

MOCHE-UNC FIELD SCHOOL IN PERU 10th ANNUAL

June 14 - July 15, 2008

ACADEMIC

Earn 6 semester hours of UNC-Chapel Hill credit for Anthropology 453, Field School in South American Archaeology. No prerequisites.

PROGRAM

The field school is designed to provide students with training in archaeological excavation, survey, and laboratory methods as well as instruction in the prehistory of Peru. Fieldwork involves the excavation of prehistoric households and archaeological survey. Excavations focus on a sample of elite and commoner dwellings at the sites of Ciudad de Dios and Cerro León in the middle Moche Valley on the north coast of Peru.

Both sites date to the Early Intermediate Period (400 BC- AD 700).

Ciudad de Dios consists of a series of massive elite domestic compounds and small commoner dwellings on five narrow ridgetops above the valley floor. Excavations in elite compounds in 1997 through 2000 revealed abundant Moche fineware and plainware ceramics, stone tools, metal objects, and organic refuse. Cerro León is located across the valley from Ciudad de Dios on a hilltop. Thousands of domestic dwellings, including many large elite domestic compounds, are clustered on the steep, upper slopes of the hill, and a fortified refuge is located above the domestic area on the top of the hill roughly 200 m above the valley floor. Pottery from the site indicates that highland immigrants to the middle valley may have occupied Cerro León. In addition to excavation, we will conduct archaeological survey in the upper Moche Valley. Students also work on the survey crew and learn how to find, record, and map archaeological sites.

Fieldwork and laboratory analysis are conducted five days a week. Students excavate and record structures and trash deposits. In addition, students spend one session finding and recording prehistoric sites in the foothills of the Andes. Workshops on the analysis of ceramic, lithic, and organic remains are conducted at the start of the field school. Students assist in the processing and

analysis of collections recovered during the field season. In addition to gaining hands-on training in excavation techniques, laboratory analysis, and database management, students are actively engaged in implementing the project research design. Through excavation, analysis, readings, and group discussions, we examine how ethnicity, class, and economic relationships are manifested in household remains.

Brian Billman conducts tours of local museums and archaeological sites, including Chan Chan, Huaca del Sol and Huaca de la Luna, El Brujo, and Cerro Oreja, on Saturdays. Sundays is unscheduled free time.

TRAVEL

In addition to field and lab work, the program includes a 4-day trip to the highland town of Cajamarca.

LOCATION

The field school is based in Huanchaco, a pleasant fishing village and beach resort just a few kilometers outside of Trujillo, a large city on the north coast of Peru. Students live in a hotel in Huanchaco and are provided with group meals six days a week. Beaches are located across the street from the hotel, and the Andes mountains and numerous world-renowned archaeological sites are close by for free-time activities.

ABOUT THE MOCHE ORIGINS PROJECT

The field school is part of the Moche Origins Project directed by Brian Billman and Jesús Briceño (Instituto Nacional de Cultura). The project goal is to examine how highland-coastal relationships, social stratification, and warfare influenced the development of the Southern Moche state. Beginning in 1997, the project involves household excavations, analysis of collections of human remains, ceramic sourcing, and environmental reconstruction. Flourishing from AD 200- 800, the Southern Moche state was a highly centralized, hierarchically organized political system in which leaders exercised considerable economic, military, and ideological power. Leaders of the state directed the construction of some of

the largest public monuments in the Americas, led the conquest of neighboring valleys, and organized the production of finely-crafted ceramics, textiles, and metal objects. Although one of the largest and most complex prehistoric political systems in the Americas, the origins and socioeconomic structure of the Southern Moche state are poorly understood.

COSTS

\$3,685* covers instructional fees, Study Abroad fees, lodging, three meals a day six days a week, all site and museum entrance fees, health insurance, and a four-day tour of the highland town of Cajamarca. Cost does not include airfare to Peru, transportation to Huanchaco, passport fees, meals on Sundays, laundry service, or personal expenses.

APPLICATION

Enrollment is open to UNC-CH students and students from other colleges and universities.

Out-of-state students pay the same fees and tuition as in-state students. No prerequisites. Spanish is not required. Space is limited to 15 students.

APPLY ONLINE AT: <http://studyabroad.unc.edu>

DEADLINE 14 February 2008; if not filled by this date, we will continue to take applications. This program has rolling admissions, which means that the Study Abroad Office will make a decision on an application for this program as soon as it is complete. We encourage students to complete their applications early.

INFORMATION

For program details:

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*The quoted cost is based on prices and exchange rates as of September, 2007. The costs and details of the program itinerary are subject to change.