



CROW CANYON ARCHAEOLOGICAL CENTER

January 14, 2011

Dear Colleague:

Crow Canyon Archaeological Center is now accepting internship applications for 2011. We are seeking energetic and outstanding upper division undergraduate or graduate students in archaeology, anthropology, Native American studies, environmental studies, or other related fields. We have two sessions—session 1 from **May 15 to July 23** and session 2 from **July 24 to October 2** (the exact start and end dates are negotiable)—for our intern programs.

Crow Canyon's research focuses on the ancestral Pueblo occupation of the Mesa Verde region. Starting in 2011, we are beginning a new project that focuses on a pivotal, but underinvestigated and poorly understood, time in Pueblo history: the Basketmaker III period (A.D. 500–750). Titled the *Basketmaker Communities Project: Early Pueblo Society in the Mesa Verde Region*, this study will examine the origins of the Mesa Verde Pueblo tradition through test and intensive excavations at a seventh-century Basketmaker community. The centerpiece of the project is the Dillard site, which contains a great kiva.

In 2011, field interns will contribute to field work related to this Basketmaker III community project. Laboratory interns will analyze, organize, and teach about material remains from the Dillard site as well as Goodman Point community sites, where Crow Canyon conducted excavations from 2005 to 2010. Both field and laboratory interns will learn about on-going archaeological research and topics relevant to community organization, settlement patterns, and migration in the Mesa Verde region. Interns focusing on environmental archaeology will process and analyze floral remains from the Goodman Point community.

In addition to these ongoing projects, Crow Canyon integrates data from the field and laboratory with Native American perspectives and oral tradition, all of which are delivered to the public via our education programs. The interns will have great opportunities to be involved in our research as well as develop a deeper understanding of scientific, educational, and Native American approaches to archaeological research in the greater Southwest. We are seeking students who are interested in our current projects and the potential use of our data for a senior thesis project, a master's thesis, or a doctoral dissertation.

Please distribute the attached flier to promising applicants. If you or your students have any questions about the internship program, please contact Fumi Arakawa (farakawa@crowcanyon.org) or Steve Copeland (scopeland@crowcanyon.org). Thank you very much in advance.

Sincerely,

Fumi Arakawa, PhD

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Research Internships

All application deadlines for 2011 research internships are "March 1, 2011"

Crow Canyon Research

Crow Canyon's research focuses on the ancestral Pueblo (Anasazi) occupation of the Mesa Verde region. Starting in 2011, we will begin a new project that will focus on a pivotal, but underinvestigated and poorly understood, time in Pueblo history: the Basketmaker III period (A.D. 500–750). Titled the Basketmaker Communities Project: Early Pueblo Society in the Mesa Verde Region, this study will examine the origins of the Mesa Verde Pueblo tradition through test and intensive excavations at a seventh-century Basketmaker community. The centerpiece of the project is the Dillard site, which contains a great kiva.

The Crow Canyon Archaeological Center maintains high standards of research and scholarship. Students and adults participating in the Center's programs are closely supervised by research and education staff members in the field and the lab, ensuring a positive learning experience for them, as well as high-quality research for the profession. In addition, American Indians—many of them descendants of the ancestral Pueblo people—consult on all facets of our research, and colleagues from many other disciplines contribute their expertise to help us achieve our objectives. In such an environment, research interns have the opportunity to gain valuable experience in working with, and learning from, a wide variety of people.

What Do Research Interns Do?

Field interns will gain experience in some or all of the following areas:

- instructing and supervising lay participants in basic excavation techniques and archaeological concepts
- answering questions about research that are posed by site visitors
- excavating and recording architectural and nonarchitectural contexts
- maintaining provenience control for excavated contexts and cultural materials
- writing narrative notes and completing provenience forms
- drawing measured plan maps and cross sections
- drawing and describing stratigraphic profiles
- using a total station
- photographing archaeological contexts

Laboratory interns will gain experience in some or all of the following areas:

- processing archaeological specimens and samples
- maintaining provenience control for cultural materials and records
- analyzing a variety of artifacts, including pottery, stone tools, and stone debitage
- managing archaeological collections using a relational database
- maintaining a small research library
- instructing and supervising lay participants in artifact identification and laboratory methods and procedures

Laboratory internships will emphasize cataloging and analysis of archaeological collections, particularly pottery and stone artifacts. Interns will also have the option of working on a special project involving analysis and interpretation of artifact collections.

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Environmental Archaeology interns will gain experience in some or all of the following areas:

- training in the anatomy of upland Southwest plant taxa commonly found in local archaeological sites
- training in a variety of approaches to identifying unknown plant specimens
- the analysis of archaeobotanical samples from [Goodman Point Pueblo](#)
- working with relational databases, including data entry and data quality-control tasks
- the recording of morphological data from maize macrofossils
- a variety of other laboratory tasks related to management and analysis of archaeobotanical samples

Environmental Archaeology internships will emphasize cataloging and analysis of archaeobotanical samples, particularly flotation and macrofossil samples. Interns will also have the opportunity to contribute to other laboratory tasks as time permits.

Requirements

Applicants should meet the following requirements:

- advanced undergraduate or graduate course work in archaeology, anthropology, museum studies, or related fields
- minimum of four weeks archaeological field and/or laboratory experience
- motivation to improve field, laboratory, and (field and laboratory applicants only) teaching skills
- ability to work as part of a team (interns attend research staff meetings and participate in discussions about research strategies and organization and scheduling of work)
- (field and laboratory applicants only) desire to instruct lay participants ranging from fourth graders to adults, many of whom have no previous archaeological experience
- ability to perform technical work, make careful observations, and record data legibly and accurately

Campus

Crow Canyon's 170-acre [campus](#) is located in southwestern Colorado, near Mesa Verde National Park and the town of Cortez. Wooded hillsides overlook a grassy meadow, complete with a running stream and small pond. From the porch of the lodge, you can enjoy a spectacular view of both Mesa Verde and the La Plata Mountains.

The following on-campus facilities are available to interns:

- kitchen and dining room

housing in primitive cabins (see photo at right) with no electricity, water, heat, or air-conditioning (a composting toilet is available adjacent to the cabins, and a modern shower and restroom building is located a short distance away)

- a 15,000-square-foot building that contains research labs, specimen-processing area, temporary curation space, archives, teaching labs, gift shop, offices, seminar room, and reception area; a 2,800-volume research library focused on Southwestern archaeology and anthropology
- networked PCs, integrated research database, and Internet connection



Benefits

A travel allowance (up to \$350) and a small weekly stipend are available to help defray expenses. All internships include meals in the Center's dining hall. Interns are also provided with housing and usually share accommodations with one or two other interns.

Interns work a five-day week, Monday through Friday. Interns are not eligible for the Crow Canyon benefits package. **Crow Canyon does not provide vehicles for personal use.**

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Course Credit

The Center does not offer course credit for internships, but will gladly certify work/study performed and provide evaluations if students wish to arrange for credit through another institution.

To Apply

Download the application and recommendation forms, fill them out, and return them to Crow Canyon. We regret that we cannot accept applications from anyone who is not a United States citizen. **See top of page for application deadlines.**

Please Note: Because we receive numerous applications for these internships, we ask that you do not contact us regarding the status of your application during the review process. Successful applicants will be notified by phone; others will be notified by letter or e-mail.