



DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS BOSTON

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January 3, 2018

Dear Potential Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in the Eastern Pequot Archaeological Field School for Summer 2018, sponsored by the University of Massachusetts, Boston. The field school, located on the historic Eastern Pequot Reservation in North Stonington, Connecticut, will run from Sunday, July 1 to Friday, August 3, 2018. Six undergraduate or graduate credit hours are available. This letter offers a basic outline of the field school, and additional details will be provided to those selected to participate.

In collaboration with the Eastern Pequot Tribal Nation, the field school will undertake its eleventh field season of intensive study of tribal lands to identify and document archaeological sites dating to the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries in an effort to study Native American responses to European colonialism. Eastern Pequot families have occupied this historic reservation since 1683 and have strong ties to the landscape where their ancestors have lived for millennia. Alongside tribal interns, field school students will receive training in a number of archaeological techniques such as map-making, shovel testing, full-scale excavation, soil sampling, and material culture identification, and they will engage in group discussions, watch films, hear guest lectures, and visit local museums and archaeology projects. The field school also emphasizes critical perspectives on colonialism, ethics, collaborative research, indigenous rights, and the relationships between theory and practice. The experience offers students the unique opportunity to participate in a collaborative and engaged archaeology alongside Native American community members – tribal leaders, elders, adult members, and youth – in a joint effort to study indigenous history on traditional Pequot lands in southern New England. *With funding from a Public Service Grant and collaboration with the Institute for New England Native American Studies at the University of Massachusetts Boston, part of the field school in 2018 will involve the design and creation of innovative new heritage products.*

In general, the course will run five days per week with two days off. The days off will likely not coincide with a standard Saturday or Sunday to permit Eastern Pequot community members to visit on a weekend day. More details on scheduling will be available for those who register. On regular course days, field activities occupy normal hours, approximately 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., unless weather intervenes. Expect fairly strenuous physical activity for the field portions. Students will also be involved with videography, material culture, and tour development as part of new heritage products. Films, lectures, and discussion take place on some evenings.

The field school fee is **\$2,985** (undergraduate) or **\$3,875** (graduate). This fee applies to matriculated and non-matriculated, as well as in-state or out-of-state, students alike. This fee covers six university credit hours, instruction, field activities housing, daily transportation between the field house and the archaeological site, and food costs. The fee does not cover basic student supplies to be detailed in future letters, required health insurance, or transportation to and from the field school. Carpooling is recommended for students from New England, but those participants who arrive by plane, train, or bus can be picked up in New London or can likely secure a ride from Boston or Providence with a local field school participant. Daily transportation between the field house and reservation will be handled by the project. Living arrangements will involve shared residential housing at Connecticut College, located in New London approximately 20 minutes from the field site. Cooking and shopping duties will be shared by the crew. The house has numerous bedrooms and bathrooms, so students will enjoy relatively

private or semi-private living quarters. Students may reside in the field house for the duration of the course, although they are free to return home or visit elsewhere on days off. Students who stay in New London for the weekend will find plenty of things nearby such as beaches, sightseeing, museums, casinos, etc.

To apply for the field school, complete the enclosed application forms, provide an essay, supply a current academic transcript (unofficial is fine), and have a professor (preferably) submit a recommendation letter on your behalf to me via email. Since the digital application is a form-fillable PDF document, you can type it and check the boxes before printing, or you may choose to save it and email a digital copy. The application deadline is **April 6**, but early application is highly recommended since space is limited. Applications will be reviewed beginning on **February 15**, and I will begin filling the spaces with qualified and appropriate students. You will be notified of your status as soon as possible (likely within a few weeks of applying) but no later than April 20. You will need to provide your decision within a reasonable time (see below) after notification that you have been selected. This insures that other students have the opportunity to participate in the field school should you decline. The course fee is due by **June 4** and will be submitted with a form that I provide.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to receiving your application and having you as a potential participant.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Stephen Silliman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Stephen" and last name "Silliman" clearly distinguishable.

