

Birch Bark Canoe Field School



UNBC May – July 2017

The University of Northern British Columbia invites all interested undergraduate and graduate students to participate in this field school to study the history and culture of the Métis of the province, country and continent, while participating in the building of a canoe to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Confederation.

Birch Bark Canoe Field School FAQs



Description:

Students participating in the field school will be taking two in-class courses, the first looking at the history of the continental Canadian and Métis community. This course will trace the expansion of French-speaking Canadian, Iroquois and Métis from the Saint Lawrence across the plains and mountains to the Pacific. In this course, the 19th century history of Prince George and northern British Columbia will be presented and analyzed to understand how the history of this region ties into a larger regional and continental history. The second course will examine the culture and traditions of the contemporary Métis community. Under the direction of a Métis elder, this course will examine the foundations of Métis culture and environmental knowledge, tying it to the experience of the Métis in building canoes during the fur trade and their contemporary challenges. The third course will be a hands-on exercise in the building of a birch bark canoe under the guidance of a Métis elder. Students will be required to keep a detailed journal of the experience and write up a report on their experience.



Dates: May 15 to July 7th

Credits: Students will be receiving 9 credits for the completed coursework

Fees: Tuition + \$1,000 field school fee

Professors:

Dr. Michel Bouchard, Professor of Anthropology and Earl Henderson, Instructor First Nations Studies and Métis Elder.

Courses

Students participating in the field school will be given a choice of three course bundles. The first for 1st and 2nd year students will include **ANTH298: Birch Bark Canoe; FNST 298: Traditional Métis and Cree Culture;** and **ANTH 206: Ethnography in Northern British Columbia.** Students in their 3rd or 4th year would be required to take a combination of: **ANTH421: Ethnographic Research Methods; ANTH422: Ethnographic Research Project** and **FNST 498: Traditional Métis and Cree Culture.** Graduate Students would be taking **ANTH621: Ethnographic Research Methods; ANTH622: Ethnographic Research Project** and **FNST 650: The Birch Bark Canoe.** The quantity and quality of work required from students will vary depending on their level with upper level students and graduate students required to provide more detailed and more comprehensive work projects than lower level students.

This Field School is part of a larger project being organized in partnership with the Cercle des Canadiens Français de Prince George, the Two Rivers Gallery and made possible with funding from Heritage Canada.



Le Cercle des Canadiens Français
1752 rue Fir
Prince George C.-B. V2L 1E7
250-561-2565 fax: 250-561-7319
www.ccfpg.ca



**TwoRivers
Gallery**



**Patrimoine
canadien**

**Canadian
Heritage**

Canada

UNBC UNIVERSITY OF
NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA