

Chico State **Archaeological Field School 2022**

EXPLORING THE BASIN & RANGE JULY 4-27

Recommended Gear

CSU, Chico's Archaeological Field School will camp in primitive settings with access to pit and portable toilets. You will be camping for ten days, and you should prepare for both hot to cold, as well as windy and wet, conditions. We recommend that you avoid big box stores (Walmart, Target, etc.), and shop at the following stores for reliable gear:

- Sierra Trading Post: www.sierra.com
- REI: www.rei.com

In addition, CSU, Chico's Associated Students Equipment Rental Service provides weekly rentals for sleeping bags and pads (\$25) and tents (\$28). For more information, please visit their website: <https://as.csuchico.edu/index.php/adventure-outings/equipment-rental/>.

Camp Gear:

- **Tent:** To house all of your clothing and gear, we recommend a 2-3 person tent. Decent tents can be purchased for around \$100-\$150 from the above retailers. Don't skimp too much on this...it's going to be your home for four weeks.
- **Ground Cloth for Tent:** A cheap plastic tarp works fine.
- **Sleeping Pad:** Thin foam mats may be fine for the weekend backpacking trip, but you might want something thicker for four weeks in the field. You can double up foam mats or maybe consider an air mattress (no bigger than single bed size if you'd like to fit more than just the mattress in your tent).
- **Sleeping Bag:** At a minimum, you should purchase a sleeping bag with a 30 degree Fahrenheit bag. A 30-degree bag will keep you comfortably warm in 40-50 degree temperatures. Costs can run from \$70-\$250.
- **Pillow:** You can purchase a smaller camping one or just bring a regular size one. Not a must have, but it will make you a lot more comfortable.
- **Flashlight or Head-lamp:** Headlamps work best since they are hands free.
- **Mug:** A good multiuse mug for hot and cold beverages.
- **Alarm Clock:** You will be responsible for waking yourself up each morning and will need a battery-powered alarm clock or watch with an alarm. While a watch alarm will work for most people, don't rely on your cell phone or any other device that needs to be charged.
- **Water Bottles:** At least 1-quart sized each. Nalgene's are good, but anything that holds water that you can carry around will work. 3-liter Camelbacks are great for survey work.
- **Camp Chair:** A collapsible camp chair is a real comfort after a day of fieldwork. These can be bought at any box store for under \$15.

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We do not provide field gear. Students are required to purchase the items listed below. Forestry Suppliers (www.forestrysuppliers.com) is a reliable online retailer that carries many of the items, but you may be able to find some of these items at a local hardware store. We have provided a price estimate from Forestry Suppliers as a reference.

Field Gear:

- **Margin or Pointed Trowel (\$15):** A Marshaltown size 5 trowel is the standard model people go for. Look for it with masonry equipment at a hardware store, NOT in garden supplies.
- **2m Folding Rule and 5m Metric Tape (\$35):** Make sure they are metric! It's okay if they have standard and metric.
- **Line Level (\$2):** Plastic is fine. Purchase at a local hardware store.
- **Paint Brushes (\$5):** It is nice to have a variety of sizes. Used brushes work or pick some up at your local hardware store.
- **Field Bag:** People do different things here, most common is just an old school backpack. An electrician's bag or tool bag can also be handy. Just make sure you have something that you can put all of your stuff in.
- **Reusable Lunch Box or Bag:** This will minimize trash.
- **Work Gloves:** Leather or imitation leather gloves will work best.
- **Bound Field Journal (\$5):** You will be required to keep a journal while in the field. Any spiral notebook or composition book is fine.
- **Compass (\$40):** Make sure it is declination adjustable. A good Silva compass is the best, particularly the Silva Ranger.
- **Clipboard (\$5):** A clipboard with a storage box is ideal to prevent paperwork from blowing away or getting wet.

General Gear:

- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen
- Aloe Vera or Sunburn Cream (just in case)
- Bug Spray
- Personal Medications
- Personal Toiletries
- Towel
- Batteries for Everything
- Sandals, Flip Flops, or Other Comfortable Shoes

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Optional Gear:

- **Knee Pads or Foam Gardening Pad:** This isn't required, but is *highly* recommended. You'll spend a lot of time kneeling while you excavate and the ground can be very unforgiving.
- **Small Hand Broom and Dustpan**
- **Toothbrush:** Great for cleaning off artifacts.
- **Solar Shower:** While we will have a couple of solar showers, we encourage individuals who need to shower frequently to bring their own shower. Again, use the retailers listed above.
- **Swimsuit:** You never know!
- **Gum / Candy / Snacks / Drinks** you really like for personal consumption.
- **Earplugs:** Snoring can carry a long way in the wilderness.
- **Books / Games / Cards / iPod**
- **Cell Phone & Car Charger:** Depending on your carrier, you will not have cell phone reception in the field and in camp. Be prepared to disconnect.