

**HIST 195-02:
Archaeology Research Laboratory
Full Semester
Syllabus and Handbook**



**Instructor: Dr. Kristian L. Lorenzo
Fall 2013**

Introduction:

In 2010, Monmouth College received an anonymous donation of thousands of prehistoric Native American artifacts, including spear points, pottery sherds, axe heads, and arrow heads. The collection mostly comes from Western Illinois (our own backyard!), and represents human activity in the area from hundreds and even thousands of years ago. The Monmouth College Native American Artifact Collection is now housed in the Archaeology Research Lab, and represents one of the largest local collections available for study. For more on the donation and the collection, [click here](#), or visit the top floor of the Hewes Library and check out the current display.

The goal of this course is for you to gain hands-on experience working with this collection in a laboratory setting. Through the handling of authentic antiquities in a scientific manner you will also be introduced to the world of cultural resource management. After introductory lectures on Western Illinois prehistory and lithic technology, you will be taught how to assess and catalogue the collection's artifacts properly. After you have demonstrated your proficiency in these skills, you will then spend the majority of class time honing them, while maintaining, and promoting our collection. Other avenues of student collection management you may have the opportunity to gain experience in this semester include artifact photography, website development, database management and community outreach programs.

Grading:

Your final grade for this course will be based on the following:

1. Active participation in the lab and its activities = **70%**
2. Attendance = **15%**. You have TWO free absences. Every absence thereafter will drop your attendance grade by a full letter (e.g. 3 absences = B; 4 = C, etc.).
3. A 1-2 page summary of any one of the archaeology lectures hosted by the Western Illinois AIA = **15%**. This can be handed in at anytime, but is due the last day of class (Wednesday, December 11th). No late submissions will be accepted.

Schedule:

Wednesday, 3:30-5:10: Hewes Library, Room 11A

Required Class Materials:

At least **1-2 No. 2 lead pencils** and this Handbook printed in color. No pens, sharpies, or highlighters are allowed unless informed otherwise by Dr. Lorenzo or any of the TAs. And please bring the **Handbook** to class with you everyday.

Instructor:

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Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday, 11:15-12:15 pm or by appointment, Hewes Library, Room 11A

Sample Artifacts:

(1) MC 1.293: A Hardin Barbed projectile point with a serrated flaking pattern on the blade's edge and random flaking pattern elsewhere.



(2) MC 1.173: A Hardin Barbed projectile point with a beveled flaking pattern on the blade's edge and random flaking pattern. The lower half of the left side displays possible reworking due to damage.



(3) MC 1.88: A Pine Tree Corner Notched projectile point with both a serrated blade and beveled flaking pattern. Some points will display one, both, or neither of these qualities.



Archaeology Laboratory Tools (going clockwise from lower left):

- (1) Calipers
- (2) Scale
- (3) Whiteout
- (4) Black archival ink
- (5) White archival ink
- (6) Paraloid museum adhesive
- (7) Goggles
- (8) Q-tip
- (9) Quill with nib
- (10) Black archival ink pen



Two Archaeology Laboratory Tools:

(1) Calipers - a calibrated instrument for measuring lengths, thicknesses or distances between surfaces, usually having a screwed or sliding adjustable piece.



How to use the calipers:

Step One: When measuring the length of a projectile point position the artifact between the stationary and sliding segments of the calipers, as shown in the picture above.

Step Two: Push the sliding segment toward the stationary one until they cannot move any further while having the point in between them, as shown in the picture above.

Step Three: Now take your measurement from the 0 (zero) on the stationary segment to the 0 (zero) on the sliding one, as shown in the picture above.

Example: If you look at the image above you will see that the maximum length of the point is 5.9 cm.

Example: If you look at the image below you will see that the maximum width of the point is 3.3 cm.



Example: You will also use the calipers to determine the maximum thickness of each point (not shown).

(2) Scale - gives an accurate weight for the projectile points. It is very important to let the point sit on the scale until you see a star at the bottom left hand corner of the screen. This is how you know if you have a perfect measurement of the weight. Students must put the projectile on the scale 5 times to make sure they have the same number every time (see picture on the next page).



A Few Class Rules:

- (1) Please bring at least 1-2 No. 2 lead pencils to class with you everyday. Do not use pens, etc.
- (2) Please bring the Handbook to class with you everyday.
- (3) Once fully trained and approved you can listen to music while you work. However, you must do so through only 1 earphone. This is for safety and communication reasons. Listening to music during class time is a privilege. Please do not abuse it.
- (4) When accessioning artifacts please recap the paraloid museum adhesive **right away**. If not consistently recapped, the paraloid will dry out costing the lab money and time. If your Q-tip is not in the paraloid, the paraloid should be recapped!!!
- (5) When accessioning artifacts please always wear goggles, no exceptions or excuses permitted. The goggles fit over regular glasses.

