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Ancient Cities and Landscapes of Northern Dalmatia, Croatia
ANT 477 – Croatia (3 credits)
Summer 2020 Information Packet / Syllabus

May 9 – June 7
(30 days / 29 nights)

Program Cost:

Course Fee: \$2,480/student

(covers all costs while in Croatia; does not include airfare or tuition)

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1. Course Overview

University of Maine Catalog Description (ANT 477)

Introduction to archaeological field techniques through excavation of an archaeological site. Admission by application only. Satisfies the General Education Requirements in (1) Applications of Scientific Knowledge, and (2) Cultural Diversity and International Perspectives.

Contents of the Course

Students will spend most of the time in the 3,000-year-old port city of Zadar, Croatia, with daily commute to the archaeological site of Nadin-Gradina for field excavation. Students will also take Sunday visits to key points around Zadar, to museums, and to the neighboring island of Ugljan for a walk through a traditional Mediterranean island landscape. The course will conclude with a two-day stopover in the city of Split, with visits to the archaeological site of Salona (the former Roman capital of Dalmatia) and the palace of the late 3rd century Roman Emperor Diocletian around which the medieval village of Split formed. The course will:

- (1) train students in the scientific principles of archaeological methods and research design
- (2) expose students to the rich cultural heritage of Croatia's past
- (3) immerse students in the dynamic and vibrant life-ways of contemporary Croatia
- (4) engage students about concepts of the ancient city and connections between past and present landscapes

Grades

Grading for the course will be based on participation, one exam, a museum assignment, and a legacies assignment in Zadar's ancient cityscape. Participation will be measured predominantly by your involvement in daily fieldwork and your daily journal, which will focus on archaeological activities and findings at the site. Your general level of maturity and demeanor while engaging with other students (from UMaine, UZadar, or others), as well as the Croatian communities we will be visiting, will also be considered part of your participation grade. The exam will cover material presented in occasional evening lectures, weekend site visits, and general principles of archaeological excavation. There will be a short reading list assigned, which will be made available to you in electronic (pdf) format, or paper upon request.

Participation and field notebook:	45%
Exam:	25%
Museum Assignment	15%
Legacies Assignment	15%

2. Project Overview and the Nadin-Gradina Archaeological Site

Externally funded research. This project is a continuation from research initially carried out in 2015, which was funded, in part, by the *National Geographic Society*. Funding from the *Rust Family Foundation* helped support the 2016 activities, while 2017-2019 activities were sponsored in part by the Croatian Science Foundation. Consequently, students will be actively engaged in field research that will produce new data for scientific investigation. The results are presented regularly at national and international conferences, published in scholarly journals, and form the basis for new research directions concerning urbanism in the ancient, historic, and modern worlds.

Research interest. Cities are a dominant factor in global environmental change today, but as a

long-term process, urbanization has played a significant role in shaping our planet's landscapes and environments for millennia, effectively creating anthropogenic landscapes. Recognition of this point opens the door for archaeological research to make significant contributions to contemporary urban/ecological issues while also generating cross-cultural knowledge about urbanism in the ancient, historic, and modern worlds. This project is a field program of archaeological excavation and analysis at the Nadin-Gradina archaeological site, a moderately-sized center in Croatia's Ravni Kotari region along the Adriatic Sea. The site is situated near the 3,000-year-old city of Zadar, an important social and economic center in the region today but one that faces significant urban/ecological challenges over the coming century. With a nearly 2,500-year record of occupational history, Nadin-Gradina affords the opportunity to investigate the relationship between phases of urban growth and decline and broader changes in landscape and environment—processes that persist around Zadar today. The results of our work will help build a range of knowledge on human-environmental interactions in the Zadar region, offering deep-time perspectives on contemporary issues.

3. The Daily Grind

Fieldwork will begin on Tuesday, May 12, and will conform to a general schedule of full workdays Monday through Friday, and a slightly shorter day on Saturday. Sundays are reserved for short excursions, museum visits, or exploration of Zadar. Evenings are reserved for the occasional lecture, rest, or freedom to explore Zadar. A typical field day will look like the following:

- 5:45-6:15am – Breakfast at hostel
- 6:15-7:00am – Bus to Nadin-Gradina site
- 7:00-11:00am – Fieldwork
- 11:00-12:00pm – Lunch on site
- 12:00-2:00pm – Fieldwork
- 2:00-2:45pm – Bus to Zadar
- 2:45-6:00pm – Free time
- 5:00-6:00pm – Occasional evening lecture (~1-2 per week)
- 6:00-7:00pm – Dinner at hostel (1-2 times per week elsewhere)

A word of caution There are no direct risks involved in this field project apart from the general safety concerns at any archaeological site (use of shovels, picks, etc.). However, there are unique circumstances that warrant mention. During Croatia's war of independence in the early 1990s, landmines were buried in a number of regions in Croatia. Some parts of the country are marked as contaminated zones, while others have been cleared or are not suspected contamination zones. According to up-to-date information, **the Nadin-Gradina archaeological site and its surroundings are not suspected areas of contamination**. Furthermore, in 2014 my Croatian colleagues and I visited the CMAC office in Zadar and received official written confirmation that the proposed research area at the Nadin-Gradina Archaeological Site is not a suspected area of contamination. Finally, it is important to note that the University of Zadar has been conducting work around Nadin for more than a decade, and collaboratively with UMaine since 2015, including as part of archaeological field schools in 2015, 2016, and 2018. Although we have found no reason for concern, we are cautious in our approach and ask that all participants be aware of this risk while in Croatia. Hiking around the landscape 'off the beaten path' is therefore not permissible.

