

Field Archaeology and Geophysical Testing

Dig Kits (required)

The list below includes the tools required for all students in the Field Archaeology and Geophysical Testing program. These items can be purchased at hardware stores, survey supply shops, or online. If you cannot find some of these tools, they can be purchased from the field school when you arrive in Kampsville.

- **4.5" - 5" pointing trowel (Marshalltown #45-5 or similar).** Your trowel should be the single construction variety, *not* one with handle bolted or welded to the handle. We do not recommend a trowel larger than 5". Large trowels, for example 6" varieties, are unwieldy. Quality does make a difference. You will be using your trowel through the summer. Do not opt for a cheap, poorly constructed tool! Many archaeologists like to have a 5" margin trowel as well (Marshalltown #52 or similar) in their toolkit as well. This trowel should also be a single construction type. Margin trowels are handy, but optional.
- **Root clippers**
- **Metric tape measure at least 7.5 m long**
- **2 m folding carpenter's ruler** (make sure it is metric!)
- **8 ounce plumb bob**
- **Line level.** Metal line levels tend to be more durable than plastic ones. It is a good idea to carry a spare line in case yours is accidentally damaged or warped in the field, particularly if you opt for a plastic one.
- **8" bastard mill file**
- **A roll of carpenter's string.** Braided string is better than twisted.
- **Pocket knife.** A pocket knife is always handy to have.
- **Work gloves**
- **Closed-toed work shoes.**
- **Uniball Deluxe pens,** micro point, black ink, waterproof and fadeproof. The Uniball Deluxe styles have been difficult to find recently, particularly the micro point styles. Uniball sells a number of similar pens that are acceptable, but the ink must be waterproof and fadeproof.
- **Pencils and erasers**
- **Something to put all of your tools in**

Field Clothes

- **Metal-free clothes.** During the geophysical testing portion of the course, you will need metal-free clothes to collect geomagnetic data. Clothes must be free of metal zippers, rivets, grommets, snaps, belt buckles or anything else that may be made of metal.

Footwear should have a closed toe and must also be metal-free, without rivets or steel shanks in soles. Metal jewelry should be removed before survey, and sometimes eyeglass frames and metal surgical implants can pose a problem. Clothing with metal will be acceptable for conducting GPR and electrical resistance surveys.

- **General Field clothes.** Field work is often hot, humid, dirty work. It is recommended that you bring light, cool clothes to work in. You will want to bring clothes that you don't mind getting dirty, sweaty and possibly ruining. By the end of the summer, it is not unusual to have a pile of clothes that you won't be wearing again in civilized society. They'll always be good field gear, though. It probably isn't a good idea to bring your expensive favorite summer outfit unless you don't mind it becoming dirt and sweat stained.