



IRLAB

INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH AND LEARNING IN
ARCHAEOLOGY AND BIOARCHAEOLOGY

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FIELD EXPERIENCE IN BIOARCHAEOLOGY IN OHIO

A HANDS-ON PROGRAM FOCUSED ON EXCAVATING HUMAN REMAINS FROM ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXTS.

This new, exclusively field-based program aims at familiarizing participants with the professional excavation of human remains from archaeological contexts. Participants will work side by side with professional archaeologists and bioarchaeologists in the excavations of a historic cemetery in central Ohio (HTCC). The cemetery, located just 20 minutes away from downtown Columbus, was originally established as early as 1804 to serve as a burial ground for the local community. Due to its proximity to the Ohio-Erie canal, the site was subsequently used as a resting place for victims of the infectious disease cholera – an infection of the small intestine that killed tens of millions of people worldwide through various pandemics since 1815. The cemetery remained in use until 1859.

Preliminary investigations at the site have revealed the presence of several single burials with predominant east-west orientation, which appear largely undisturbed and lined up in the western two thirds of the cemetery. Several tombstones or simple markers are scattered throughout the field, but evidence of vandalism and consequent removal and restoration attempts by the township administration suggest that their current location does not mark any specific graves and does likely not correspond to the original layout of the cemetery. In the easternmost third of the cemetery, it is not possible to detect features corresponding to single burials; however, larger, more marked depressed areas suggest the presence of more complex features, consistent with the notion that one or more mass graves may be present at the site.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES OF THIS PROGRAM

The excavation of the HTCC site is a multifaceted project with potentially important implications for reconstructing relatively unknown events in the history of the county, for shedding new light on the lives of individuals too poor to be visible in official histories, and for gaining insights on a disease that reaped millions of lives during the 19th century and that still persists in the developing world.

STAFF

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DATES FOR 2019 PROGRAM

MAY 6th TO JUNE 7th

LOCATION

Pickaway County, OHIO, USA

TUITION AND FEES

COST: \$ 1,025.00

Participation fees cover general excavation equipment, personnel costs, and participant insurance; a personal excavation kit will also be provided to each participant. Fees do not include lodging, meals, transportation, personal gear and equipment, or any other costs not expressly specified.

DISCOUNTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- **Loyalty Discount** - A 10% discount (\$100) is available for students participating in more than one of IRLAB's 2018 field-based programs.
- **"Archaeologist for a day" Outreach Program** - Members of the local community (i.e., residents of Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Madison and Pickaway county) may participate in the excavation for a day at no charge.

ACADEMIC CREDITS

Upon successful completion of the program, participants will receive a certificate of completion from IRLAB. No academic credits are offered, but IRLAB is open to working with a participants's own institution on credit recognition for the experience. To this end, upon admission in the program, participants will need to make arrangements to enroll for independent study with an academic sponsor at their own university, who will then assign a grade based on IRLAB's staff recommendations.

FOR ANY FURTHER INFORMATION VISIT
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For any questions concerning payments, enrolment and
required documents contact:
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