2018 UConn Field School in Contact Period & Battlefield Archaeology
May 21st through June 29th

Sponsored by: UConn’s Department of Anthropology, Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center, and the National Park Service, American Battlefield Protection Program

The University of Connecticut and Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center will offer a field school in Contact Period & Battlefield Archaeology focused on sites associated with the Pequot War of 1636-1637. The Battle of Mistick Fort: English Withdrawal & Pequot Counterattack took place on May 26, 1637 immediately following the English & allied Native attack on the Pequot fortified village at Mistick. Fieldwork will focus on documenting the intense fighting along the four mile route of the English withdrawal and on excavating the Calluna Hill site, a Pequot village burned by the English during their withdrawal. This domestic site has remained undisturbed since it was abandoned and provides a unique opportunity to examine Pequot domestic architecture and space, foodways, and material culture. The battlefield project is funded by grants from the National Park Service American Battlefield Protection Program, and is part of a long-term effort to document the Battlefields of the Pequot War (Visit www.pequotwar.org for additional information).

The 2018 UCONN field school will be based at the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center with fieldwork taking place at Mystic (Groton), Connecticut. The 6-week, 6-credit field school will include training in standard archaeological field survey and excavation, artifact conservation, cataloguing, identification and analysis of 17th Century material culture, archaeobotany, radiography (X-ray), and analysis of primary sources. Training will also be provided in research and field methods specific to battlefield archaeology including use of military terrain models, metal detecting survey, and GPS/GIS applications. The field school provides a unique opportunity for students to work on a nationally significant collaborative research project alongside tribal members, archaeologists and military historians. In addition to the fieldwork, students will participate in training workshops in laboratory and research methods, attend guest lectures, complete assigned readings and maintain a daily field journal.

Fees: Summer Session courses are paid on a per-credit basis at a rate of $500 per credit hour. If you choose the full six-week program, your cost will be $3,000. In addition, there is a $75 lab fee, payable on the first day of class.

Application and Registration: All students must fill out an application in order to be considered for the field school and receive a permission number so they can register. Contact Dr. Kevin McBride (kevin.mcbride@uconn.edu) via e-mail for an application and more information on the field school. For information on the registration process, go to www.summersession.uconn.edu.

Housing: University housing and meal plans are available as well as some other options. Contact Res Life at 860-486-2926 for a summer housing application or go to the website to learn more: http://www.reslife.uconn.edu/