

2010 Ohio Archaeological Field School (ANTH 465) - 10 credits

The Ohio Archaeological Field School, directed by Dr. Elliot Abrams, will be offered this coming summer. It will entail both summer sessions. The research will involve survey and excavation of a site within a ten minute drive of Athens. Students will drive or transportation will be provided. The cost includes tuition and fees for 10 credits plus a modest lab fee. Students are responsible for their own housing. If a student cannot participate in both sessions, they may take the first session only but cannot take the second session only. For the full learning experience, both sessions are advised.

The Field School teaches students all stages of archaeological research, including research design, survey, mapping, excavation techniques, and laboratory methods. The site is an open-air residential site in a field just off the road. Access is easy, but some degree of physical effort will be required of each student. We work Monday - Friday, from 8:30 - mid afternoon. If you take another course, I recommend an early evening course, certainly after 4:00 pm at the earliest.

To sign up, please email Dr. Elliot Abrams (abrams@ohio.edu). Express your interest in participating and your major. Enrollment is limited to 18 students, and acceptance is on a "first come, first served" basis. Please email me also if you have any questions about the field school.

2008

We resumed excavation of the Patton site during the summer of 2008. The results of the previous season indicated the presence of a residential site, but the extent of those remains were unknown until we resumed digging. Owing to the unplowed nature of the site, we uncovered perhaps the most intact Middle Woodland house and houselot yet excavated in the state of Ohio. The final phase of this three-phase house was roughly a 5 x 3 meter rectangular house with wattle and daub (dried mud) walls. An interior and exterior hearth were used for cooking and economic activity areas, used to make tools and prepare food, were located. This house and associated artifacts clearly indicate an increased commitment to sedentary life.