

STUDENT MANUAL

**Corc 3208 Comparative Studies in Cultures and
Transformations, 3 credits**

**ANTH 7011x Special Topics: Peoples and Cultures of the
Caribbean 3 credits**

**ANTH 301 Special Topics: Archaeological Field Methods 3
credits**

ANTIGUA – BARBUDA FIELD SCHOOL

BARBUDA

**Orientation and Lecture Monday, December 15, 2014 12pm 538NE
Brooklyn College**

**Field School Dates January 3rd – 23rd^H 2015, Antigua and
Barbuda**

**Post Field Meeting and Presentations Monday, February 2, 2015
1-3pm 538NE Brooklyn College**

IN COLLABORATION WITH

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY AND ARCHAEOLOGY, BROOKLYN COLLEGE

BARBUDA RESEARCH COMPLEX

NATIONAL PARKS, ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

BARBUDAN COUNCIL

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WELCOME!

Welcome to the 8th Brooklyn College study abroad program in on the Island of Barbuda, West Indies. This project has been put together through the collaboration between Brooklyn College Archaeology, and our host Institution, The Barbuda Research Complex, National Parks, Antigua, and the Barbudan Council.

The students and instructors attending the field school bring to the field school a variety of skills and specialties that will make for an international and dynamic learning environment. Students will gain hands on experience with scholars that are internationally known and active in their respective fields of study. Students will have an opportunity to learn from these instructors and distinguished lecturers as well as grasp an understanding of interdisciplinary research.

This study abroad focuses on the two sister islands of Antigua and Barbuda. Students will explore the culture, traditions and history of Antigua and Barbuda through an immersive, multidisciplinary hands on experience. Debate themes of colonization, diasporic communities, religion, nationalism and geography and look at core (Antigua)/periphery (Barbuda) relationships between the two islands. Visit museums, nature reserves, artist colonies and religious centers. Assist in the design and implementation of a museum exhibit that captures one of the themes explored by this course and forms comparisons between two world areas. Excavate and analyze archaeological artifacts and look at people-environment interactions from the past through present.

The course fulfils degree requirements. Of special interest to students majoring in art, media, film, political science, anthropology, history and museum studies.

INTRODUCTION

Barbuda

Barbuda is a small flat and dry island, located between latitude 17° 31' to 17° 45'N and longitude 61° 44' to 61° 53'W on the outer arc of the northern Lesser Antilles in the Eastern Caribbean, approximately 45 miles north of Antigua. The island is about 62 sq. miles and the highest point is about 150 feet in elevation. Ninety percent of the island is less than 10 feet above sea level. The population is below 1,500 persons.

Barbuda and Antigua are part of a single landmass called the Barbudan Bank but was separated from Antigua in the post-Pleistocene Period of rising sea-levels. It is comprised entirely of Oligocene limestone with soil deposition that is generally thin and many areas of the island consist almost entirely of sand. The land embraces a large shallow lagoon with extensive mangroves and seemingly endless expanses of



white sand beaches. The vegetation has been classified by Harris (1965:25-59) as evergreen woodland, swamp, grassland, and coastal.

The karst terrain of the interior is interspersed with sink-holes and caves that contain fresh water throughout the year. There are no streams on Barbuda, and after the rains the pools of surface water slowly trickles down through limestone fissures. The shallow ponds that form on the surface after heavy rain evaporate rapidly. The coastline is almost completely surrounded by barrier and fringing reefs. While these reefs provide protection for the low sandy coastline, they have proven hazardous to ships, especially as the low topography of the island cannot easily be seen from the sea.

The prehistory of the Lesser Antilles has been defined by research conducted on the larger islands; particularly the higher, fertile, volcanic islands that present a wide diversity of natural resources. As a result it is believed that the smaller, arid, flat limestone islands were ignored; bypassed in migration and settlement of the Caribbean archipelago. Recent archaeological findings and transect studies on the island of Barbuda present a different light on this long standing assumption (Watters 1980).

