



MVAC at the University
of Wisconsin-La Crosse

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Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center

Archaeology

DISCOVER THE EXCITEMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY

2019

*Education opportunities
for adults, youth, and teachers*

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2019 Schedule at a Glance

February

21 Lecture: Effigy Mound Ceremonial
Landscapes

March

2 Artifact Show

May

1-31 Wisconsin Archaeology Month
4 MVAC Members-Volunteer Field Survey
11 Volunteer Field Survey rain date

July

15-17 Public Field Experience (3 day)
15-19 Public Field School (5 day)
15 Egypt, grades 4-6
16 Introduction to Archaeology, grades 5-9
17-18 Middle School Field Experience,
grades 5-9
18 Field School Open House

November

7 2019 Awards, Lecture: Prehistoric
Archaeology at 120 Feet: Investigating
9,000 Year Old Hunting Sites Beneath
the Great Lakes.

MVAC Educational Programs are supported in part by
the United Fund for the
Arts and the Humanities and the
National Endowment for the Humanities



For more information on these and other events,
contact MVAC's main office at 608.785.8463
or check MVAC's website at:

mvac.uwlax.edu



Public Lectures

Effigy Mound Ceremonial Landscapes

Effigy mounds — mounds of earth sculpted in the shape of birds, bears, and other animals and figures — are concentrated in southern Wisconsin. Built between circa 700 and 1100 A.D., they were often burial places. While researchers have learned a lot about these mounds over the years, explanations of their meaning remain elusive. Drawing on archaeological and other anthropological information on Native American religion and worldviews, Robert A. Birmingham, former Wisconsin State Archaeologist, will share the idea that often vast effigy mound arrangements are ceremonial landscapes. Birmingham says these ceremonial landscapes reflected a religious movement in which key powerful spirits were periodically animated in places where the spirits dwell to bring blessings to humans by renewing the world and to carry the dead in cycle of death and rebirth.

Speaker: Robert A. Birmingham, former Wisconsin State Archaeologist and Lecturer at UW-Waukesha

Date: Thursday, February 21
Time: 7:30 PM

Location: Student Union, room 3310, UWL

2019 Annual Awards and Lecture:

Prehistoric Archaeology at 120 Feet: Investigating 9,000 Year Old Hunting Sites Beneath the Great Lakes

At the end of the last Ice Age, the newly formed Great Lakes oscillated between levels that were much higher and much lower than today. During the low water stage, a feature known as the Alpena-Amberley Ridge divided the Lake Huron basin and provided a continuous corridor between southern Ontario and northern Lower Michigan. This talk will describe recent research focused on discovering and investigating hunting sites and other cultural features from this era that are preserved beneath modern Lake Huron. These finds provide important new insights into the lives of early Great Lakes hunters, and one that could only be recovered underwater.

Speaker: John O'Shea, Curator of Great Lakes Archaeology at UM - Museum of Anthropology

Date: Thursday, November 7

Time: Social 6:30 PM, Awards 7 PM,
Lecture 7:30 PM

Location: Student Union, room 3310, UWL

Public Events

MVAC Artifact Show

Come to Valley View Mall and see artifacts representing the area's long history. Local collectors will display their personal collections, and MVAC staff will bring artifacts recovered from local excavations. Archaeologists will be on hand to answer questions. Bring in your own artifacts for help in their identification. Call MVAC at 608.785.8454 or e-mail Jean Dowiasch (jdowiasch@uwlax.edu) if you would like to display your artifacts.

Date: Saturday, March 2

Time: 10 AM–5 PM

Location: Valley View Mall, La Crosse

Wisconsin Archaeology Month

A variety of activities will be offered throughout the state during May to introduce the public to Wisconsin's long and rich cultural past. For a complete list of activities check out the Wisconsin Historical Society's web site at <http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/> and type "Archaeology Month" in Search.

Dates: May 2019

Volunteer Field Survey Opportunity for MVAC Members

MVAC will celebrate Wisconsin Archaeology Month by involving volunteers in surveys of local fields to find unreported archaeological sites. The day will begin with an introduction at the archaeology laboratory, followed by helping with an actual field survey. Participants will end the day back at the lab to wash the artifacts recovered and learn more about their history. The number of participants is limited, so register early. Children may participate if accompanied by an adult. E-mail or call MVAC at jdowiasch@uwlax.edu or 608.785.8454 to register. **Advance registration required!**

Date: Saturday, May 4 (rain date: Saturday, May 11)

Time: 8:30 AM–4 PM

Location: Archaeology Center & Laboratory, UWL

Field School Open House

See what the MVAC Public Field School participants are doing this summer! Stop by on Thursday, July 18, between 10 AM and 2 PM. Check MVAC's website for updated information at: mvac.uwlax.edu. Call MVAC at 608-785-6473 or e-mail MVAC@uwlax.edu for more information.

Date: Thursday, July 18

Time: 10 AM–2 PM

Location: TBD

More Information

Contact MVAC at 608.785.8463, e-mail mvac@uwlax.edu, or check the website mvac.uwlax.edu for more information on these and other MVAC programs.



Youth Events

Egypt - grades 4–6

Learn about mummies, pyramids, and the people who lived in Egypt at the time of the pharaohs! Hands-on activities will include making a mummy case and mask, and writing a message in hieroglyphics. Cancellations prior to June 28 will receive a full refund minus a \$40 cancellation fee. No refunds for cancellations after June 28.

Date: Monday, July 15

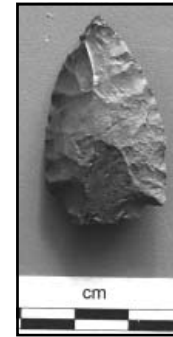
Time: 9 AM–3 PM

Location: 312 Wimberly Hall, UWL

Age: Students entering grades 4–6

Fee: \$80

Note: Bring a lunch, drink, snacks,
water bottle



Introduction to Archaeology - grades 5-9

Explore MVAC's Archaeology Lab and work with artifacts recovered from area excavations as an introduction to the science of archaeology. Discover how the first Native Americans in Wisconsin survived using the area's natural resources. Students *must* take this class in order to attend the Middle School Field Experience. This program takes place in the classroom. It does not include excavation activities. Cancellations prior to June 28 will receive a full refund minus a \$40 cancellation fee. No refunds for cancellations after June 28.

Date: Tuesday, July 16

Time: 9 AM–3 PM

Location: 312 Wimberly Hall, UWL

Age: Students entering grades 5–9

Fee: \$80

Note: Bring a lunch, drink, snacks,
water bottle

Financial Assistance

Financial assistance for youth and teen events may be available. For more information, contact MVAC at 608.785.8454 or jdowiasch@uwlax.edu.

Field Schools

Middle School Field Experience - grades 5–9

Take your excitement for archaeology into the field! Students who have taken MVAC's *Introduction to Archaeology* class in the past can join a La Crosse area project. Participants will work alongside professional archaeologists in the field. Activities may include shovel testing or small-scale excavations. Weather may require alternate activities. Cancellations prior to June 28 will receive a full refund minus an \$80 cancellation fee. No refunds for cancellations after June 28.

Dates: Wednesday–Thursday, July 17–18

Time: 9 AM–3 PM

Location: 312 Wimberly Hall, UWL

Age: Students entering grades 5–9

Fee: \$200

Note: Bring a lunch, drink, snacks, water bottle, insect repellent, sunscreen. Wear comfortable walking shoes and clothes that can get dirty.

Prerequisite: MVAC's *Introduction to Archaeology* class

Public Archaeology Field Schools (3 and 5 day experiences) – high school/ adult

This multi-day field and lab experience is a well-rounded opportunity for those who want to learn about the process of archaeology. Work alongside professional archaeologists on an actual archaeological excavation and survey work. Lab work may include washing and sorting ceramics, stone tools, and other remains. An experimental archaeology component may explore making stone tools and using an atlatl (spearthrower). Optional lab hours and local field trips will be available after regular field school hours. No previous experience is necessary.

This experience is open to high school students through adults. Fee includes a one-year MVAC membership. Supervised dorm facilities are available for high school students at an additional cost of \$225 for 3 days and \$335 for 5 days. Cancellation prior to June 14 will receive a full refund minus a \$100 cancellation fee. No refunds for cancellations after June 14.

Registration

Registration for fee events is administered through the Continuing Education Office, 220 Morris Hall, UW-La Crosse, La Crosse, WI 54601. For more information, contact Jennifer Carlson at 608.785.6500. To register online, go to: www.uwlax.edu/conted/archaeology-workshops/

To reserve a table for the Artifact Show or attend the Public Field Survey, contact Jean at jdowiasch@uwlax.edu or 608.785.8454.



Three-Day Experience

Dates: Mon.–Wed., July 15–17

Time: July 15: 9 AM–5 PM;

July 16–17: 7 AM–3:30 PM

Location: 3110 Student Union, UWL

Fee: \$350

Five-Day Experience

Dates: Mon.–Fri., July 15–19

Time: July 15: 9 AM–5 PM;

July 16–19: 7 AM–3:30 PM

Location: 3110 Student Union, UWL

Fee: \$500