How to Accession an Artifact:

- (1) Using a Q-tip apply a small area of paraloid museum adhesive directly to the artifact then allow it to dry.
- (2) Using a quill and nib with either black or white archival ink or a black archival ink pen write the artifact's unique accession number (e.g. MC 1.1299) on the small area of dry paraloid.
- (3) Using a Q-tip apply a topcoat of paraloid then allow it to dry.
 - Seals in the ink and allows the artifact to be handled safely
 - Process is Reversible and Non-Damaging

How to Catalogue an Artifact:

- (1) Using calipers determine the precise length, width, and thickness of each artifact then with a No. 2 lead pencil record these precise measurements on the point's accession sheet.
- (2) Using the scale determine the exact weight of each artifact then with a No. 2 lead pencil record the weight on the point's accession sheet.
- (3) Using the last 2 pages of the *Field Guide to Projectile Points of the Midwest* determine the physical characteristics (i.e. stem shape, base, shape, blade shape, cross-section shape and flaking pattern(s)) of each point then with a No. 2 lead pencil record the weight on the point's accession sheet.
- (3) Based on the point's physical characteristics and using either the *Field Guide to Projectile Points of the Midwest* or *Stone Age Spear and Arrow Points of the Midcontinental and Eastern United States* or both determine the artifact's typology and date then with a No. 2 lead pencil record the information on the point's accession sheet.

Teaching and Learning Center (TLC):

The Teaching and Learning Center offers various resources to assist Monmouth students with their academic success. All programs are FREE to Monmouth students and are here to help you excel academically. Our services are not just for struggling students, but designed to assist all students to get better grades, learn stronger study skills, and be able to academically manage your time here. Visit them at the 2nd floor of Poling Hall from 8 am-4:30 pm or on line at <http://www.monmouthcollege.edu/academics/support/tlc>. They can also be reached at: tlc@monmouthcollege.edu or 309-457-2257. They want to help you – it's COOL to get the help early!

The Monmouth College Writing Center:

The Monmouth College Writing Center offers unlimited, free peer tutoring sessions for students at MC. Peer writing tutors work with writers from any major, of any writing ability, on any type of writing assignment, and at any stage of their writing processes, from planning to drafting to revising to editing. The Writing Center is located on the 3rd floor of the Mellinger Teaching and Learning Center, and is open Sunday-Thursday 7-10pm and Monday-Thursday 3-5pm on a first-come, first-served basis. No appointment necessary! Contact bdraxler@monmouthcollege.edu or visit the website <http://writingatmc.wordpress.com/writing-center/> for more information.

Disability Support Services:

Monmouth College wants to help all students be as academically successful as possible. It is the goal of Monmouth College to accommodate students with disabilities pursuant to federal law, state law, and the college's commitment to equal educational opportunity. Any student with a disability who needs an accommodation should speak with the Teaching and Learning Center. The Teaching and Learning Center is located on the 2nd floor of Poling Hall, 309-457-2257, or <http://www.monmouthcollege.edu/life/disability-services>.

Academic Honesty:

Students in this course are encouraged to do their homework together. All other class work except group work, especially quizzes and exams, must be the student's own work. Plagiarism, i.e., copying someone else's work without giving credit, is to be avoided. Such copying--from a book, another classmate's paper, or any other source--is dishonest.

At Monmouth College we view academic dishonesty as a threat to the integrity and intellectual mission of our institution. Any breach of the academic honesty policy – either intentionally or unintentionally - will be taken seriously and may result not only in failure in the course, but in suspension or expulsion from the college. It is each student's responsibility to read, understand and comply with the general academic honesty policy at Monmouth College, as defined in the Scots Guide (<http://department.monm.edu/stuserv/student-handbook/academic.htm>) and to the specific guidelines for each course, as elaborated on the professor's syllabus.

The following areas are examples of violations of the academic honesty policy:

1. Cheating on tests, labs, etc;
2. Plagiarism, i.e., using the words, ideas, writing, or work of another without giving appropriate credit;
3. Improper collaboration between students, i.e., not doing one's own work on outside assignments unspecified as group projects by the instructor;
4. Submitting work previously submitted in another course, without previous authorization by the instructor.

(This list is not intended to be exhaustive.)

Course Engagement Expectations (HIST 195)

This course meets once a week for 1 hour and 40 minutes for the full semester. Due to this course's overriding emphasis on hands-on in-class lab work you should expect to spend on the 1 outside assignment, the composition of a 1-2 page summary of an AIA lecture you attended, approximately three hours outside of class for the whole semester.