**THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA   
HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD SCHOOL**

**Syllabus**

**Summer Session A 2019 (May 13-June 21)**

**Fort Mose (St. Augustine, Florida)**

Instructor: James M. Davidson, Ph.D.

Graduate Teaching Assistants: Liz Ibarrola, Simon Goldstone

Meeting Times: Monday through Friday, Fort Mose Historic State Park (St. Augustine, FL)

Email: davidson@ufl.edu

Office Hours: on site

**Course Description**:

As part of this archaeological field school, you will receive intensive training in controlled excavation techniques, instrument mapping, artifact identification, and artifact analysis. All students will be enrolled for nine credit hours.

**Fort Mose -- Site Background**

Gracia Real de Santa Teresa de Mose, or Fort Mose, was a fortified settlement founded in 1738 by the Spanish governor of Florida, and populated by recently emancipated Africans as a defensive element to St. Augustine. The leader was an escaped African known as Francisco Menendez.

The first fort was attacked and destroyed by the British under General Oglethorpe in 1740 but was reestablished in 1748, and a second fort built in 1752. It was ultimately abandoned in 1763, when Florida was ceded to the British at the end of the Seven Years War. When evacuated in 1763 to Cuba, the colony’s inhabitants consisted of 31 men, 34 women, and 22 children.

Fort Mose is recognized as the earliest free African town in the Western Hemisphere, and a source of pride and importance for the local and greater African American community.

Rediscovered archaeologically in 1971, the second fort saw formal excavations in 1987-88.

The 2019 field school will represent the first intensive investigation of the settlement since the 1980s.

**Accommodating Students with Disabilities**:

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student, who in turn must provide this documentation to me when requesting accommodation.

**Academic Honesty**:

The University reminds every student of the implied pledge of Academic Honesty: “on any work submitted for credit the student has neither received nor given unauthorized aid.”

Consult the Student Guide at: https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/

Students caught cheating will be referred to the University administration for disciplinary action, the consequences of which can include (among other things) failure of this course, and expulsion from the University.

**Course Requirements**:

Participation in all field work, lab sessions, and lecture is required. The $700 field school fee is a requirement for participation in the field school. Failure to pay the fee will result in removal of the student from the course.

**Grading**:

Based on participation in field work, lab sessions, and lecture, as well as an assessment of your note-taking abilities. However, at my discretion there may be one or more written assignments or quizzes over some material. There will not be a final exam for this course.

**Required Texts**: **Readings on African Diaspora Archaeology (downloadable pdf’s of articles; see below)**

There is no required textbook, but the following readings are required. They will need to be downloaded from the class website.

**Fort Mose**:

Deagan, Kathleen and Jane Landers

1999 Fort Mose: Earliest African-American Town in the United States. In *I, Too, Am America: Archaeological Studies of African-American Life*, edited by Theresa A. Singleton, pp. 261-282. University Press of Virginia, Charlottesville.

Landers, Jane

1990 Gracia Real de Santa Teresa de Mose: A Free Black Town in Spanish Colonial Florida. *The American Historical Review* 95(1):9-30.

Landers, Jane

1984 Spanish Sanctuary: Fugitives in Florida, 1687- 1790. *Florida Historical Quarterly* 62(3):296-313.

Marron, John V.

1989 Archaeological Excavations at Fort Mose, Florida, 1989. Preliminary field report on file, Florida Museum of Natural History: Gainesville.

Reitz, Elizabeth J.

1994 Zooarchaeological Analysis of a Free African Community: Gracia Real de Santa Teresa de Mose. *Historical Archaeology* 28(1):23-40.

Siebert, Wilbur H.

1940 The Departure of the Spaniards and Other Groups from East Florida, 1763-1764. *The Florida Historical Quarterly* 19(2):145-154.

Wright, Irene A.

1924 Dispatches of Spanish Officials Bearing on the Free Negro Settlement of Gracia Real de Santa Teresa de Mose, Florida. *The Journal of Negro History* 9(2):144-195.

**Florida and African Diaspora Archaeology**

Davidson, James M. and Mary Elizabeth Ibarrola

2016 *Cabin 1 at the Bulow Plantation (8FL7): Final Results of the 2014 and 2015 University of Florida Archaeological Field Schools at the Bulow Plantation Historic Ruins State Park (Flagler County, FL*). Anthropology Department. University of Florida: Gainesville, FL.

Orser, Charles E. Jr.   
1998 The Archaeology of the African Diaspora. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 27:63-82.

Fairbanks, Charles   
1974    The Kingsley Slave Cabins in Duval County, Florida, 1968. *Conference on Historic Sites Archaeology Papers* 7:62-93.

Fairbanks, Charles H.   
1984    The Plantation Archaeology of the Southeastern Coast. *Historical Archaeology* 18 (1):1-14.

