

Proposal #561	_
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Instructionally Related Activities Report Form

SPONSOR: COLLEEN DELANEY
DEPARTMENT: ANTHROPOLOGY

ACTIVITY TITLE: ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK ON SANTA ROSA ISLAND

DATE (S) OF ACTIVITY: 27-29 SEPTEMBER 2013

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Attach:

1) Student evaluations or assessments

- 2) A list of attendees complete with each student major and expected graduation date, and
- 3) Images demonstrating student participation (up to 6 images)
- 4) A summary of expenses

E-mail to the IRA Coordinator at lisa.ayre-smith@csuci.edu within 30 days after the activity.

Thank you for your commitment to engaging our students!!

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- (1) PROVIDE A DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITY;
- (2) HOW DID THE ACTIVITY RELATE TO A COURSE(S) AND/OR LEARNING OBJECTIVES?
- (3) WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE STRENGTHS OF THE ACTIVITY?
- (4) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY ARE/WERE THE ACTIVITY'S WEAKNESSES?
- (5) HOW WOULD YOU IMPROVE THIS ACTIVITY FOR NEXT TIME?
- (6) WHAT DID YOU LEARN FROM THE PROCESS?

Expenses:

The IRA request was for the Island Packers boat out to Santa Rosa Island.

16 people attended this activity (funds had been requested for 20). \$114x16 = \$1,824 (the original request was for \$2,280).



Report for IRA proposal #561, Fall 2013

1) Ten students from ANTH 377 (Archaeological Method and Theory) and my UNIV 498 (faculty-student research collaborative) course, as well as six professional archaeologists and CI faculty, travelled to Santa Rosa Island to undertake an archaeology project on behalf of Channel Islands National Park.

Specific activities planned and completed:

- a) the analysis of 113 artifacts that had been left on the Vail Ranch when the owners departed
- b) site visits of several prehistoric archaeological sites on the island, including the late prehistoric Chumash village located near the ranch, and a 12,900 year old habitation site
- c) a hike to see the Torrey Pine grove near the Vail Ranch
- d) an experimental archaeology exercise where students learned to make shell beads

We were the first CI group to officially use the bunkhouse at the Santa Rosa Island Research Station. In addition to the class activities, our experiences allowed us to offer the research station manager suggestions regarding the use of the bunkhouse.

- 2) These activities related directly to the two courses named above: students in both classes learn to analyze artifacts and interpret past human behavior based on material culture.
- 3) The trip was a resounding success, in many ways I did not anticipate.

The archaeology experiences were expected: students learned to identify artifacts, and they discussed career and graduate school opportunities from the professional archaeologists who participated on the trip. Students had to collaborate and compromise, both during the analysis, but also with cooking, cleaning, and general sharing necessary in a bunkhouse situation. In such a collaborative experience the students clearly bonded—though the fact they had neither internet nor cellular reception for three days may be have assisted with this!

For many, it was the first experiences that made me proud to have been the facilitator. For some, this trip represented the first time they had: traveled by boat, visited the islands, seen endemic island species (the island foxes and the Torrey pines). Also, it was the first time some participants had ever seen the Milkway Way, shooting stars, and the various wildlife seen during the boat voyages: humpback and minke whales, dolphins, seals, bald eagles, and sunfish/mola mola.

- **4) Weakness:** In the future I will ensure the students understood there would be hiking, as a few students were not in the best physical shape. Also, this was the first time I had taken such a large group overnight to the islands, so logistics needed some tweaking.
- **5) Improvement:** For next time, I will tweak the meal planning. It is difficult to plan meals when folks have different tastes and dietary concerns. In the end, some items were a bit lacking, others we had surplus. This was partially due to the lack of refrigeration at the field station (this should be resolved for future research station users).
- **6)** Lessons learned: It was emphasized again that you can never underestimate the ability of the students. This particular group stepped up. They were enthusiastic, hard working, and conscientious. I look forward to continuing this activity in the future.



Supporting Documentation:

Pictures (A/V releases were signed by all):

Making beads



making lunch at the field station



Analyzing the artifacts



group at the field station



Artifact analysis



group photo w/ students and Prof. Delaney experimental archaeology



