

ANTHROPOLOGY N134A-002

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD METHOD: JOMON HUNTER-GATHERERS IN JAPAN: FIELD SCHOOL AT THE GOSHIZAWA MATSUMORI SITE, AOMORI

July 6– August 14, 2009

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ACADEMIC UNITS

This is a six-unit course offered through the University of California at Berkeley. Students from other academic institutions are encouraged to apply. Registration for this course is restricted to instructor permission only. After you are accepted (see below for the participant selection procedure), register through Summer Session at: <http://summer.berkeley.edu/mainsite/index.lasso> .

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This six-week summer program provides an introduction to field and laboratory methods in the archaeology of prehistoric Jomon hunter-gatherers of Japan. Fieldwork takes place in Aomori City, Aomori Prefecture in northern Japan. As part of the Berkeley Sannai Maruyama & Goshizawa Matsumori Project (an on-going research project directed by the instructor), this summer we plan to finish excavating a Middle Jomon (ca. 3000 BC) pit-dwelling located at the Goshizawa Matsumori site, a small residential site located on the hillside of Aomori City. During the field school, we will excavate the pit-dwelling, catalog potsherds and other artifacts excavated from the site, collect soil-samples for flotation to retrieve floral/faunal remains and lithic debitage, and do the flotation work. This field school is run in collaboration with the Aomori Prefectural Archaeological Center, Board of Education of Aomori City, the Archaeological Center of Aomori Prefecture, and the Preservation Office of the Sannai Maruyama site (a branch office of the Board of Education of Aomori Prefecture).

PREREQUISITES

It is preferred that students have successfully completed Anthropology 2 (Introduction to Archaeology) or its equivalent at other institutions, but it is not required. The ability to communicate in Japanese is ideal, but not necessary.

QUALIFICATIONS

Field school participants are expected to be well organized and punctual. Since the excavation will be conducted in collaboration with Japanese archaeologists and local employees of Aomori Prefecture and Aomori City, we expect our students to respect

cultural traditions, customs and rules of these people. Certain restrictions will apply for evening and off day activities to avoid cultural problems (see the agreement form).

TEXTBOOK AND ASSIGNED READINGS

Please read the following two books before the field school, and bring them with you:

Habu, Junko, 2004: *Ancient Jomon of Japan*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Hester, T. R., H. J. Shafer and K. L. Feder, 1997: *Field Methods in Archaeology*.
Mayfield Publishing Company, Mountain View, CA.

In addition, several articles on Japanese archaeology and field/lab methods will be assigned as course readings. Read them before the field school starts.

OPTIONAL READINGS

If you have not taken an introductory course of archaeology, it is recommended that you also read the following before the field school:

Renfrew, Colin and Paul Bahn, 2008: *Archaeology: Theories, Methods and Practice* (Fifth Edition). Thames and Hudson, London and New York.

If you have never taken a course of Japanese culture and history, you may find the following book useful:

Bearsley, W. G., 1997: *The Japanese Experience: A Short History of Japan*. University of California Press, Berkeley.

PROGRAM COSTS (ESTIMATES)

University Fee for 6 units:	\$1524 (UCB undergrad* : \$254/unit x 6 units)
Field/lab fee:	\$ 900 (accommodation/incidentals)
One Time Enrolment Fee:	\$ 92 (UCB undergrad/grad**)
Airfare & domestic transport:	\$1600 (students' responsibility)
Food (minimum \$15 x 36 days):	\$ 540 (students' responsibility)
Total:	\$4656

*University Fee for UCB grad student is \$2136 (\$356/unit x 6 units). For non-UCB student, it is \$1740 (\$290/unit x 6 units).

** One Time Enrolment Fee for non-UCB students is \$385 (domestic students) or \$685 (international students).

Note: Please note that summer session fees are subject to a possible increase each year. For details, see the UCB summer session web site.

EVALUATION

1) Quality of field/lab work and participation in meetings	30%
2) House chores and cleaning	10%
3) Daly summaries	20%
4) Midterm tests	20%

Evaluation will be based on the criteria listed above. Our excavation involves a destruction of a real archaeological site, and thus we expect a high level of accuracy in your field/lab work. Listen to the instructions carefully for each task assigned to you, and do your best. **Ask questions to the instructor and staff members in the field and meetings if you are not sure what's going on in the field/lab.** Since many of the field school activities are carried out as a group, punctuality, sociability and cooperation will be essential to have a successful field season. Thus, the first criterion for evaluation will include arriving and being ready to begin work on time, and being able to work with others at the site and at the accommodation facility. Failure to do so will be reflected on the final grade, and when a student does not meet our standard, s/he can be asked to leave at any point.