Otto, John Solomon   
1980 Race and Class on Antebellum Plantations. In *Archaeological Perspectives on Ethnicity in America: Afro-American and Asian American Culture History*, edited by Robert L. Schuyler, pp. 3-13.  Baywood Publishing Co, Farmingdale, NY.

Wheaton, Thomas R. and Patrick H. Garrow   
1985 Acculturation and the Archaeological Record in the Carolina Lowcountry. In *The Archaeology of Slavery and Plantation Life*, edited by Theresa Singleton, pp. 239-269. Academic Press, Orlando, FL.

Babson, David W.   
1990 The Archaeology of Racism and Ethnicity on Southern Plantations. *Historical Archaeology* 24(4):20-28.

Orser, Charles E. Jr.   
1994 The Archaeology of African-American Slave Religion in the Antebellum South. *Cambridge Archaeological Journal* 4 (1):33-45.

Franklin, Maria   
1997 “Power to the People”: Sociopolitics and the Archaeology of Black Americans.

*Historical Archaeology* 31(3):36-50.

Epperson, Terrence W.   
2004 Critical Race Theory and the Archaeology of the African Diaspora. *Historical Archaeology* 38(1):101-108.

Miller, Sarah E. & Emily Jane Murray

2018 Heritage Monitoring Scouts: Engaging the Public to Monitor Sites at Risk Across Florida. *Conservation and Management of Archaeological Sites* 20(4):234-260.

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**Food**:

Breakfast will be largely self-service, and consist of cold cereal, breakfast bars, fruit, milk, juice, etc.

Lunch will typically be sandwiches or similar easy to prepare food.

Dinner will be the main meal, and will be a hot dish with sides.

We will likely have some vegetarians on the crew, so each dinner will have a veggie option.

**Housing**:

The housing for students will consist of dorm rooms at Flagler College, in downtown historic St. Augustine. Although we will only work weekdays, you have the option to stay at the field school residence on weekends. The staff will be residing in a small apartment in the historic district nearby.

While the dorms are furnished (including beds), you will need to supply your own bedding including pillows, blankets, sheets, etc. You will also need to supply your own bathroom and toiletry needs: bath towel, bath robes, toothpaste, shampoo, etc.

**Clothing**:

Summers are hot in Florida, and especially so when digging all day in the sun.  The best excavation attire is light, loose summer style clothing.  Since we are on a state park where tourists will be observing our work, socially inappropriate or revealing clothing cannot be worn.  Since we will be crossing low waterways when the site is at high tide, it would be best to have two pair of footwear, one of which you can get wet. You will need closed-toe shoes, like tennis shoes or work boots to excavate with shovels.

**Field Equipment and supplies**

You will be responsible for supplying:

Personal Water bottle or canteen, Gloves, Kneeling pad (if desired), Insect repellent, Sunscreen, Hat, Rain Poncho or Rain Coat; any prescription or over-the-counter medications that you take on a routine or daily basis.

**Optional Field equipment:**

We will supply all basic excavation equipment for use during the field school.

But you may wish to purchase the following equipment to begin building your own “dig kit”:

Marshalltown Trowel (5-inch pointing); Compass (orienteering style; liquid filled, with azimuth ring); Folding rule (metric); Tape measure (3 meters; locking; metric); Root clippers; Line level (spirit level).

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**Typical Field School Schedule**:

**Typical week**: Monday thru Friday

7:00 to 7:25 am Breakfast

7:30 am Leave for site

10:00 to 10:15 am Break

12:00 to 12:30 pm Lunch

Circa 3:30/4:00 pm End of Work

Artifact processing (some nights) 5:30 to 6:30 pm

Dinner 7:00 to 8:00 pm

Lecture 6:00 to 7:00 pm (some nights)

**Duty assignments**:

1 to 2 students per day for kitchen detail (meal planning, food prep, cooking, clean up)

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**Commuting Schedule (for those riding in the University Van):**

First week:

Monday, May 8 - leave from Gainesville by 9:30 am.

Friday -- Leave from St. Augustine to UF campus, circa 3:00 pm (arrival circa 5:00 pm)

All other weeks:

Return to St. Augustine from Univ. of Florida campus; depart Sundays at circa 4:00 pm.

Fridays -- Leave from St. Augustine to UF campus circa 3:00 pm (arrival circa 5:00 pm)

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**Grading**:

Participation in **all** lab and field sessions: 100%

If one or more written assignments or quizzes are assigned or administered, they will each count as 10% of the final grade.

A final letter grade will be assigned at the end of the semester, according to this scale:

A         (93-100%)

A-        (90-92%)

B+       (88-89%)

B         (83-87%)

B-        (80-82%)

C+       (78-79%)

C         (73-77%)

C-        (70-72%)

D+       (68-69%)

D         (63-67%)

D-        (60-62%)

E          (59% or below)

**Attendance**:    Regular attendance is required.  Any unexcused absences **will** detract from the student’s final grade.