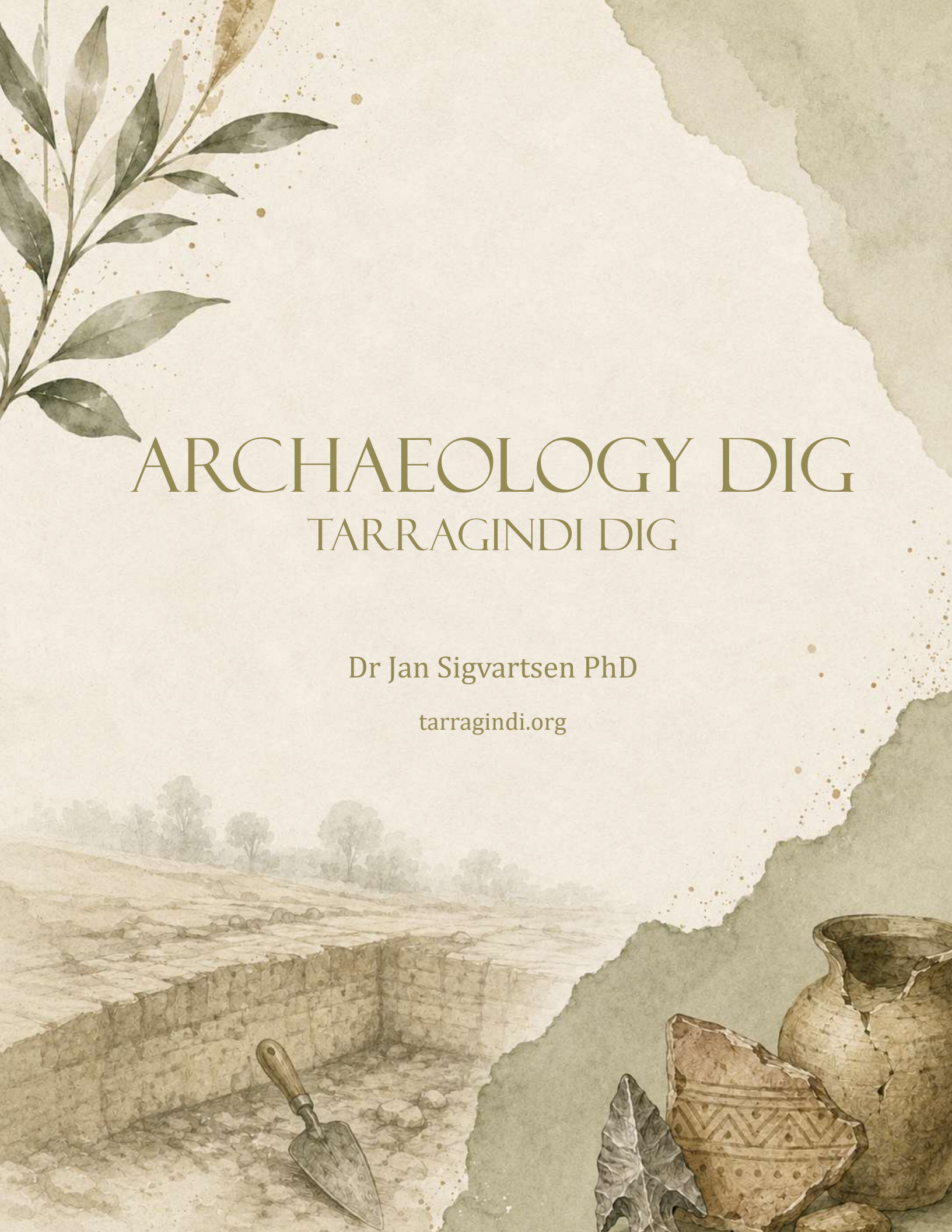




# ARCHAEOLOGY DIG

## TARRAGINDI DIG

Dr Jan Sigvartsen PhD

[tarragindi.org](http://tarragindi.org)

# Berrien Springs Partnership Syllabus

CLASS TITLE: Archaeology Dig - Tarragindi  
TOTAL REQUIRED HRS: 16.5  
ADDITIONAL TIME POSSIBLE: Yes  
TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS: 65 hours  
LOCATION (address): 6161 Pheasant Court, Berrien Springs, MI 49103  
PRIMARY INSTRUCTOR: Dr Jan A. Sigvartsen PhD  
CONTACT INFORMATION: 269-363-3968, [Jan@tarragindi.org](mailto:Jan@tarragindi.org), tarragindi.org

## LOCATION REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS, IF REQUIRED:

- Orientation for all of Dr Sigvartsen's 12 History, Archaeology, and Genealogy classes will be held on: Tuesday, September 1 **OR** Thursday, September 3, 6pm – 8pm, 6161 Pheasant Court, Berrien Springs, MI 49103
- Your Local History Tour that gives context to your program will be held on: Saturday, September 12 **OR** Sunday, September 13, 3pm – 5pm.
- This class is then held every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, from September 8 – October 16.

