

summer abroad

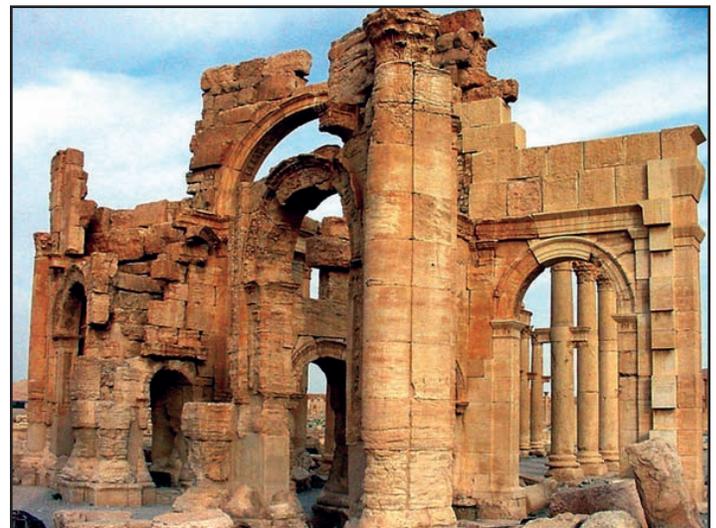
Syria Archaeology Program

Boston University's Syria Archaeology Program takes place each summer at the Bronze Age site of Tell es-Sweyhat in Northern Syria. The program combines a six-week excavation with coursework in Mesopotamian Archaeology and Archaeological Field Methods.

The site of Tell es-Sweyhat, located on the banks of the Euphrates River, was an important center of agro-pastoral exchange and ritual life in Ancient Syria. The site today consists of a central temple, fortress, tombs, and domestic architecture, conjoining the sacred and the profane into a single settlement. Structures from later occupations, including a Seleucid village and cemetery as well as a Roman outpost, expose students to a wide variety of contexts and time periods. www.jezireh.org.

Program students will work on all aspects of the Tell es-Sweyhat research project, including settlement survey, remote sensing, excavation, laboratory work and museology. At the same time students will also experience life in a traditional Syrian village of the Jezireh region. Visits to archaeological and cultural sites will complement the curriculum and may include Aleppo, the Old City of Damascus, and the desert city of Palmyra.

The program provides an unparalleled introduction to both the ancient and the modern Near East. Upon successful completion of the program, students earn eight Boston University credits.



Program Administration

Program Director

Michael Danti, PhD., University of Pennsylvania, is Assistant Professor of Archaeology at Boston University and is the Director of the Tell es-Sweyhat Archaeological Project. He also serves as Field Director of archaeological surveys in western Iran and northern Syria.

Housing

Students will live in the traditional Bedouin village of Nefilah in dig houses. These are single room structures with windows, concrete floors, electricity and a ceiling fan. Bathrooms and showers are in separate structures. All meals are provided at the field site.

Travel

The program arranges a trans-Atlantic group flight that is not included in the program fee. We recommend that students take this flight.

Courses

Students must enroll in both of the following courses for a total of eight credits.

CAS AR 341 Mesopotamian Archaeology, 4 cr.
CAS AR 503 Archaeological Field Methods, 4 cr.

Admissions

- Minimum 3.0 GPA (in major and overall)
- Previous coursework in anthropology or archaeology is desirable but not required. Arabic language skills are not required
- Students admitted to the program must be able to engage in field work in hot temperatures for significant periods of time
- Open to undergraduate and graduate students

Program Dates

Summer Term: early June–mid-July

Application Deadlines

Summer Term: March 1

Program Cost

2009/2010 Tuition and Fees: Costs for summer 2010 have not yet been announced and will be subject to approval by the Board of Trustees of Boston University. Program cost will include tuition, housing, board, field trips and emergency travel assistance coverage.