4. Trip Itinerary

The following itinerary is the latest iteration of our scheduled activities. Please note that, although the project technically begins on May 10, the itinerary begins May 9 since all students will need to arrive in Zagreb by mid-day on May 10. Consequently, an overnight flight from the United States to Europe constitutes the first night.

Detailed Itinerary (tentative)

The following is the latest draft of our itinerary and schedule of activities.

DAYS 1-2, May 9-10 (Saturday – Sunday). Fly from U.S. to Zagreb on the 9th (with change of planes), arriving late Sunday morning or mid-day (10th). Project staff will meet students at the Zagreb airport and take a transfer bus (~3.5 hours) to the Omladinski Hostel in Zadar (Youth Hostel) along the Adriatic coast, which faces one of Zadar's many marinas.

DAY 3, May 11 (Monday). After a morning rest, we will have a walking tour of Zadar—a 3000+ year-old port city on the Adriatic Sea. Today's Zadar reflects a palimpsest of architectural styles and city planning through millennia. Emphasis will be on urban continuity and change over the course of 3,000 years, including visits to the Roman forum, fortification walls and gates, and principal streets; buildings and fortification walls of the Medieval and Venetian eras; and pre- and post-World War II architecture. You will also be introduced to the laboratory, excavation methods, and provenience system that you will use during fieldwork, with a chance to handle the kinds of artifacts and materials you will encounter during excavation.

DAYS 4-8, May 12-16 (Tuesday – Saturday). Daily transportation to and from the Nadin-Gradina Archaeological Site (30 minute commute; 6:15am-2:45pm M-F; 6:15am-1:45pm Sat). Activities will focus on archaeological field methods, including excavation techniques, artifact cleaning, and cataloging. Emphasis will also be placed on the connection between field methodology and scientific research design. There will be an occasional evening lecture.

DAY 9, May 17 (Sunday). Visit the Archaeological Museum in Zadar; Museum assignment; day of rest and leisure.

DAYS 10-15, May 18-23 (Monday – Saturday). Daily transportation to and from the Nadin-Gradina Archaeological Site (30 minute commute; 6:15am-2:45pm M-F; 6:15am-1:45pm Sat). Activities will focus on archaeological field methods, including excavation techniques, artifact cleaning, and cataloging. Emphasis will also be placed on the connection between field methodology and scientific research design. There will be an occasional evening lecture.

DAY 16, May 24 (Sunday). Travel by ferry to nearby Ugljan Island for a walking tour of a Mediterranean Island landscape and sweeping views of Croatia's Adriatic islands and sea from the Sveti Mihovil (St. Michael) hilltop fortress.

DAYS 17-22, May 25-30 (Monday – Saturday). Daily transportation to and from the Nadin-Gradina Archaeological Site (30 minute commute; 6:15am-2:45pm M-F; 6:15am-1:45pm Sat). Activities will focus on archaeological field methods, including excavation techniques, artifact cleaning, and cataloging. Emphasis will also be placed on the connection between field methodology and scientific research design. There will be an occasional evening lecture.

DAY 23, May 31 (Sunday). Zadar legacies assignment; day of rest and leisure.

DAY 24-26, June 1-3 (Monday – Wednesday). Varied activities that include final excavation work at Nadin-Gradina, artifact cleaning and cataloguing, and final exam.

DAYS 27-28, June 4-5 (Thursday – Friday). Travel by bus (~2 hours) to the city of Split for two nights; walking tour of the heart of Split (former Roman Emperor Diocletian’s palace around which formed the medieval city of Split) and the archaeological site of Salona, the ancient Roman capital of the province of Dalmatia. Students will also visit the Archaeological Museum of Split.

DAY 29, June 6 (Saturday). Morning in Split; Travel by bus (~5 hours) to Zagreb in the afternoon.

DAY 30, June 7 (Sunday). End of course; Airport drop-off; depart for the U.S.

5. Passport Application Information

You need a passport to visit Croatia. Your U.S. passport should be valid for at least three months beyond your planned date of departure and the embassy strongly suggests that your passport have at least six months of validity. If you do not already have a valid passport, please note that the application process can take up to 6-8 weeks for you to receive your new passport in the mail. I strongly urge you to apply for your passport as soon as possible. Please see passport information here:

UMaine website: <https://umaine.edu/international/outgoing-students/passports/>

U.S. Dept. of State: <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/passports.html>

Travel to Croatia <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/country/croatia.html>

6. Health and Travel Insurance

You are required to provide proof of health insurance. In addition, all University of Maine System employees and students on faculty-led international short-term trips are now covered by the “*On Call International Global Assistance and Insurance Program*” while traveling outside of the United States on University approved business or instruction.