Students are expected to keep detailed record of her/his work in their field journal, such as the number of soil samples processed in a particular day, the progress of her/his work, and other observations in the field and lab. At the end of each day, each student is expected to submit a daily summary on a separate sheet of paper, which will be reviewed and graded. Thus, students should consider the daily summary statements as mini-essays. Depending on their quality, students may be asked to revise the contents if they are not up to our standards.

CULTURAL INTERACTION

As an anthropology course, a major purpose of this field school is to expose students to the Japanese archaeological tradition as well as to the Japanese culture through active interaction with local archaeologists and residents. The staff members will work as interpreters of the Japanese language when necessary, but we also expect students to be always open-minded and willing to follow new customs and cultural rules. Obviously the Japanese culture is very different from the American one, and we do realize that this may be very challenging for some of you. Those who have never been in Japan should watch and follow the others, especially the staff, in the way they interact with the local people. It is also reminded that participants of this field school are representing this university and American college students in general, and thus we expect each student to behave accordingly. Even when students are traveling away from the site during off days on their own, they should not forget to behave with politeness, respect and self-control. This means we do not tolerate any rowdy behavior, especially due to drinking.

Students are not allowed to drive or rent cars in Japan for the entire duration of the field school in Japan, including weekends. Driving project cars during the field school is limited to the staff members only. This is due to insurance and other university liability issues.

ACCOMMODATION

We plan to stay at the International Guest House (I-house) of Aomori Public College (<http://www.nebuta.ac.jp/house00/top.html>) (reservation will be made in April). Three

students and one staff member will be sharing an apartment-style unit, which has three bedrooms, a living room, dining space, a bathroom, and a kitchen. Each student is expected to take part in various house responsibilities including cleaning (which will be part of the course mark). Although the area surrounding the International House is relatively safe, we encourage students to walk with others at night.

FOOD

Food is not included in the field/lab fee. Students will have access to cooking facility (the kitchen) at the International Guest House, and will have the opportunity to do grocery shopping every two or three days on the way back from our field/lab work. Many grocery stores in Aomori offer a variety of food items, and students should be able to find food that meets most dietary restrictions, if there is any. Bring at least one thermos with you for ice and cold water (given the heat and humidity in summer in Aomori).

The estimate for food listed on the syllabus (\$15/day) is a minimum estimate based on the average amount spent for each staff member in our past field seasons. It does not include estimates for soda, bottled water, other cold drinks and snacks.

SCHEDULE

WEEK 1

- July 5 (Sun):** Staff members arrive in Aomori.
July 7(Tu): Students arrive in Aomori (**in order to be in Aomori by the evening of July 7, students need to leave the United States on July 6**).
July 8 (Wed): Lecture (AM)/Tour of the Sannai Maruyama site and associated museums (PM).
July 9-10 (Th-F): Removal of the backfilled soil at the excavation site.
July 11-12(Sat-Sun): Excavation and laboratory work.
July 13 (M): Off Day

WEEK 2

- July 14(Tu)-18 (Sat):**Excavation and laboratory work.
July 18 (Sat): First mid-term
July 19 (Sun): Backup Day (plans contingent on weather and workload)
July 20 (M): Off Day/Tour to Osorezan Temple (optional)

WEEK 3:

- July 21 (T)–25(Sat):** Excavation and laboratory work.
July 26 (Sun): Off Day/Hiking in the Oirase area (optional)
July 27(M): Backup Day (plans contingent on weather and workload)

WEEK 4:

- July 28 (Tu)-Aug.1(Sat):** Excavation and laboratory work.
Aug. 1 (Sat): Second mid-term
Aug. 2 (Sun): Backup Day (plans contingent on weather and workload)

Aug. 3 (M): Off Day/Nebuta Festival (optional)

WEEKS 5-6:

Aug.4 (Tu)- 9(Sun): Excavation and laboratory work

Aug.10(M)-11(T): Backfilling of the site

Aug.12 (Tu): Students will leave Aomori

Aug.14 (Th): Staff members will leave Aomori

Aug.14 (F): Final essay due via e-mail.

DAILY SCHEDULE

Field/lab work is scheduled from 8:30AM to 5:00PM (excluding the lunch and tea breaks) with some discussion meetings in the evenings, usually from Tuesday to Saturday (but irregularly scheduled for Weeks 1, 5 and 6: see above). Schedule is subject to change depending on the weather and excavation schedule. July 19(Sun), 27 (M) and Aug. 2 (Sun) are backup days depending on the weather and the workload.