From an environmental perspective, the limestone island of Barbuda, sister island to Antigua, is an attractive and vital settlement option. The island has the richest marine ecosystem in the region. It has a high water table with abundant sources of fresh water beneath its sandy and rocky limestone surface. Numerous sinkholes, caverns and a

large protected lagoon with an extensive mangrove system offer a diversity of habitat zones for exploitation.

Field School Instructors

Dr Sophia Perdikaris (Professor, Department of Anthropology and Archaeology, Brooklyn College). Sophia Perdikaris is an archaeologist specializing in zooarchaeology of sites in the North Atlantic specifically Iceland and Norway. She has extensive archaeological field experience in many parts of the world including Iceland, Norway, Bahamas, Kenya, and Antigua.

Dr Reg Murphy (Archaeologist/Curator, Antigua and Barbuda National Parks). Reg Murphy is the only full-time archaeologist for Antigua and Barbuda. He has run field schools for the University of Calgary for 15 yrs. He specializes in both pre-historic and historic Caribbean archaeology and is actively involved in consultation and restoration of historical monuments both on Antigua and Barbuda and throughout the Caribbean Islands.

Mr. John Mussington (Marine Biologist, Principal of the Sir McChesney Secondary School and Director of the Barbuda Research Complex). John Mussington is a foremost expert in the Barbudan natural environment and has worked over the last 20 years for the conservation, preservation and sustainability of local ecosystems.

LOGISTICS

What to Bring

- **Passport:** It is a good practice to make a photocopy of the first 2 pages (with your picture and carry this separately in case you lose the original)
- **Travel and Health Insurance:** It is essential to have travel and health insurance coverage while you are in Antigua/Barbuda. It is part of your field school fee and provided by CUNY
- **Money:** Your field school fee covers three meals a day, accommodation, and all of your transportation while in Antigua and Barbuda during the field school. Any extras that are not part of the field school agenda including dining at alternate restaurants and soda or other beverages and snacks will be at your own expense. The local currency is Eastern Caribbean Dollars and the exchange rate (fixed) is 2.70 EC = 1 USD. Most places will take US money but you might want to exchange some at the airport upon arrival. There is one ATM on Barbuda however, do not count on it to always work. There are 24hr ATMs in Antigua that you can use on the day trips.
- **Personal Medication:** Bring an adequate supply of all prescription medications. If possible bring an emergency supply
- **Camping Mess Kit (Plate, cup, fork, spoon, and knife) Can be purchased at Campnorr. Please make sure you bring that with you!**
- **Suitable clothing:** Come prepared to work in extreme heat with intense sun exposure.
 - Work clothing: long pants loose fitting; pants that zip-off at the knees. Light-weight long sleeve shirts (protection from the sun), short sleeve t-shirts. In general think light weight, old but sturdy clothing. Bug repellent clothing very helpful!
 - Hats: bring at least one hat; full brimmed hats are good as they will provide some sun protection for your neck; baseball hat.
 - Footwear (work): boots or sturdy shoes. No open toed shoes during excursions.
 - Footwear (leisure): make sure to bring at least one other pair of shoes for non-work related activities.
 - Non-work Clothing: Think tropical island. Shorts, T-shirts, light pants.
- **Backpack:** backpacks for carrying water, note books, etc... for work days and field trips.
- **Water bottle:** There will be a large water cooler on site and extra coolers with water in the vehicle but you will need to bring a water bottle of your own that is full upon departure and can be refilled from the coolers.

- Journal keeping and writing and reading materials: You are all required to keep a field journal. All project related reading will be provided to you on a CD in PDF format. You may bring other books, journals, magazines but you **MUST** not exceed the weight limit (see below).
- Ear Plugs: You are sharing a room with other individuals. If you are a light sleeper you might want to invest in a pair.
- Towels: The guesthouse in Antigua will provide a regular towel but you will need one for Barbuda and you should also bring your own beach towel.
- Bathing Suit: modest Tropical Island, bring a mask and snorkel if you wish for marine life viewing at the reef areas
- Sunscreen: Bring at least SPF # 15, do not be bashful about applying large quantities; **ALL PERSONS REGARDLESS OF SKIN COLOR WILL EVENTUALLY BURN.**
- Bug repellent: Mosquitoes and sand flies are particularly bad in the evenings. Light colored clothing and bug repellent can help to alleviate this. A mosquito net that covers your bed would also be good. You can purchase these from **Campmor.com** for less than 20 USD. Also plug in insect repellent is a good idea.