7. Immunizations

There are no required vaccines for travel to Croatia, but following the Center for Disease Control’s health information, you should make sure you are up-to-date on routine vaccines before traveling to Croatia. These include vaccines for measles-mumps-rubella (MMR), diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis, varicella (chickenpox), polio, and your yearly flu shot. Many travelers also get a Hepatitis A vaccine. For more information, please visit the CDC website: (http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/extended_student/croatia?s_cid=ncezid-dgmq-travel-single-001). These are CDC recommendations, but it is also a great idea to discuss your visit to Croatia with your doctor at least 4-6 weeks prior to departure.

8. Purchasing Airfare

The program fee covers all costs while in Croatia (ground travel, lodging, meals, museums, etc.), but you will need to purchase round-trip airfare to Zagreb, Croatia. The program will begin at

Zagreb's international airport on Sunday, May 10, 2020, and end at Zagreb's airport on Sunday, June 7, 2020.

Airfare to and from Zagreb, Croatia. You must arrive in Zagreb by no later than the early afternoon on Sunday, May 10, which means ***you must depart the U.S. by no later than Saturday, May 9.*** Because of the six-hour time difference between the U.S. (EST) and Croatia, most flights to Europe are overnight. **Zagreb airport code is ZAG.**

To purchase airfare, you may contact a travel agency or visit any number of online services. If you don't already have a preferred method of purchasing airfare, below is information provided by the University of Maine for several travel agencies in the area, as well as several commonly used online travel services:

Travel Agencies:

1. AAA Travel Agency, 339 Griffin Road, Bangor: 1-207-942-8287
2. All About Travel, 849 Stillwater Ave., Bangor: 1-207-945-0808
3. Bangor Travel, 193 Broad St., Bangor: 1-207-942-5050

Online Travel Services:

1. www.expedia.com
2. www.travelocity.com
3. www.kayak.com
4. www.united.com
5. www.delta.com

9. Arrival and Lodging

It is very important that you arrive at the Zagreb airport on Sunday, May 10, by the early afternoon (1pm or so at the latest). Upon arrival, you will pass through customs and immigration and collect your luggage. I will meet you in the airport once you depart the luggage area. Because the entire class will be traveling together by bus from the Zagreb airport to the hostel in Zadar, we cannot depart until the last student has arrived. Living quarters will generally consist of 2-3 person rooms with private bath. Breakfast and dinner will be provided, as will lunch on site daily. Laundry service will also be arranged (normally once per week) and is included in your program fee. Lodging will be at the following:

Omladinski Hostel / Obala Kneza Trpimira 76 / Zadar, Croatia (May 10-June 4; 25 nights)
Students will reside at the Omladinski Hostel (Youth Hostel), situated along the waterfront near one of Zadar's many marinas. The hostel is located about 2 miles from the Zadar old town – a 30-45 minute walk along the waterfront (depending upon your speed). You can also take a 10-minute bus ride to the old town for about USD \$2.40, round trip. Uber and taxi services are also available. There are also a number of café's, parks, beaches, and restaurants near the hostel.

Nikolla Hostel / Ante Kovačića 6 / Split, Croatia (June 4-June 6; 2 nights)
Nikolla Hostel is located in the heart of Split, within minutes of Diocletian's palace (a UNESCO World Heritage Site), a seaside promenade, and many cafés, shops, and restaurants. It is also a short walk to a café terrace on a hillside with sweeping views of Split and the Adriatic Sea.

Best Western Hotel Stella / Maslenička 1 / Zagreb, Croatia (June 6-June 7; 1 night)
Hotel is situated near the Zagreb airport for easy commute the following morning.

10. What to Bring

You will be in Croatia at the transition from Spring to Summer. The month of May can be rainy and cool (particularly early morning), or comfortable/warm and dry, whereas June will likely be fairly warm and dry. Therefore, having layers of clothing is generally best. Keep in mind that local stores carry most items you would need, so if you forget something or decide not to pack 3-4 weeks worth of toiletries, you will be able to buy them there. Be prepared to have sun block on hand: bring some from home or purchase in Croatia, but it is a necessary item. Archaeological fieldwork is dirty business. Long, comfortable pants are recommended, and it is best to have light, layered clothing for daily work at the site. Good walking/hiking shoes are a must, as are hat and sunglasses. Don't forget a notebook and pencil!

Recommended items:

- Sun block
- Sunglasses
- Toiletries
- Light raincoat
- Hat or baseball cap (for the sun)
- Pants and shirts for excavation
- Sneakers / hiking shoes
- Pants, shorts, shirts, and shoes for strolling around town on days off
- Layers (for windy/rainy days)
- Bathing suit
- Beach towel
- Pocket money (souvenirs, cafés, etc.)
- Camera
- Water bottle (you will also be provided with two large bottles of water upon arrival in Zadar and can reuse the bottles if you wish)