In order to arrive at the site on time in the morning, it is very important to go to bed early enough every night. This means even if you have dinner away from the Public College, you are strongly encouraged to come back by the last bus, which leaves the Aomori Station at around 8 PM. (After the last bus, the only way to come back to the I-house is to take a taxi, which will cost you about \$40). If you plan to be away from the I-house during and/or after the dinner time, please let the instructor and your roommates know your plans. All the students are requested to be back in the I-house by 11 PM during weekdays due to security issues (since there are only a limited number of keys for each apartment unit, we will not be able to lock its front door until all the students are back).

OFF DAYS

Excavation and laboratory work will be ceased on July 13 (M), 20 (M), 26 (Sun), and Aug. 3 (M). Optional field tours are scheduled on July 20, 26 and Aug. 3. If you do not want to join the optional tours, off days can be used to make a short trip to the vicinity of Aomori (but let the instructor know your plans **before** the field school starts), relax, do laundry, or conduct research of your own. Even during the off days, you are expected to use good judgment on what is an acceptable activity and what is not in the context of the field school. When in doubt, ask the instructor or other staff members.

Students are requested to let **the instructor** know their destinations and itinerary of their off day trips, and, if overnight trips, hotel names and other contact information.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Application for the field school is available on the Anthropology web site or through the instructor. E-mail her and request an application form and the agreement form. Application deadline for preferred consideration is March 15. Applications for the program will be accepted through April 15, but early application is advised since the enrollment is limited. Upon receipt, applications will be reviewed by the instructor.

Each potential admittee will be notified by e-mail, followed by an interview either in person or over the phone.

TRAVEL TO AND WITHIN JAPAN

Plane Tickets and JR Passes

An economy class plane ticket for a round trip between San Francisco and Aomori via Tokyo will be about \$1500. If you plan to take bullet trains between Tokyo and Aomori, Japan Railways have discount weekly/daily passes for foreigners, which can be used for most of the bullet trains and limited express trains. For details, please check up the JR web site <http://www.japanrailpass.net/> and JR-East web site <http://www.jreast.co.jp/e/eastpass/top.html> .

Passport and IDs

You need to carry your passport with you while you are in Japan AT ALL TIMES. You may be asked to present it by the police or whenever you use a JR pass (both for JR trains and buses). For our record, please make a photocopy of the page with your photo and passport number, and give it to the GSI at the first meeting in Berkeley. Also, bring your student ID so that you can receive student discounts at museums and other tourist attractions.

Immigration

When you arrive at the Tokyo International (Narita) Airport in Japan, you will be asked the purpose of your visit. State your visit as ‘sightseeing’ or ‘tourism’. Declaring your purpose as ‘education’ or ‘business’ would require additional paperwork and official documentations. If you are not a US citizen, please let the instructor know at the time of your application (depending on your nationality, you may need to obtain a visa prior to their visit to Japan).

Health

The Center for Disease Control posted the following statement: “You should observe the precautions listed in this document in most areas of this region. However, in highly developed areas of **Japan, Hong Kong, South Korea, and Taiwan**, you should observe health precautions similar to those that would apply while traveling in the United States” (for more information, visit: <http://www.cdc.gov/travel/eastasia.htm>).

You may bring over the counter medications from the US to alleviate minor problems you may encounter; sunscreen, insect repellent, anti-itch cream, antihistamines (especially if you are prone to various allergens,) and general gastrointestinal discomfort medicine (e.g. Pepto-Bismol).

COMMUNICATION WITH THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS IN THE US

You should be able to use your calling cards from your long-distance carrier. Make sure you learn how to use it outside the United States prior to your departure. If you purchase phone cards in the US, make sure to get the ones that work in Japan and let you call toll-free. Also, there are phone cards you can purchase in Japan that will allow you to make phone calls to the USA from a pay phone. There is a pay phone outside the International

Guest House. Each apartment unit of the International Guest House is equipped with a phone, where you can receive phone calls from US (please do not make personal calls from your apartment phones).

Do not expect to have internet access at the I-house. There are at least two internet cafes in the downtown area and you are free to go there by bus during your free time (staff members will not provide a ride for this purpose).

One of your options is to rent or purchase a cell phone in Japan. You should be able to send/receive short e-mail messages through these cell phones. We have found that the reception of the cell phones from Softbank is poor in Aomori, so please keep it in mind.