Stephen Silliman, Ph.D.
Department Chair & Professor

Office: 617-287-6854

Email: stephen.silliman@umb.edu

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS BOSTON
EASTERN PEQUOT ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD SCHOOL
Eastern Pequot Reservation, North Stonington, Connecticut
July 1 - August 3, 2018

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

Personal Information

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone #: (home) _____ (cell) _____

Home Address (if different): _____

Person to contact in case of emergency: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone #: (home) _____ (cell) _____

Name of Institution Presently Attending: _____

Matriculated? Yes No Major: _____

Present Standing: Fresh Soph Jr Sr Grad Cumulative GPA on 4.0 scale: _____

Have you included the required academic transcript with your application? Yes No

Which course credit do you seek for this field school? Undergraduate Graduate

Required Recommendation Letter

Referee's Name: _____

Position: _____ Institution/Employer: _____

Telephone #: (work) _____ Email address: _____

APPLICATION DEADLINE: APRIL 6, 2018

Space is limited and interest is high, so early applications are encouraged.

Essay

In the space below, type a brief but articulate essay of 400-500 words outlining your reasons for wanting to attend the field school and the goals you hope to achieve if you are selected. Be sure to include any information that might be useful in assessing your aptitude for fieldwork, ability to work with others, experience with field or laboratory methods, interest in collaborative indigenous archaeology or other pertinent issues, relevant course work, and tolerance for outdoor working conditions.

Terms and Conditions

Applications will be considered only when all required documents have been received. These include (1) personal information form, (2) short personal essay, (3) current transcript – an unofficial copy is acceptable, (4) signed terms and conditions sheet, and (5) recommendation letter. The confidential information form will be requested if you are selected to participate, but feel free to submit it now, if you wish. The application deadline is **April 6, 2018**, but applications will be reviewed upon receipt in batches. Space is limited, so early application is recommended.

The fee for this program is **\$2,985** for six (6) hours of undergraduate credit as Anthropology 485 or **\$3,875** for six (6) hours of graduate credit as Anthropology 685. All courses are administered through the College of Advancing and Professional Studies (CAPS) at the University of Massachusetts Boston, but it is expected that your university, if not UMass Boston, will accept these as transfer credits. Please check with your campus registrar since this is your responsibility. Those admitted will have **7 days** to accept or decline the offer after being notified (if notified after the deadline) or **14 days** to accept or decline if notified before the official deadline. If you accept, the full registration payment is due by **June 4** unless approved to do otherwise based on extenuating circumstances. Instructions for registration and payment will be provided following your letter of acceptance.

The field school fee covers all course credits, instruction, field activities, housing, daily transportation, and basic food costs. Personal food and drink not pertinent to scheduled meals will be the responsibility of the student. Students will be responsible for supplying some of their own food on non-work days, even if they stay in field housing. The course fee does not cover basic supplies, books, health insurance, or transportation to and from the field school at the beginning and end of the course.

Neither the University of Massachusetts Boston nor its agents (including but not limited to the course instructor and teaching assistants) cannot assume responsibility for any sickness, illness, injury, or accident incurred by the student during his or her participation in the archaeological field school, including transportation to and from the field site, specifically, or to and from the field school, generally. Since the University does not provide health or casualty insurance to enrollees, students must show proof of valid health insurance coverage before they can be admitted to the program.

I, _____, HEREBY APPLY TO THE EASTERN PEQUOT ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD SCHOOL, SPONSORED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS BOSTON, AND I AGREE TO BE BOUND TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS DESCRIBED ABOVE. IF ACCEPTED, I WILL MEET ALL FINANCIAL AND SCHEDULING REQUIREMENTS.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please return the completed hard-copy or digital application to:

Professor Stephen Silliman
Department of Anthropology
University of Massachusetts, Boston
100 Morrissey Blvd.
Boston, MA 02125-3393
stephen.silliman@umb.edu

Confidential Information

To ensure a fair admission process, you're not required to submit this page until after being selected. This information will not be used to discriminate between applicants. It is collected solely for the purposes of planning, liability, safety, and disclosure during the field school itself.

Do you take any medication on a regular basis that field school staff should know about?

Yes No If yes, please describe _____

Do you have any illness or physical disability that might impair your ability to participate or might be critical for field school staff to know about?

Yes No If yes, please describe _____

Do you have any allergies that field school staff should know about?

Yes No If yes, please describe _____

Do you have any learning disabilities that might pertain to this course?

Yes No If yes, please describe _____

Do you have special dietary needs or preferences (e.g., vegetarian, lactose intolerant, celiac disease)?

Yes No If yes, please describe _____

To assist in determining a compatible living situation for field school students, please supply the following personal information:

Gender: _____

Age: _____ (minimum age is 18)

Other: _____

Required Health Insurance

Insurance Company: _____

Insurance Policy #: _____