Anthropology 466
Archaeological Survey
Course Syllabus

Fall 2013

The University of Montana
Department of Anthropology

Wednesdays 9:10 AM – 12:00 NOON SS 252
Course Website: NEW LINK TBA

Instructor: Kelly J. Dixon
Office: Social Sciences Building, Room 235
Email: kelly.dixon@mso.umt.edu
Office hours: Mondays 1:45-3:00 pm; Wednesday afternoons by appointment

Teaching Assistant/M.A. Thesis Researcher: Nikki Manning, nikki.manning@umontana.edu

Course Description Archaeological survey is the process of looking for archaeological sites. This is an introductory course in archaeological field methods that will provide exposure to general survey techniques, map-making, excavation, historical research, laboratory analyses, and report write-up. At the conclusion of this class you will have acquired the ability to:

- Locate, survey, document/map, and interpret cultural/heritage resources
- Identify the elements of a completed site form
- Locate/place cultural resources on a 7.5 minute USGS map
- Understand how a GPS (Global Positioning System) unit works
- Maintain a field notebook
- Understand the methods of various types of archaeological sites and investigations
- Get a sense of archaeological technology such as laser scanning, digital imaging applications, GIS, etc.
- Explore archival resources in the Mansfield Library
- Understand basic methods for cleaning, cataloguing, and curating artifacts
- Explain the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 process for survey in the U.S.
- Understand the basic tenets of urban archaeological survey for MSO Underground Project
- Understand the steps involved with researching historic buildings and cultural landscapes in western Montana

Required Textbook:
Heather Burke, Claire Smith, and Larry Zimmerman

Note: pdfs of pertinent readings, such as these, will be assigned throughout the semester and posted on the course website:

Alberti, Marina, John M. Marzluff, Eric Shulenberger, Gordon Bradley, Clare Ryan, and Craig Zumbrunnen
Anschuetz, Kurt F., Wilshusen, Richard H. and Scheick, Cherie L.  

Baumler, E.  

Fox, Richard A., Jr. and Douglas D. Scott  

Grimm, Nancy B., J. Morgan Grove, Steward T.A. Pickett, and Charles L. Redman  

King, Thomas  

Low, S.  

McAlester, Virginia and Lee McAlester  

Compton, Robert  
1986  *Geology in the Field* by John Wiley and Sons.

Melnick, Robert Z.  


Smith, Minie  

Valentino, A.  

**USEFUL WEBSITES:**
Missoula Historic Underground Project Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/missoulahistoricundergroundproject

Directory of archaeological societies and journals: http://archaeology.about.com/blsmokedir.htm


Rock Art Documentation: http://www.arara.org/Recording_Manual.pdf “...the best free textbook on rock art students can have…” - Tim Urbaniak

3-D Scanning: http://archive.cyark.org/ (info source for 3D scanning)

**FIELD SUPPLIES:**
You need the following materials for this course:
1. Directional compass (class will supply some for training purposes, but it is always good to have your own for survival)
2. Field notebook
3. Tape measure – be sure it is metric **AND** English (i.e. centimeters/meters and inches/feet)
4. Head lamp and/or flashlight
5. Digital camera – only IF you already own one (please do not buy on special for this class!)
ATTENDANCE:
As this is an upper-level class, complete attendance is expected, and attendance will help make decisions about a student’s final grade in borderline cases. Also, there will be some in-class projects and participation exercises AS WELL AS WEEKEND FIELD EXPERIENCES/FIELD TRIPS that require attendance to get full points.

GRADES:
You will be assessed on the basis of the following assignments:

1. Project 1: MSO Underground Task A (Feature Forms, Photos)  
   100 points
2. Project 2: MSO Underground Task B (Archival Inventory)  
   100 points
3. Project 3: MSO Udgnd. Report Section, Map, Other, Presentation  
   100 points
4. Your field notebook (due last regular class)  
   100 points
5. Participation (may include in-class experiences and hands-on projects)  
   100 points

TOTAL 500 points

I will assign +/- grades and final grades will be based upon the following average scores for the journals, exam, research paper and in-class, exercises and participation: A (100-95), A- (94-90), B+ (89-88), B (87-83), B- (82-80), C+ (79-78), C (77-73), C- (72-70), D+ (69-68), D (67-63), D- (62-60), F (59 or less).

