

2013

Re: Archaeology in the Gordon?

Heather A. Wholey

West Chester University of Pennsylvania, hwholey@wcupa.edu

Gerard Hertel

West Chester University of Pennsylvania, ghertel@wcupa.edu

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From: Wholey, Heather
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2013 9:13 PM
To: Hertel, Gerard
Subject: RE: Archaeology in the Gordon?

OK! Each time I teach the course (Archaeological Field Techniques) it is tailored around a particular project, addressing important principles within the context of the research. Salient principles that I cover are research design, professional ethics, stewardship, and communication with the public. Methods vary from project to project, but this one would address reconnaissance and survey techniques and predictive modeling. Human ecology is implicit in all my work as a pre-historian and we would in this case probably address early American Indian seasonal mobility strategies for resource acquisition, and paleo-ecological (Holocene only) reconstruction (in this case from secondary sources) mainly related to the evolution of plant communities and concomitant animal communities in the location. Any specific data that you anyone you know may have related to the Holocene environmental record in that area would be helpful.

I will see if I can offer the course over winter term. Given recent weather trends, I don't see a really hard freeze occurring during that time. I commonly do field work in January. Also, we always leave a site or survey location just as we found it and all subsurface work is filled in. I will let you know what happens with winter term scheduling.

Thanks,
Heather

Heather A. Wholey, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Department of Anthropology and Sociology
West Chester University
West Chester, PA 19383
610-436-2400

From: Hertel, Gerard
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2013 7:17 PM
To: Wholey, Heather
Subject: RE: Archaeology in the Gordon?

This would be an excellent idea and a great addition to our activities

Gerard Hertel, Adjunct Professor &
Stewardship Manager, Gordon Natural Area
West Chester University of Pennsylvania
Department of Biology
West Chester, PA 19383
484-883-3371

www.gordonarea.org

Facebook: Gordon Natural Area

GORDON NATURAL AREA 40TH ANNIVERSARY-2013

From: Wholey, Heather
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2013 11:43 AM
To: Hertel, Gerard
Subject: Archaeology in the Gordon?

Hello Gerard,

Would you consider me bringing a small class (about 8 students) into the Gordon for archaeological research? I am thinking of a survey to locate undocumented archaeological sites. The nearest known Indian site is about 800 meters to the northeast, but since the Gordon is closer to Chester Creek, there may be some chance of locating a site. Since sites are buried around here, the most efficient way to survey for sites is by shovel testing (digging holes about 15 inches in diameter to subsoil. Soil is screened for artifacts. I do have remote sensing/gpr equipment, and that is usually best for identifying features, anyway. I generally run a field course in the summer, but am looking to shift to the winter session (if it goes) so that I can extend sabbatical activities I am involved in this spring. If you are willing to consider the idea, I can discuss protocol with you further.

Best,

Heather Wholey

Heather A. Wholey, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

Department of Anthropology and Sociology

West Chester University

West Chester, PA 19383

610-436-2400