

# *Join us in Belize and learn about archaeology*

## *Archaeology Field School in Belize*

### *January 5-20, 2012*

The Anthropology Department is offering an archaeology field school during the 2012 Winter Session. Students will participate in archaeological excavations at Cahal Pech in Belize, Central America. On an imposing hill in the Belize Valley, the Maya site is a medium-size ceremonial center, which has a long occupation period beginning about



1200 B.C. and ending at the Terminal Classic, A.D. 900 to 1000. Our excavations will focus on the latter time period when rulers attempted to maintain power while facing a declining regional population and possibly severe drought conditions.



This is our second season. The course is being offered by Dr. John Douglas and Linda Brown from the Department of Anthropology, University of Montana with the involvement of Dr. Jaime Awe, the leading Belizean scholar on the Maya and Director of the Belize Institute of Archaeology.

## **When**

The class will be held in the 2012 Winter Session. We will meet at the Belize City Airport on the afternoon of January 5, 2012 and leave January 20, 2012. Classes will be held all day Monday through Friday. Special lectures will be given on some nights.

We will take a three-day break on January 13-15. You can choose to hang out in San Ignacio (your room and board is paid for) or you can do some traveling, which would be at your expense. If you can swing it, it's a great time to see some of the famous beaches and cayes of Belize or explore the regions awesome archaeological sites.

## **What**

You will learn about Maya culture history, archaeological field techniques, preliminary artifact identification and handling, as well as travel to two major Maya ceremonial centers in Western Belize and learn about the similarities and differences found in the region.



## **Prerequisites**

You should have some foundational knowledge of archaeology, generally demonstrated by college-level courses, such as Introduction to Archaeology, ANTH 250.

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## **Room and Board**


Students will be housed in a hotel in San Ignacio, a small town near Belize's western border. Each morning we will take a 20-minute walk to the archaeological site. Our meals are prepared by a nearby restaurant.



## **Costs**

- *Course Fee:* \$1750 fee, which covers your room and board, program-related excursions, ground transportation in Belize, and medical evacuation insurance.
- *Round-trip air ticket:* You will need to arrange round-trip air transportation to and from Belize. You will need a valid passport.
- *Enrollment in Winter Session:* You must enroll for the three credits Anthro 495, *Anth Field Experience, Belize*, for Winter Session. Because the Winter Session is part of the spring term, full-time spring students (12 credits or more) can take this course as part of the "tuition flat spot." However, if you are not signed up for spring term or if you are not full-time in the spring, you will need to pay for the three credits (contact the registrar if you have questions).
- *Medicines:* Check with a doctor or travel specialist to see what he/she recommends for you.
- *Incidentals:* Bring money for things like laundry expenses, souvenirs, and costs associated with any extra travel that you might want to do on the three-day break.

## **Bring**

- *Valid Passport* 
- *Clothing and personal care products*
- *Archaeological dig kit*, which includes items like trowel, note book, metric tape measure, line level, plum bob, dust pan, hand pick, and whisk broom.
- *Great attitude:* The archaeological project is operating in a culturally diverse country and will include hard physical labor. While some of us may look forward to the tropical "break" from Montana, keep in mind that the tropics can be hot and humid with a variety of plant and animal life. You must come prepared for these cultural, activity level, and environmental differences.



Please send the completed application form to John Douglas at [john.douglas@umontana.edu](mailto:john.douglas@umontana.edu). Thanks for your interest!

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***Student Information***

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Student I.D. number** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Birth (Day/Month/Year):** \_\_\_\_\_ **Gender: Female**\_\_ **Male**\_\_\_\_\_

**Cell/Home Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Country of Citizenship:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Passport number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Passport expiration date:** \_\_\_\_\_

(You need a passport to travel to Belize. If you do not have a passport, please write “pending.” Please be aware that standard processing for passports can take 3 weeks).

**Year in school:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Number of Credits completed at the end of this semester:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Major:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Minor:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Current Cumulative GPA:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of a UM Anthro Department faculty member familiar with your work to serve as a reference, which I can contact (outside the department is OK but, provide contact information):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Relevant course work and/or previous archaeological experience:** \_\_\_\_\_

**What do you expect from this experience?** \_\_\_\_\_

**What do you consider to be your strengths and weaknesses?** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Special archaeological interests?**

**Current sports or other recreational activities:**

**Additional comments/information about yourself:**

**Foreign travel experience. Please list which countries you have visited and when.**

**Medical and dietary concerns:** It is important that we are aware of any special medical and dietary concerns that you may have. Our ability to deal with special diets is limited and our ability to accommodate disabilities, especially ones hindering mobility, very limited. Likewise, advanced medical facilities for assistance with long-term health conditions are not available.

**Special medications:**

**Special Diet:**

**Allergies:**

**Previous respiratory ailments:**

**Do you have any physical/medical conditions of which we should be aware?**

(e.g. bad back, trick knee, etc.)

**Questions you would like to ask me?**

**By signing below, I am indicating that I have the social skills needed to work with a team on a project and will have appropriate conduct that reflects positively on The University of Montana and reflects appreciation to our hosts—the Institute of Archaeology, the Belize Valley Archaeological Reconnaissance (BVAR), and the people of Belize.**

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*Your name and date*