Suggested Items to Bring

- Camera: Many picture opportunities but remember that in general electronic and extreme heat, moisture and sand do not generally mix very well.
- Computers: We will have a project laptop. There is wireless internet at the guesthouse in Antigua but in Barbuda it is only available at the internet café and for two hours in the evening (6-8) at the field station. Be aware that if you bring a computer you do so with some significant risks (power shorts, sand, moisture).

What not to Bring

- Firearms
- Knives larger than a Swiss army knife
- Recreational Drugs of any kind (this also includes any purchase or attempted purchase)

!!!! WARNING !!!!: There is a ZERO tolerance policy towards drugs, weapons, or high risk behavior that compromises your safety, the safety of your fellow students and the faculty. Any student in possession of drugs or exhibiting high risk behavior will be immediately removed from the field school at their own expense.

Travel Itinerary: We can assist with the purchase of your international airfare and we will book and purchase all inter-island travel, unless otherwise agreed upon. You will be accompanied by a staff member on your trips as well as be met by a number of colleagues already housed on the islands we are working on. If you are leaving separate from the assigned dates it is your responsibility to make the connection from Antigua to Barbuda. The transfer is all in the same airport. We will pick you up at the airport in Barbuda. If you encounter any delays or problems, a list of important contact numbers have been provided at the end of this manual.
CHECK WITH YOUR AIRLINE FOR LUGGAGE CHARGES. You are responsible for all luggage costs.

- Caution –for your international flight, you must be at the airport at least **3hrs in advance** so as to allow time for checking in. The total flying time is

approximately 4.5 hrs unless you have a connecting flight. Upon arrival in Antigua you will have to clear customs, the group will be met at the airport.

- Your inter-island flight to Barbuda is on a small 8 seat plane or the local ferry. **STRICT LUGGAGE POLICY IS NON-NEGOTIABLE** (see below) for the airplane. The flight time is approximately 20 minutes. The ferry time is 2.5 hours. Upon arrival in Barbuda you will be taken to your accommodations.

LUGGAGE POLICY: YOU ARE ONLY ALLOWED 50 POUNDS OF LUGGAGE, INCLUDING YOUR CARRY-ON BAGS. SOME AIRLINES CHARGE EVEN FOR THE FIRST BAG. DO NOT SHOW UP AT THE AIRPORT EXCEEDING THIS WEIGHT RESTRICTION.

Accommodation

Housing

If any stay in Antigua is necessary we will be staying at Carter's Hotel. There will be 3-4 people per room. In Barbuda we will be staying at apartments. The apartments have a full kitchen, bathroom/showers, and common space. Please be respectful of your roommates and the owner and keep your rooms clean. You will have to share your room. Rooms can be locked and you are responsible for the key(s). In Barbuda the beds will be folding cots. There is no air-conditioning however, there is a least one fan (ceiling or floor). We will be using the BRC facility for lectures and other after-work activities (artifact analysis, movies, etc...) and all meals will take place at this space as well. While most electrical voltage is 120v some outlets might be 220v. Please check what the current is before plugging in. You might want to bring a spike protector along with an adapter. BRC facilities close at 9pm and with the exception of meals are closed for the weekend.

Meals

All meals (breakfast, lunch, and dinner) are provided. Water will be supplied. Breakfast and dinner will be served at BRC but all participants need to pack lunch from food provided during breakfast. Other beverages are available but are not covered by the field school. Remember alcohol consumption and heat are not good combinations and it is not allowed on work days. We do not encourage alcoholic consumption of any kind during the field school. There is a refrigerator and freezer in each apartment where you can keep drinks etc **DO NOT LEAVE ANY FOOD/DRINK CONTAINERS OPEN. PUT ALL FOOD ITEMS IN THE REFRIGERATOR** (ants love human food and drink. If you do not want your room and luggage to attract "visitors" please be vigilant about not keeping food and drink outside the fridge. Dispose of garbage in assigned locations). You are responsible to be prepared with a filled water bottle and packed lunch in your backpacks prior to leaving BRC.

