

Mountains and Mesas:

Geology and Archaeology of the Colorado Plateau,

May 21-31, 2020

How are you going to spend your summer? Living through a series of hot days sweltering in the valley dreaming of exotic locales and distant vistas? Consider a different path…imagine yourself on the high plateaus of New Mexico hunting for dinosaurs, or sitting on an 11,000 foot high pass looking over some of the most dramatic mountains on the continent. Imagine hunting for Pueblo cliff dwellings in a quiet deserted canyon on the Colorado-New Mexico border. Imagine taking a trip in a time machine to the distant past, when dinosaurs roamed the planet, continental landmasses drifted and collided, and seas covered vast areas of the American west. Imagine a more recent past as we visit two of the oldest continuously occupied villages in the United States. If this picture is appealing, consider one of MJC's most unique summer offerings, two jointly conducted courses: **Geology 191: The Geology of the Colorado Plateau** and **Anthropology 191: The Archaeology of the Colorado Plateau.**

This field studies journey will follow a huge loop through New Mexico and Colorado. Starting in Albuquerque, we will explore the present-day pueblos of the Rio Grande River, the Valles Caldera and Bandelier National Monument, Great Sand Dunes and Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Parks, Durango and Silverton in the San Juan Mountains, and the center of the Ancestral Pueblo society at Mesa Verde National Park, Hovenweep National Monument, and Chaco Canyon National Historical Park The trip will also include dark starlit skies, glorious sunsets and sunrises, impossibly beautiful vistas, and tours of some of the most incredible landscapes in the world. If this sounds like your kind of adventure, consider joining us!

You will earn six semester units upon completion of the course. The cost of the trip is $1,600, which includes motel lodging, transportation, and entrance fees (Registration fees are extra). The class will meet in Albuquerque, New Mexico. We will have several organizational meetings, the first of which will be on Monday, April 23, at 7:00 at MJC in Science 132 (East Campus). If you are interested, please return the form at the bottom of this page for more information. Previous experience in geology, earth science or archaeology is highly recommended, but not required (be ready to have a crash course in basic principles before we leave). For more info, check out <http://hayesg.faculty.mjc.edu/Geology_191_Colorado_Plateau.html> and our Facebook group page at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1981562695397646/>

**Tentative Schedule:**

5/21: Meet in Albuquerque NM 5/26: Black Canyon of the Gunnison, Monarch Pass

5/22: El Morro, Acoma Sky City, El Malpais 5/27: Durango and Silverton, San Juan Mountains

5/23: Santa Fe, Pecos, Tent Rocks, 5/28: Mesa Verde National Park

5/24: Valles Caldera, Bandelier, Taos Pueblo 5/29: Canyons of the Ancients, Anasazi Center

5/25: Sangre de Cristo Mtns, Great Sand Dunes 5/30: Chaco Canyon, Shiprock

 5/31: Back in Albuquerque, heading home



Yes! I'm interested. Please send more information:

Name: .

Address: .

City: State: Zip: .

Telephone and e-mail: .

Send to: Garry Hayes, Geology Dept., Modesto Junior College, 435 College Ave., Modesto CA 95350 or e-mail: hayesg@yosemite.edu