INSTRUCTOR QUALIFICATIONS: BA, MA, PhD

## COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To allow students to experience a real archaeology dig on one of Berrien Springs' oldest settler farms from the 1830s. Dig is overseen by a PhD qualified archaeologist.
2. To teach basic excavating techniques, identification techniques, researching artifacts, cleaning artifacts, and presentation of findings.
3. To teach local indigenous and settler history in a real way with the view of students developing belonging and a sense of place in the local community.

**SYLLABUS/OUTLINE:** Weekly approximate breakdown of activities:

**Week 1 – 2 hours** (Tuesday, September 1, 6-8pm **OR** Thursday, September 3, 6-8pm)

*Orientation: at the Tarragindi Archaeology Dig site: 6161 Pheasant Court, Berrien Springs, MI 49103.*

You will be required to sign a waiver and choose if you want to participate in photographs or not during this program. We will go over expectations and give you some background of the area and show you some of our significant finds. We will also give a tour of the dig site, and tell students about the owners of the property over the last 200 years and how they used it.

**Week 2 – 2 hours** (Saturday, September 12, 3-5pm **OR** Sunday, September 13, 3-5pm)

*History Tour: This semester we are going to Fernwood Botanical Gardens for our local history tour – our treat for you and one parent/guardian, if they want to join us. Siblings not registered in the program or additional parents/grandparents/guardians are welcome, but are responsible for paying for their own discounted entry ticket.*

- ***They are located at: 13988 Range Line Rd, Niles, MI 49120. Park in the carpark, wait on the patio for Dr Jan.***

Did you know that a Native American trail went right through this area and its landscape makes it almost perfect for settlement both now and 10,000 years ago. We will walk this ancient trail, and also walk around this historic garden and hear stories of how this beautiful local resource came about in our community and was developed by different people over the past 200 years.

**Week 3 – 2.5 hours** (September 14 – September 18)

*Tarragindi Archaeology Dig – 6161 Pheasant Court, Berrien Springs, MI 49103.*

We start the dig! We will supply all your tools and gloves. Parents and guardians can dig too. This week, we will focus on digging techniques.

**Week 4 – 2.5 hours** (September 21 – September 25)

*Tarragindi Archaeology Dig – 6161 Pheasant Court, Berrien Springs, MI 49103.*

We keep digging! We also learn how to use the sift. We will start to classify our finds and encourage students to identify what they may have found and its age.

**Week 5 – 2.5 hours** (September 28 – October 2)

*Tarragindi Archaeology Dig – 6161 Pheasant Court, Berrien Springs, MI 49103.*

We keep digging. Encourage students to not give up hope of finding something important that can help us understand the past.

**Week 6 – 2.5 hours** (October 5 – October 9)

*Tarragindi Archaeology Dig – 6161 Pheasant Court, Berrien Springs, MI 49103.*

We take a walk down the road to the Long Lake Schoolhouse (now a home) where the 1800s children who lived at Tarragindi went to school. We also visit the Long Lake Cemetery where the former owners and their entire family are buried. We learn how hard early settler life really was and how these people had strong relationships with the local indigenous community.

**Week 7 – 2.5 hours** (October 12 – October 16)

*Tarragindi Archaeology Dig – 6161 Pheasant Court, Berrien Springs, MI 49103.*

Cleaning artifacts – learn how to clean with the pros and get your finds ready for exhibition.

**STUDENT ASSESSMENT** - In addition to the 2 items below, what will be used to evaluate student progress and/or end of semester pass/fail status?

- 1) Students agree to attend at least 80% of class sessions/lessons offered. Attendance is kept online and tracked by Partnership staff. Unexcused absences resulting in failure to meet 80% threshold may

result in program discontinuation.

- 2) The Partnership Student Assessment is filled out by the teacher and turned in to Partnership staff. The rubric is found on the teacher's online attendance sheet. Failing marks for lack of participation, behavior issues, excessive absences, etc. may result in program discontinuation.
- 3) Other class-specific assessment: Engagement in the program, follow through with instruction, care taken with handling artifacts, and participation in research of artifacts found.

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:** (online, books, video, etc.):

[www.tarragindi.org/resources](http://www.tarragindi.org/resources) - page on our website giving links to local history resources.

**CLASS-SPECIFIC POLICIES:**

Attendance: Students can attend any one of the four scheduled classes each week. They are also welcome to come more often if they want to, or make up a class by attending another class time.

Behavior: To dig carefully, identify everything you like about others, zero tolerance of bullying, report bullying, have fun!

Weather: If it is raining, the class will be canceled and all students emailed. Dr Sigvartsen will still go down to the site to ensure everyone got his email message.

Other: Do not enter the dig site or come onto the property when Dr Sigvartsen is not there. Be kind to the neighbors by parking in the designated areas, and keeping the noise down.