Phone/Internet

There are no phones in any of the rooms. We will have a few project phones for limited use (ex. Calling home when you arrive and in case of emergency). If you have a personal cell phone (need to be UNLOCKED) you can purchase a GSM chip for Antigua and Barbuda. Depending on your service provider direct calls from Antigua to the US can be done but they are expensive. There is no wireless internet in the apartments in Barbuda but there is at BRC. There is internet café in town but it might not have regular

hours. There is limited internet access at the Barbuda Archaeological Research Center. Be prepared to go through internet withdrawals.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

On-site hazards and preventative measures

Fieldwork has inherent health and safety risks, especially in extreme environments. Preparation, awareness and common sense are probably the best methods to prevent injury. Many accidents occur when people are not aware of their surroundings, careless handling of tools, trip hazards. The preventative measures listed below are for your safety as well as for the safety of those around you. Please adhere to all precautions.

On Site

- Tools and small objects should be kept centralized, returned to the shed/central area at end of work
- All shovels and other tools laid point down
- Shoes or boots worn at all times
- NEVER approach a digger using shovels or picks without warning
- Look out for co-workers when using shovels – watch the point and backswing!
- Be aware of deep excavation, test pits, and unstable sections.

In Vehicles

- Seatbelts – use them
- Secure loose gear and people – there are lots of bumps and potholes
- All driving in Antigua will be in passenger vans. In Barbuda there will be 4 X 4 wheel drive pick up cars in order to be able to get to remote locations. The roads are few and for reaching locations this is done is dirt country roads.

The Elements

- Always wear a hat and shoes
- Lots of sun block – remember to re-apply
- Drink lots of water even if you do not think you are thirsty
- Wear loose comfortable clothing
- Carry a daypack or bag with a change of clothing and personal need items
- Store any and all electronic items in zip lock bags (cameras, CD player, ipod, etc)
- If you are getting chills or cannot think clearly you might be experiencing the beginnings of heat stroke. Please let us know, do not wait.

Days Off/ Home Life

- If you go walking, take a friend, a map, a compass, food and water. TELL one or more staff members and make an entry in the log book about where you are going and when you will be back – please keep to your route and schedule
- Bathing is wonderful but you are at a tropical environment with sting rays and sharks and NO LIFEGUARDS. Always use the buddy system for swimming, stay in the shallows use common sense and stay out if impaired
- You need to be respectful of our sleeping facilities, keep your part of the room clean. You need to tell us if anything breaks.
- This is a very small community and we are the traveling show. Assume that anytime you step outside you are an object of interest, and that people in the shops, on the street and everywhere, will discuss your behavior. Be polite, well

behaved and good guests when you interact with our public. Be respectful of local customs and lifeways.

- Local guests are not allowed in the hotel rooms or in the rooms at the house

First Aid Kit will be available in each car and at the accommodation facilities at all times.

!!!WARNING!!! DANGEROUS BEHAVIOR WILL NOT BE TOLERATED

We will be living and working in a remote area with out the benefit of extensive medical facilities (located a plane ride away). There is a small hospital but it is essential that everyone behave safely and responsibly at all times. Ignoring the safety procedures set out in the manual, or the instructions of staff members, may endanger yourself and the people around you. Dangerous behavior will not be tolerated, and any student who acts irresponsibly will be immediately removed from the field school at their own expense.

Brooklyn College Field School – Antigua/Barbuda 2015 Confidential Health and Safety Form

Name:	Home Institution:	DOB:
Email:	Address	
Telephone Number(s)		

Emergency Contact Information (Primary)

Name:	Relationship
Email:	Address
Telephone Number(s)	

Emergency Contact Information (Secondary)

Name:	Relationship
Email:	Address
Telephone Number(s)	