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:
The Department of Anthropology is committed to equal opportunity in education for all students, including those with documented physical disabilities or documented learning disabilities. University policy states that it is the responsibility of students with documented disabilities to contact instructors DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF THE SEMESTER to discuss appropriate accommodations to ensure equity in grading, classroom experiences, and outside assignments. The instructor will meet with the student and the staff of the Disability Services for Students (DSS) to make accommodations. Please contact DSS (243.2373, Lommasson Center 154) for more information.

COURSE SCHEDULE:

Week 1
Wednesday, August 28
Syllabus Handout; Introduction to the Missoula Historic Underground Project: “getting the lay of the land” (Nikki Manning will introduce ongoing research)

Homework for next week: Prepare a list of experiences that you have, if any, related to archaeological field work, map-making/GIS, architectural drawing, photography, etc.

Week 2
Wednesday, September 4
Course Intro, Student Experience Discussion, Field Notebooks, Site Forms, Archaeological “Site Types” in MT Burke et al. Chapters 1 and 3

BRING YOUR TEXTBOOK AND SYLLABUS TO CLASS TODAY!

EXTRA CREDIT IF YOU VOLUNTEER AT FIRST FRIDAY EVENT!
Bonus points for assisting with Minie Smith’s First Friday event: Missoula Mercantile, Friday, September 6, at 4 pm

Week 3
Wednesday, September 11
Topo Maps, Compass, UTM’s, Survey Transects, Grids, Sanborn Maps Burke et al. Chapters 2 and 4
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<th>Week 4</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, September 18</td>
<td>Poacher Gulch Prep, HABS Standards for Documenting Historic Structures</td>
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<th>Week 5</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<td>Wednesday, September 25</td>
<td>MSO Underground: Intro to the “Merc”: <strong>We will go downtown to tour the Missoula Mercantile Building and Basement to Prepare for Field Documentation</strong></td>
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**Saturday, September 28**

**FIELD TRIP TO POACHER GULCH, NEAR PLAINS, MONTANA**

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<th>Week 6</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<td>Wednesday, October 2</td>
<td>MSO Underground: More urban survey fieldwork</td>
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<th>Week 7</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<td>Wednesday, October 9</td>
<td>MSO Underground: More fieldwork and/or <strong>POSSIBLE Coloma Field Trip if we get done with the Merc</strong></td>
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<th>Week 8</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<td>Wednesday, October 16</td>
<td>MSO Underground Archival Research: Visit K. Ross Toole Archives for an Overview with Archivist Donna McCrea; then we will spend the rest of the class working with collections in the Archives.</td>
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**HOMEWORK Assignment:** Annotated Inventory of Archival Documents **DUE: November 20**

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<th>Week 9</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, October 23</td>
<td>MSO Underground Archival Research: K. Ross Toole Archives, Cont’d</td>
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**HOMEWORK Assignment:** Continue Your Annotated Inventory of Archival Documents **DUE: November 20**

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<th>Week 10</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, October 30</td>
<td>CRM Laws and History, NHPA, Cultural Landscapes, Landscape Archaeology, and Environmental Change</td>
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<th>Week 11</th>
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<td>Wednesday, November 6</td>
<td>Archaeology of Battlefield Landscapes</td>
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<td>Tentative: Guest Lecture</td>
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<th>Week 12</th>
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<td>Wednesday, November 13</td>
<td>Excavation Brief, Artifact Identification</td>
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*Archaeological Survey Syllabus*
Week 13
Wednesday, November 20
Artifact Cataloguing and Curation and the UMACF
Burke et al. Chapter 10

Week 14
Wednesday, November 27
THANKSGIVING (NO CLASS – TRAVEL DAY)

Week 15
Wednesday, December 4
Synthesizing archaeology, history, preservation, technology, etc.
Presentations and Summaries of the Semester’s Findings

DRAFTS OF Feature Forms, Maps, Photo Files, Drawings DUE FOR REVIEW
Field Notebooks Due!

Week 16: Final Exam Time Slot
Thursday, December 12: Final Exam time Slot: 10:10 am - 12:10 pm
Final Exam Activity TBA
FINAL Report/Underground Documentation Due!