

FIELD SCHOOL IN NORTH ATLANTIC ARCHAEOLOGY



Vatnsfjörður, Northwest Iceland
July 25-August 19, 2011



This field school is generously sponsored by the Government of Iceland. Since it was founded in 1997, the international field school in North Atlantic archaeology has served as a focal point for interdisciplinary, cooperative research and teaching by archaeologists and scientists from Iceland, North America, and Europe. The course provides students with hands-on instruction and experience in Icelandic archaeology, field survey, and the archaeological sciences. It also aims to encourage students to develop research interests in North Atlantic archaeology, and to promote and facilitate research in Iceland by helping students make contacts with relevant researchers, and by providing advice about potential research projects.

The course provides:

- thorough grounding in archaeological survey, excavation, and sampling
- exposure to a range of post-excavation methods, including the processing of artefacts, faunal, botanical, and sediment samples, and the digitisation of field data
- instruction in Icelandic archaeology, including past and present trends in field work and interpretation
- an overview of archaeology in the North Atlantic region from the Viking Age to the present
- lectures by leading researchers in North Atlantic and Icelandic archaeology
- excursions to regional sites and museums
- instructors with many years of teaching, excavation, and post-excavation experience in Iceland, Europe, and North America

Accreditation:

The field school is an accredited course at the Universities of Iceland, Aberdeen, and the City University of New York. See below for information about who to contact if you want transfer credits.

Admission:

Enrolment in the course is limited to 13, and will include students from Iceland, North America, and Europe. Both graduate and undergraduate students are welcome to apply, but all applicants should have had some prior courses in archaeology, anthropology and/or cultural history. Preference will be given to students with research interests in the North Atlantic region.

Application deadline: April 30, 2011

Applications are made online at <http://www.nabohome.org/fieldschools/fieldschools.html> and include an outline of your academic interests, future plans, and why you want to take the course, details of your education, completed courses and grades, and one letter of reference.

Costs: Although the course is heavily subsidised by the Icelandic government, students are required to make a contribution towards the cost of their room and board for four weeks: \$750 USD, £470 GBP, €530 Euros, or 85,700 ISK. In addition, students will have to pay for their own transportation to and from Iceland and accommodation in Reykjavik before and after the field school. Tuition fees are only charged if university transfer credits are required. Please contact the application coordinator at the relevant institution for details about tuition fees and transfer credits:

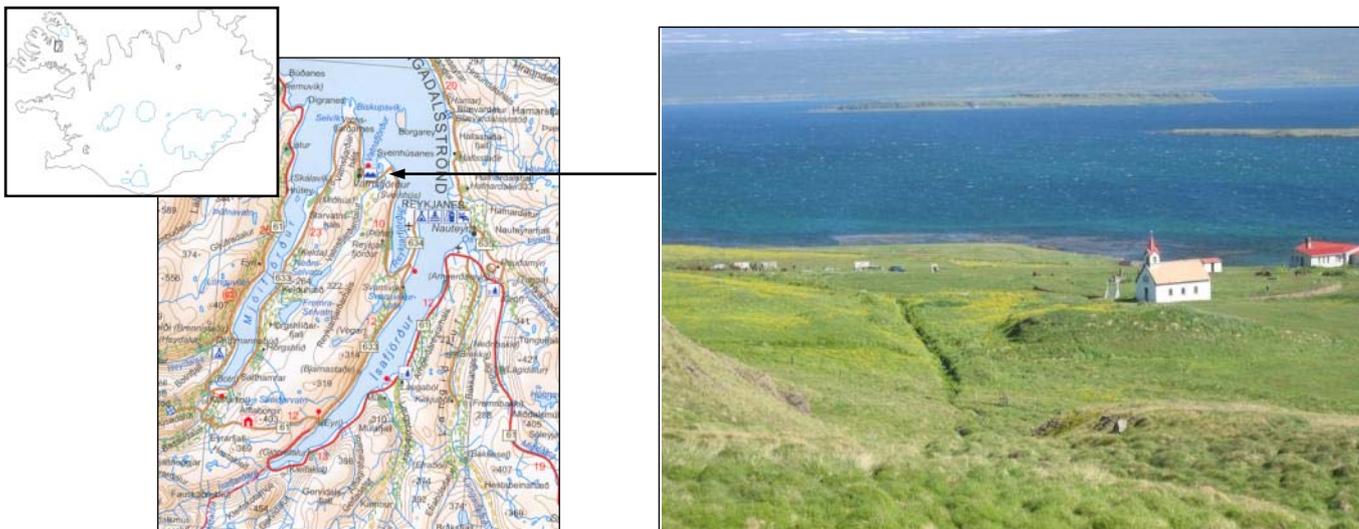
Iceland: Dr Orri Vésteinsson, University of Iceland: orri@hi.is.

North America: Prof Tom McGovern, City University of New York: thomas.h.mcgovern@gmail.com.

Europe and Worldwide: Dr Karen Milek, University of Aberdeen: k.milek@abdn.ac.uk. (For 10 ECTS credits: £214 for Scottish residents, £590 for UK/EU students, £1180 for overseas students)

The site:

The farm of Vatnsfjörður is located in northwest Iceland, on the fjord of Ísafjarðardjúp. It has played an important role in the settlement and economic history of the Westfjords since the Viking Period: it was one of the main seats of power in the region, and during the later Middle Ages it was one of the richest and most powerful farms in Iceland. Excavations at the site began in 2003, and have so far uncovered the remains of a Viking Age farm complex with dwelling houses, workshops, storage buildings and animal buildings, as well as a large dwelling house, work areas and middens dating from the 17th-19th century. In 2011, excavations will continue on the large 17th-19th century house on top of a large farm mound, where thousands of artefacts have been found, including textiles, ceramics, glass and iron, and hundreds of animal bones.



Organisation of the field school:

During the four weeks of the field school, students will be housed in the hotel in nearby Reykjavík. Students will work on site from 8:00 to 17:00, Monday to Friday, and will help with post-excavation work in the evenings. In addition, there will be lectures and practical workshops on most weekday evenings, and for half a day on weekends. Excursions to museums and interesting sites in the region will be organised on weekends. Students will be evaluated on the basis of their participation, a fieldwork portfolio including an excavation diary, and a group project.

Upon their acceptance to the field school, participants will receive a student manual and a reading list, and are expected to have acquainted themselves with these before their arrival in Iceland. The student manual will probably answer most questions about travel and accommodation, project staff, and the teaching curriculum, but any further enquiries can be sent to the director of the field school, Dr Karen Milek, at k.milek@abdn.ac.uk.

The Field School in North Atlantic Archaeology is offered by:



Government of
Iceland



INSTITUTE OF
ARCHAEOLOGY, ICELAND



UNIVERSITY CENTRE
OF THE WESTFJORDS



MEDIEVAL
WESTFJORDS
SOCIETY

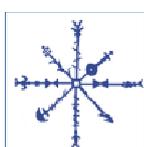


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