## Archaeology Field School in Lexington ANT585: Field Laboratory in Archaeological Research University of Kentucky 2022 Summer Term class

Interested in archaeology, the history of Lexington and the University of Kentucky campus? Are you looking for an opportunity to gain practical skills in historical and archaeological research? Want to spend part of your summer outside while also earning college credits? Consider enrolling in the Campus Archaeology Field School at the University of Kentucky! This is a sixweek field program for college students to learn and practice historical archaeological research methods, locally in Lexington, Kentucky.

This archaeology project will explore the changing landscape of the University of Kentucky campus and the materials left behind by those who lived, worked, and learned in the historic



buildings of the University. The program provides six weeks of intensive, hands-on learning in archaeological excavation, primary source historical research, laboratory work, artifact analysis, and public engagement.

Our excavations will focus on the Bingham Davis House on E. Maxwell Street, a historic property that is currently home to the Gaines Center for the Humanities. We will excavate the outline of several structures that are no longer standing. Students will learn how to lay out an excavation unit, carefully excavate, and record what they find in the soil. In addition to excavation, archaeologists from the Webb Museum of Anthropology and Office of State Archaeology will demonstrate how we use remote sensing technologies to non-destructively identify underground features.

Students will learn to identify the features and artifacts we uncover in the process of excavation during the field lab. We will clean, sort, and catalog any artifacts we find while digging. This is a crucial step in archaeological research and helps build an interpretation of the site's history and understand the daily lives of those who previously occupied the site. This work is also an important step in preparing the archaeological materials for curation in museum settings. Prior to excavation, students will explore the archives and primary source historical documents related to the site we'll be excavating. We will review the University's Special Collections and other archives to find out who previously owned and lived in the property and neighboring areas. We'll examine historical maps and consider how the landscape of Lexington and UK's campus have transformed over the last 150 years.



Students will have an opportunity to engage with

the public in their daily work at the excavation site. You will be able to share with visitors what you are learning about the site and its previous occupants. Towards the end of the field school, students will also have an opportunity to begin creating a presentation (an exhibit, a website, a talk, etc) that makes your research accessible to the public.

The field school runs from Monday through Fridays, May 23-July 1, 9am-5pm (end time may occur earlier). All excavation and lab analysis will be carried out on the University of Kentucky campus. Students are responsible for their own housing and transportation. This is a 6-credit course and there is a mandatory \$75 lab fee in addition to tuition. *Scholarships are available!* 

## The Details

Course: ANT585 Field Laboratory in Archaeological Research

When: May 23-July 1, 2022, M-F

Where: University of Kentucky campus, Lexington, KY

**Who**: Open to all interested students, regardless of academic major. No previous archaeology experience required.

**Why**: Expand on what you learn in the classroom by gaining hands-on experience in the field! Valuable training if you are considering future employment as an archaeologist or in other heritage professions, or if you're thinking about graduate school in archaeology or related fields. And, it's fun! **Cost**: Tuition for 6-credit summer course + \$75 mandatory lab fee. Scholarships are available.

Enrollment for ANT585 is limited! For permission to enroll, contact the instructor, Dr. Elena Sesma at <u>elenasesma@uky.edu</u>

Sample schedule (will vary depending on the week)

9am: Arrive at site. Discussion of the day's goals, what we've already learned this week.

9:30am: Begin excavations

12:00pm: Break for lunch

12:45pm: Guest speaker or discussion of special topic related to the project.

1:30pm: Excavation continues.

3:30pm: Field lab. Clean and sort artifacts.

4:30pm: Begin packing up equipment and securing site for the evening.

5:00pm: Students dismissed.