

Las Positas College  
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## Course Outline for ANTR 2L

### ARCHAEOLOGY FIELD LAB

Effective: Fall 2017

#### I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

ANTR 2L — ARCHAEOLOGY FIELD LAB — 1.00 units

This Archaeology Field Lab course offers hands-on field experience and artifact analysis. Students practice scientific archaeological recovery methods and techniques, including site planning, excavation, typology, cataloging, artifact recognition and reconstruction. In addition to gaining expertise in field research, students will examine and discuss techniques, tools and processes in cultural resource management.

1.00 Units Lab

#### Prerequisite

ANTR 2 - Introduction to Archaeology  
(May be taken concurrently)

#### Grading Methods:

Letter or P/NP

#### Discipline:

	<u>MIN</u>
<b>Lab Hours:</b>	54.00
<b>Total Hours:</b>	54.00

#### II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: 1

#### III. PREREQUISITE AND/OR ADVISORY SKILLS:

**Before entering the course a student should be able to:**

A. ANTR2

#### IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

**Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:**

- Use the Scientific method to identify, record, and define artifacts.
- Describe the methods and techniques of laboratory research in archaeology.
- Analyze artifacts within the cultural context of their field recoveries.
- Explain the relationships between artifacts and the reconstruction and understanding of cultural context.

#### V. CONTENT:

- Introduction and orientation
  - Identifying artifacts, ecofacts and features
  - Field equipment, field procedures and safety
  - Finding an archaeological site by survey, transects and research
- Field methods and excavation procedures
  - Non-invasive techniques for investigation before digging
  - Vertical and horizontal excavations in the field
  - Bag and tag, records and mapping at archaeological sites
- Lab work
  - Stabilize, clean and sort artifacts
  - Classification and typology of artifacts
  - Stone tool identification and analysis
  - Pottery and Ceramics identification and analysis
  - Plant remains identification and analysis
  - Basketry and other soft goods identification and analysis
  - Bone and shell identification and analysis
  - Basic Osteology and zooarchaeology
  - Metal, glass and analysis of historical artifacts
- Database formation and site analysis
  - Constructing artifact databases
  - Concluding site analysis based on information gathered

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. Field excavations
- B. **Lab** -
- C. **Discussion** -
- D. **Observation and Demonstration** -

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- A. Complete Lab manual exercises and reading assignments
- B. Help design and participate in field excavation projects
- C. Differentiate between stone, bone and ceramic artifacts
- D. Write a final report on an archaeological excavation site

VIII. EVALUATION:

A. **Methods**

- 1. Exams/Tests
- 2. Quizzes
- 3. Group Projects
- 4. Class Participation
- 5. Lab Activities

B. **Frequency**

- 1. Midterm test and final exam
- 2. Group projects throughout the semester
- 3. Lab exercises throughout the semester

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

- 1. Balme, J., & Paterson, A. (2013). *Archaeology in Practice: A Guide to Archaeological Analyses* (2nd ed.). Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell.
- 2. Neumann, T.W., & Stanford, R.M. (2010). *Cultural Resources Archaeology: An Introduction* (2nd ed.). Walnut Creek, CA: Altamira Press.
- 3. Sutton, M.Q., & Arkush, B.S. (2014). *Archaeological Laboratory Methods* (6th ed.). Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt.
- 4. Renfrew, C., & Bahn, P. (2015). *Archaeology Essentials: Theories, Methods, and Practice* (3rd ed.). New York, NY: Thames & Hudson.
- 5. Renfrew, C., & Bahn, P. (2016). *Archaeology: Theories, Methods, and Practice* (7th ed.). New York, NY: Thames & Hudson.
- 6. Kelly, R.L., & Thomas, D.H. (2016). *Archaeology* (7th ed.). Boston, MA: Cengage.
- 7. Stone, T.. Introduction to Archaeology Laboratory Manual. Kendall Hunt, Dubuque, IA , 2014.
- 8. White, G. and King, T.. The Archaeological Survey Manual. Left Coast Press, Walnut Creek, CA , 2007.

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS: