

ANTHROPOLOGY N134A

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD METHOD: JOMON HUNTER-GATHERERS IN JAPAN: FIELD SCHOOL AT THE SANNAI MARUYAMA SITE

July 16– August 10, 2007

INSTRUCTOR: Professor Junko Habu

Office: Room 203, 2251 College (phone: 510-643-2645)
Lab: Room 314/312 Kroeber Hall (phone: 510-643-2837)
Mailbox: 232 Kroeber Hall (Anthropology Main Office), Berkeley CA 94720-3710
Fax: 510-643-8557 (c/o Dept. of Anthropology)
E-mail: habu@berkeley.edu

ACADEMIC UNITS

This is a six-unit course offered through the University of California at Berkeley. In order to participate in the field school, you have to register through Summer Session at <http://summer.berkeley.edu/mainsite/index.lasso> . Students from other academic institutions are encouraged to apply.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This four-week summer program provides an introduction to the field and laboratory methods of the archaeology of prehistoric Jomon hunter-gatherers in Japan. Fieldwork takes place at the Sannai Maruyama site in Aomori Prefecture, northern Japan in collaboration with the Preservation Office of the Sannai Maruyama site (a branch office of the Board of Education of Aomori Prefecture). The site is a large prehistoric settlement dated to the Early and Middle Jomon period (ca. 3900-2300 B.C.). Students will have an opportunity to receive hands-on training in excavation methods and laboratory work, including flotation, classification and identification of faunal and floral remains, and analyses of pottery and stone tools. This field school is part of an on-going research project directed by the instructor.

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 the Preservation Office of the Sannai Maruyama Site, we expect our students to respect cultural traditions, customs and rules of these people (see below for more information). Certain restrictions will apply for evening and weekend free time activities to avoid cultural problems (see below).

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, 2004: *Archaeology: Theories, Methods and Practice* (Fourth 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)

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|--------------------------------------|---|
| Fee for 6 units: | \$1290 (UCB undergrad*) |
| Field/lab fee (check to UC Regents): | \$1500 (accommodation, car rental, incidentals & other miscellaneous costs) |
| Airfare & domestic transport: | \$1300 (students' responsibility) |
| Food (minimum \$20 x 25 days): | \$ 500 (students' responsibility) |
| Total: | \$4590 |

*Fees for grad students and non-UCB students are listed on the UCB summer session web site. Please also note that summer session fees are subject to a possible increase this year.

EVALUATION

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|---|-----|
| 1) Participation in field and lab work, meetings and house chores | 40% |
| 2) Field journal entries (10%) and daily summaries (10%) | 20% |
| 3) Mid-term and final exam (20% x 2) | 40% |

Evaluation will be based on 1) participation in field and lab work, meetings and house chores, 2) quality of field journal entries and daily summaries, and 3) two exams. 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.

We will provide each student with a field journal. Students are expected to keep detailed record of her/his work, 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 summary on a separate sheet of paper, which will be reviewed and graded. Thus, students should consider the field journal entry and 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 on weekends 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). This facility is about an hour away from the Sannai Maruyama site by bus, and about half an hour away by car. 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 the site. 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 (\$20/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 17 (Tues):** Students arrive in Aomori (**in order to be in Aomori by the evening of July 17, students need to leave San Francisco on July 16**).
- July 18 (Wed):** Tour of the site and associated museums.
- July 29(Th) &20(F):** Lecture and field exercises.
- July 21 (Sat.):** Tour to Osorezen (optional)
- July 21&22:** 1st Weekend

WEEK 2:

- July 23 (M) –27 (F):** Field and laboratory work at the Sannai Maruyama site
- July 27(F):** Mid-term
- July 28 (Sat):** Hiking in the Oirase area (optional)
- July 28&29:** 2nd Weekend

WEEK 3:

- July 30(M)-Aug.3(F):** Field and laboratory work at the Sannai Maruyama site
- Aug. 4 (Sat):** Nebuta Festival (optional)
- Aug. 4&5:** 3rd Weekend

WEEK 4:

- Aug. 6(M)-10(F):** Field and laboratory work at the Sannai Maruyama site
- Aug. 9(Th):** Final Exam
- Aug. 10 (F)** Students leave Aomori.

DAILY SCHEDULE

Field/lab work is scheduled from 8:30AM to 4:30PM, M-Fri. (subject to change depending on the weather and excavation schedule). The university regulations require us to do 30 hours of lecture and 120 hours of field/lab work for this six-unit course. 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 \$35). 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).

WEEKEND SCHEDULE

Excavation and laboratory work will be ceased during the weekend. Optional field tours are scheduled every Saturday. Other than these tours, weekends can be used to make a short trip to the vicinity of Aomori, relax, do laundry, or conduct research of your own. Even during the weekend, 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 weekend trips, and, if overnight trips, hotel names and other contact information.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Application for the field school is available through the instructor. E-mail her and request an application form. Application deadline for preferred consideration is March 31. 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 a brief interview.

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 \$1300. 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. Each apartment unit of the International Guest House is equipped with a phone, and if you have a toll-free phone card, you can use the phone in your apartment to make calls (do not make personal calls from your apartment phones without using a calling card). There is also a pay phone outside the International Guest House.

Do not expect to have internet access during weekdays. There are at least two internet cafes in the downtown area and you are free to go there during your free time.

One of your options is to rent or purchase a cell phone in Japan, but cell phone calls will cost you more than making regular phone calls, and the coverage in Aomori (especially in the I-house area) is not as good as in Tokyo. You should be able to send/receive short e-mail messages through these cell phones.