Medical Information

Do you have a medical condition that might affect your work in the field? If yes, and you think we should be aware of your condition, please provide details.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have any allergies? If yes, please check the box that you confirm that you are bringing sufficient medication that you use to treat these allergies. Please let us make aware of allergies in the space provided.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> I confirm <input type="checkbox"/>
Are you taking any prescription medication? If yes please check the box to confirm that you are bringing sufficient medication for the duration of the field school.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> I confirm <input type="checkbox"/>
Are your vaccinations up to date (especially Tetanus)? Please check the box to confirm that your Tetanus vaccination is up to date.	I confirm <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have health insurance to cover you while you are participating in the field school?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>

Statement of Informed Consent

I have read and understand the written health and safety information and the risk assessment presented to me in the student manual for the field school. I recognize that archaeology has inherent hazards that cannot be fully mitigated by any set of safety procedures, and that I accept the risk inherent in participating in this field school.

Signature_____ Date_____

Antigua/Barbuda Field School Student Contract

I _____ agree to the following statements and assume the following responsibilities:

1. To read the General Information and Health and Safety Information and to complete the Health Status Form and the Student Contract Form.
2. To give frequent attention to keeping my personal sleeping quarters and other living areas clean.
3. To avoid forms of personal conduct that may jeopardize the field school and the presence of Brooklyn College in Antigua and Barbuda. If the Director believes my conduct is not appropriate, I will be expelled from the island at my own expense and will forfeit all fees paid.
4. I agree to the following Hold Harmless Clause:

I fully understand that Brooklyn College, along with its administrators, faculty and staff will not be held responsible, financially or otherwise, for any injury, accident, or sickness, including those resulting from any in the water activities. By signing this release I certify that I am cognizant of the basic risks and dangers in swimming and snorkeling in a marine environment.

In the event of my physical or mental incapacitation for any reason, I hereby authorize Brooklyn College to take such actions and engage such services on my behalf as they deem necessary for my health, and I agree to promptly reimburse them for all costs incurred on my behalf including medical assistance and transportation to medical facilities.

Signed _____

Date _____

Home Institution _____

FIELD SCHOOL SYLLABUS CORC 3208, 3015 and ANTH 7011X

AIMS OF THIS COURSE:

The field school will provide you with:

- An overview of Caribbean History and Archaeology
- An overview of Antigua and Barbuda Customs, Law, Governance, Health Care and Education
- In-depth foundation in archaeological laboratory methods, including but not limited to survey, recording, and sampling, recording and cataloguing artifacts
- Artifact analysis and typology
- Basic knowledge of zooarchaeological techniques (post – excavation)
- Basic knowledge of botany
- An overview of issues of Sustainability and Resilience in times of climate change
- Excavation and survey of archaeological sites

Student Grading: The following represent the grade percent break down for each of the components of this course. Fieldwork 20%, Journal 20%, Lab 20%, Excavation 20%, Presentation and Final Exam 20 %. No make ups or incompletes will be granted.

Pre-Field Course Work

You are expected to have done the readings in order to prepare for the field school. Be prepared to discuss these while you are in the field.

Field work and excursions - Facilities

There are no facilities in most of the places we will visit. There are no bathrooms (bring toilet paper etc...). All garbage that is produced at the site must be removed at the end of the day and disposed of properly.

Laboratory work

On a daily basis students will be responsible for work back at the house. This will include but not be limited to

- Downloading and registering digital photographs
- Data base entry of registers and context sheets
- Conservation of artifacts including photographing and recording all finds
- Faunal analysis including preliminary sorting, identification and quantification

Guest Lectures

There will be a number of MANDATORY guest lectures in addition to the regular class by visiting specialists.

Dr Reg Murphy

Mr. John Mussington

Dr. Rebecca Boger

UN Secretary General

Marine Biologist

GIS

Assignments

Each student will have to complete assignments that must be completed before the end of the field school. The topics will be assigned during the initial orientation upon arrival to Barbuda. **Failure to complete the work will result in an incomplete for the course and no credit received.**

Field Journal

All students are required to keep a field journal. Students should add to their journal on a daily basis. You should record information on what you learned, concepts, sites, plants, animals, drawings etc... Feel free to write what you want but it will be read by staff and it must include the following:

- Information about the site(s) you are working on or have visited (location, flora, fauna, archaeological material on the surface, GPS location, etc...)

