

## **Saint Mary's College Summer Field School in Maritime Archaeology**

The 2014 Field School in Maritime Archaeology is an ongoing joint research expedition conducted in Bermuda by faculty and students of Saint Mary's College and the University of Rhode Island. The field school is a research-based learning experience that exposes students to a variety of activities including archival research, artifact conservation, archaeological survey, and underwater excavation and documentation of historic shipwrecks.

The field school will be conducted in the three-week period from July 21 to August 7, 2014.

Advanced scuba training, leading to the American Academy of Underwater Sciences' (AAUS) Scientific Diver certification, and classroom work related to maritime history and maritime archaeological field methods will comprise week one of the field school. Underwater research and documentation of 16th and 17th century shipwrecks will be conducted in Bermuda during the remaining weeks.

Students will receive a one-course upper division anthropology credit. The field school meets the fieldwork requirement for anthropology majors or minors with an



archaeology focus, or may be counted as an upper division anthropology elective. Professor James M. Allan of the Anthropology Department is the program director. Professor Allan has extensive experience in underwater archaeological field methods, archival research, and scientific diving.

Course enrollment is limited. There are no academic prerequisites, but all participants in the field school must obtain both scuba and AAUS certification prior to the beginning of the field school and must have their own diving equipment (tanks and weights will be provided). The SMC Anthropology Department will offer a scuba training class that incorporates AAUS requirements during the 2014 spring semester. Contact Professor Allan if you are interested in enrolling in this .25 credit activity course.

While in Bermuda, students will participate in each of three research modules: laboratory training in the museum's conservation facility, archaeological survey and documentation of historic shipwrecks, and archival research in the Bermuda National Archives, located in the nearby city of Hamilton. Students will be required to keep a field journal containing details of each day's research activities, instruction, and procedures. Journals will be submitted for evaluation at the end of the field school. Students will also be required to prepare and submit a scaled plan of the shipwreck site that we will be documenting, and will participate in preparing a collaborative report on the field school that will be submitted for publication in *MariTimes*, the magazine of the Bermuda Maritime Museum. Students will also prepare a short term paper using materials presented in the course reader, supplementary readings available in the

Bermuda Maritime Museum's library, or from primary documents available in the Bermuda National Archives. In addition, while in Bermuda students will attend periodic lectures on such topics as archival research methods, archaeological survey (magnetometer and visual survey), site excavation and mapping, analysis of archaeological data, conservation of waterlogged artifacts, etc.

### **Location**

The Bermuda Maritime Museum, located on Ireland Island, Bermuda, will host the field school. Bermuda is an island about 20 miles long located in the Atlantic Ocean, 650 miles southeast of Cape Hatteras, North Carolina. The island was visited by Spanish mariners during the 16<sup>th</sup> century but was not settled until the 17<sup>th</sup> century, when English

colonists started to migrate to the New World. For hundreds of years Bermuda was a navigational waypoint

linking the Old World with the New. Today, the island's economy is based on offshore banking and tourism, an industry enhanced by the warm clear waters and extensive reef system that surround the island.





### **Travel**

Participants in the field school will make their own arrangements for air travel from the United States to Bermuda and back. To enter Bermuda, visitors from the United States must present a US Passport.

### **Money**

US dollars can be used in Bermuda. For those wishing to convert money, there is a one-to-one exchange rate.

### **Living Accommodations**

During the field session, students and faculty will stay in the Bermuda Maritime Museum's hostel. The hostel has excellent kitchen facilities, which will be utilized by a supervising cook and two daily "volunteers" who will be selected in accordance with a rota and will assist the cook in preparing meals and cleaning up.

### **Dive Equipment and Boats**

The museum will provide 20 ft. and 24 ft. dive boats for transportation to and from the dive sites and to act as the working dive platforms. The museum will also provide dive tanks, weights, and an air compressor. Students must provide all other dive equipment.

### **Transportation**

Ground transportation from the Bermuda airport to the Museum and back will be included in course fees. All other ground transportation must be individually arranged. Mopeds are the common conveyance and may be rented upon arrival, although this is not recommended. Bermuda has an efficient and inexpensive bus service that is preferable. In addition, a fast and efficient ferry system connects Ireland Island, location of the museum, with the City of Hamilton and drops off passengers within walking distance of the Bermuda Archives and library and will provide students with the opportunity to experience Bermuda's culture on their days off.

### **Course Fee**

Approximately \$3,800 (not including airfare)

### **Application Procedures**

Please contact Professor James Allan at (925) 253-9070 or e-mail [jallan@stmarys-ca.edu](mailto:jallan@stmarys-ca.edu) for an application form or more information.

## **Saint Mary's College *of California***



## **Summer Field School In Maritime Archaeology**

**Bermuda**

**July 21 – August 7, 2014**