

POSITION # F09-001

Faculty Member Contact Information

Name: **Julie Zimmerman Holt**
Department: **Anthropology**
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Description of the URCA Assistant Position(s)

Number of students requested: **2**

Number of students who will be funded: **1: Only one of the students for this position will be funded. The professor will determine which student receives funding.**

Will the student(s) earn course credit? Yes No **X** If yes, in which course?

Location of research/creative activities: **Anthropology Lab (Peck 0403)**

Brief description of the nature of the research/creative activity:

The 2009 archaeology field school excavation conducted by the Anthropology Department will take place this summer on a prehistoric archaeological site on the SIUE campus. The excavation will recover artifacts such as stone tools and ceramic sherds, and will uncover features such as hearths and storage pits. These archaeological materials provide the data for both faculty and student research; moreover, it is the ethical responsibility of the excavation director (Julie Holt) and any agencies sponsoring the excavation (namely, the Anthropology Department and the University) to see that all artifacts and features are properly identified, reported, and curated. Thus, the research spawned by the excavation will extend well beyond the duration of the field school.

Brief description of student responsibilities:

Research assistants will identify artifacts under the tutelage of professional archaeologists. After their identifications have been confirmed, research assistants will create an artifactual data base using Excel and will make summary tables of the data. Research assistants will photograph and/or draw diagnostic artifacts such as projectile points and rim sherds. Finally, they will prepare the artifacts for curation. This research will be conducted in the Anthropology Lab, Peck 0403.

URCA assistant positions are designed to provide students with *research or creative activities* experience. As such, there should be measurable, appropriate outcome goals. What exactly should your student(s) have learned by the end of this experience?

Research assistants will have learned basic methods of artifact identification, interpretation, and curation. Notably, students chosen for this position will have helped excavate the artifacts by participating in the field school, and will also use the data they have generated as research assistants as the basis for their senior projects. That is: these research assistants will have learned archaeology by doing archaeology, from excavation in the field, to analysis in the lab, to the final product: a written archaeological report. Through this invaluable experience, the students will become archaeologists. The measurable goal will be their senior projects, which will be completed in the spring semester. Note that the senior projects will of course also include library research which the students will complete in their "free" time.

Additional Requirements of Students

If the position(s) require students to be available at certain times each week (as opposed to them being able to set their own hours), please indicate all required days and times:

Weekdays, 9-5

If the location of the research/creative activities is off campus, must students provide their own transportation? Yes ___ No ___ N/A

Must students have taken any prerequisite classes? Please list classes and preferred grades:

Students must have taken ANTH 375 (Archaeology Field School) with a grade of A or B.

Other requirements:

Students must be anthropology majors who intend to use the data in their senior projects and must take ANTH 432 in the fall.

Notes to applicants (i.e., any other information you'd like applicants to know about you or the position before applying):

None