Excursions

Academic oriented trips will be complemented with discussion on cultural, economic, health, archaeological, environmental or historical related issues. Some of the sites to be visited include:

- **Barbuda**-Darby's Cave (Sink hole). Trees and vegetation will be recorded for historic environmental reconstruction
- **Barbuda**-Indian Cave. Pre-historic petroglyphs located near Two Foot Bay.
- **Barbuda**-Codrington's Hunting Lodge. Historic site with numerous well preserved buildings on the trail to Darbey's Sink Hole.
- **Barbuda**-Frigate Bird Colony
- **Barbuda**-Martello Tower. British Military fort.
- **Barbuda**-We will also visits a number of other pre-historic sites

NOTE:

EXCURSIONS AND PROGRAM ITINERARY SUBJECT TO MODIFICATIONS DUE TO WEATHER, AVAILABILITY, CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS OR OTHER UNFORSEEN CIRCUMSTANCES

APPENDIX – HELPFUL HINTS FOR MAKING FRIENDS AND IMPRESSING SUPERVISORS

GOOD SIGNS

- Ask questions. Make sure you understand instructions and concepts fully.
- Helps others, is respectful and considerate of both fellow students and our local guests
- Moderately cheerful despite, insects, poisonous plants, extreme heat, sunlight and fatigue
- Tolerant, sense of humor, broad minded, flexible
- Up and ready for work in the AM

NOT SO GOOD SIGNS

- Always first for breaks and lunch, always the last back to work
- Serious conversationalist, but not paying attention to the lectures and work
- Far too good for the rest of us, subject to debilitating angst, has multiple deep, vocal prejudices, always right and highly critical: not a fun companion
- Needs special diet (ex. all chocolate), sudden undisclosed medical problem requiring immediate bed rest
- Not cooperative in domestic cleaning and cooking chores
- Chronically late in the AM – last one in the vehicle

Itinerary for Culture and Change in the West Indies

Antigua/Barbuda

January 3-23, 2015

Corc 3208 Comparative Studies in Cultures and Transformations, 3 credits

January 3

Arrive in Antigua.

Take small plane or ferry to Barbuda. Pick up and transport to accommodations. Dinner at 7:30pm, BRC

January 4

Free Day

January 5

Excavation begins Highland House

Afternoon: Walking tour of Codrington Village

January 6

Highland House

PM lab work

January 7

Highland House

PM Lecture Dr. Allison Bain

January 8

Highland House

Evening lecture Dr. Perdikaris **Climate Change and Sustainability in small island Communities**

January 9

Highland House

PM Visit Two Foot Bay and Indian Cave.

Evening lecture on: **Health Care in Antigua and Barbuda Dr. Miglan Findlay.**

January 10

Morning visit to the Frigate Bird Colony and 17 mile beach **to examine issues of biodiversity and erosion**

Afternoon Lab on Artifact conservation

PM lecture Dr. R. Boger

January 11

Free day

January 12

Highland House

Indian Town Trail

January 13

Highland House

Indian Town Trail

January 14

Highland House
Indian Town Trail
PM lecture Dr. Wm. Montgomery

January 15

Highland House Excavation wrap up
Indian Town Trail survey

January 16

Castle Hill

January 17

Rubbish Bay, Martello Tower
Pm Lecture Mr. John Mussington

January 18

Free Day

January 19

Meeting with High School Students and Faculty to explore the Education system and priorities in the Caricom countries
Post excavation analyses of artifacts
Aquaponics

January 20

Water sampling
Meeting with Farmers Cooperative discussion of Food Production and Sustainability
Evening time Project wrap up

January 21

Student project presentations

January 22

Finish all project related tasks
Free afternoon for packing

June 23 Early am departure from Barbuda to make connecting flights in Antigua for NY

CONTACT NUMBERS

LOCAL US CONTACT NUMBERS

Name	Phone
Sophia Perdikaris	917-353-3843

INTERNATIONAL CONTACT NUMBERS

Barbuda Phone Numbers

Sophia Perdikaris	268-732-0297
Niki Murphy	268-764-3535
Reg Murphy	268-773-0312
John Mussington	268-724-7084