

Archaeology Day is fast approaching!

I wanted to send a quick reminder that we will be meeting between 11:15am and 11:30am in front of Building 11 on West campus. If the weather holds, we will move to the nearby retention pond by 11:35am. Feel free to join us in the retention pond if you need to be late. Email me claguerdiaz@valenciacollege.edu if there are any issues with your arrival.

VALENCIA COLLEGE

WEST CAMPUS



We will be in a grassy area so make sure you wear comfy shoes. We will take advantage of the shade provided by a nearby tree. However, wearing sunblock might not be the worst thing!

We will have three main activities and hopefully we will rotate the groups.

1. **Flintknapping** (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rSKO0fpES6s>) – Kevin Gidusko is providing some chert and there will be some obsidian for us to play with! I mean, for us to make stone tools...
 - a. Obsidian is extremely sharp. To put it in perspective, obsidian can be incredibly effective as a surgical blade with little modification.
 - i. Leather straps will be provided to protect you, but feel free to bring gloves if you want an extra bit of protection.
 - ii. Try to wear a blouse or shirt that covers your upper chest. Sometimes



you might get some splinters on your skin and if you carelessly brush them off they can scrape you.

- iii. Chances that you cut yourself are low if you are careful. Cuts in these scenario will be similar to a paper cut. If you get woozy when you see blood or have a really, really low threshold for pain, just let us know! There are other stations to try out!
- b. We will have a first aid kit!
- c. We will also keep an eye on you to make sure you are doing it carefully and do not hurt yourself!

2. **Atlatl** (<http://youtu.be/EYas53pGGKg?t=2m23s>) – We will get to hunt some imaginary prey!

- a. Same rules as shooting a gun apply: make sure **NOBODY** is in front of you before you try it out.
- b. Most of you will not do as well as the guy in the YouTube video! It takes some practice. Actually, I highly doubt that was his first try.
- c. One of the sets has some years of use so the spears will not go as far. We did have a student who reached some 30 odd meters when he used it.
- d. In the best of conditions, how powerful can an atlatl be?



Dr. Susan deFrance
(UF) saves a car
after Petra
Cunningham, MA
(UF) pierced it.



Most atlatl spears will have a metal or stone tip at the end. There is enough momentum in the spear to pierce a car. None of our spears are capable of piercing a car. However, even dull projectiles require careful handling and safety precautions.

3. **Setting up an excavation unit** – Ever wonder how we get these nice square holes? Well, it takes practice! See the string in the picture? The beginning of the unit is the start of it all!

- a. We will not actually dig. I am sure the Valencia groundskeepers would not like that!
- b. Pythagoras is the key to a perfect unit!



4. Other activities? We are currently working on more ways to expand Archaeology Day.

We want to be safe.

The following page is a Student Release from Valencia. You will not be able to participate in the activity unless I get the form signed by you.

You can:

- ★ email it to me: claguerdiaz@valenciacollege.edu
- ★ mail it to: Carmen Laguer Díaz (Valencia Code 4-32)
- ★ bring it to Archaeology Day

I will have extra copies in case students forget.

RELEASE FORM

This is a legally binding Release executed by _____,

(the Student) whose address is _____,

to The District Board of Trustees of Valencia Community College, Florida (the College).

I, _____, agree to participate in (the Activity)

from _____ (date/time) to _____
(date/time).

I am aware that participating in the Activity involves risks of personal injury, property damage and other risks associated with the Activity. The Activity has been explained to me, including the risks involved in participating in the Activity, and I understand these risks. I freely agree to assume and take on full responsibility for any such risks of loss, property damage or personal injury, including death, that may be sustained by me as a result of participating in the Activity whether caused by the negligence of the College or otherwise.

I SHALL NOT SUE THE COLLEGE FOR ANY INJURIES OCCURRING WHILE I AM PARTICIPATING IN THE ACTIVITY:

In consideration of the College making the Activity available and my being permitted to participate in the Activity, I hereby agree to release, indemnify, hold harmless and forever discharge the College, its trustees, officers, employees and agents, from any and all claims and causes of action which might be brought by me, my family, heirs, and personal representative(s) on my behalf for loss of property, personal injury or death sustained by me arising out of any travel or activity conducted during the period of my participation in the Activity. I understand that this Release covers liability, claims and actions caused entirely or in part by any acts or failures to act of the College (or its trustees, officers, employees and agents), including, but not limited to negligence, mistake or failure to supervise by the College.

I agree to indemnify the College for any loss or costs, including medical bills, court costs and attorney's fees, that it might incur due to injury or damage resulting from my participation in this Activity, whether caused by the negligence of the College or otherwise.

I agree that as a registered student of the College and participating in a College-sponsored activity, I am bound by all College rules and regulations regarding student conduct. I understand that if I do not have a copy of the Student Handbook, a copy is available for my review in the Science Department office.

This Release shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida.

In signing this Release, I acknowledge that I have read and understand it, agree to be legally bound by it, and have signed it voluntarily.

Student Participant Signature

Print Name