have any experience with analytic software (e.g., R, SPSS, SAS, MAXQDA, NVivo, UCInet)
** Please indicate if you are a returning intern on your application.

Project/Internship Location:
SHESC 265

Hours Per Week or Days and Times Needed:
3 hours per week minimum (preferably in one time block). Exact times will be set around selected Interns.

Project Supervisor:
Charlayne Mitchell

Supervising Faculty:
Drs. Alexandra Brewis Slade and Amber Wutich

Contact Information:
cfmitche@asu.edu
Research Project or Internship Title: Global Inequalities and Health

Academic Discipline:
Global Health
Sociocultural Anthropology

Project Description:
This project explores how various forms of social and economic inequality around the world shape health risks and create health disparities. A major focus of the project in recent years has been to characterize ethnic and caste disparities across a range of low-income countries and analyzing the consequences of such disparities for health and well-being in diverse contexts.

Student's Duties:
1) Researching, coding, and writing about social inequalities in diverse countries worldwide
2) Participating in weekly lab meetings

Required Qualifications or Pre-requisites:
None specified

Project/Internship Location:
Matthews Center 203M

Hours Per Week or Days and Times Needed:
3-4 hours per week including weekly lab meeting

Project Supervisor:
Dr. Daniel Hruschka

Supervising Faculty:
Dr. Daniel Hruschka

Contact Information:
dhruschk@asu.edu
**Research Project or Internship Title:**
*Infectious disease at Tlatelolco, a Mesoamerican urban center*

**Academic Discipline:**
Bioarchaeology

**Project Description:**
The Late Postclassic period in the Basin of Mexico (1300 – 1521 CE) was characterized by an influx of people into densely populated and ethnically diverse urban centers, an expansion of long distance trade networks, and a consolidation of political power. During this period, a group of Nahuatl-speaking polities, collectively known as the Aztec, formed the Triple Alliance. The imperial capital, Tenochtitlan, and its contiguous sister-city, Tlatelolco, were constructed within Lake Texcoco during the 14th century CE and rapidly became multi-ethnic urban centers with hundreds of thousands of residents.

In less than a century, the Tlatelolco market became the largest in Mesoamerica; at its peak, the city’s marketplace accommodated an estimated 60,000 daily visitors and was twice as large as the market of the Spanish city Salamanca. Long distance trade to the market was facilitated by pochteca merchants, who traveled hundreds of miles outside of imperial boundaries to bring foreign goods into the Basin of Mexico.

Much information about the daily life of Tlatelolco inhabitants was lost as a result of European conquest. To understand better disease ecology in this pre-contact city, we seek to identify (1) The infectious diseases present at Tlatelolco and (2) Any associations between infectious disease and nutritional deficiency in skeletal remains.

**Student’s Duties:**
- Transcribing and coding osteological and paleopathological data into spreadsheets
- Creating differential diagnoses for nutritional deficiencies (scurvy, anemias, growth stunting, etc) and infectious diseases (tuberculosis, treponemal, etc) observable on skeletal remains
- Organizing photographs based on pathological changes

**Required Qualifications or Pre-requisites:**
ASM 341 Human Osteology (required)
ASM 450 Bioarchaeology (suggested)
ASM 497 Paleopathology (suggested)

**Project/Internship Location:**
Tempe Campus OR through Zoom meetings and remote work.

**Hours Per Week or Days and Times Needed:**
5 hours per week, Days and times are flexible

**Project Supervisor:**
Kelly Blevins

**Supervising Faculty:**
Anne Stone

**Contact Information:**
kelly.blevins@asu.edu
Research Project or Internship Title:  
The use of cryptotephra to more accurately date and link archaeological sites

Academic Discipline:  
Archaeology  
Geology

Project Description:  
This project focuses on processing and analyzing cryptotephra collected from archaeological sites throughout Italy and South Africa. Cryptotephra are microscopic glass shards that are ejected from a volcanic eruption and can travel up to 9000 km from the source volcano. In archaeology, these glass shards have been used to date deposits (Smith et al., 2018) as well as correlate and link stratigraphic layers between sites (Hirniak et al., 2020). Because cryptotephra deposits tend to be far from the source volcano, shards present in a sediment sample can be extremely low abundance and need specialized methods for extraction and analysis. Therefore, the focus of this project will mainly be on sample preparation.

Student's Duties:  
The student will learn how to extract cryptotephra from sediment samples and assist Jayde Hirniak in processing samples collected from various archaeological sites. This process involves wet-sieving of samples as well as heavy-liquid separation methods to target the specific glass shard densities. Samples will also be prepped in an epoxy round that can be used for geochemical analyses. Jayde will train the student in the entire process and assign readings, if necessary.

Required Qualifications or Pre-requisites:  
There are no pre-reqs for this position. Past experience working in a laboratory environment is preferred, however, not required. If the student has no experience, he or she will have to complete additional online training (it is brief, but necessary).

Project/Internship Location:  
Ceramic and Sediment Preparation Laboratory, SHESC 350A

Hours Per Week or Days and Times Needed:  
10 hours per week is recommended

Project Supervisor:  
Jayde Hirniak

Supervising Faculty:  
Chris Campisano, Curtis Marean

Contact Information:  
jaydehirniak@gmail.com