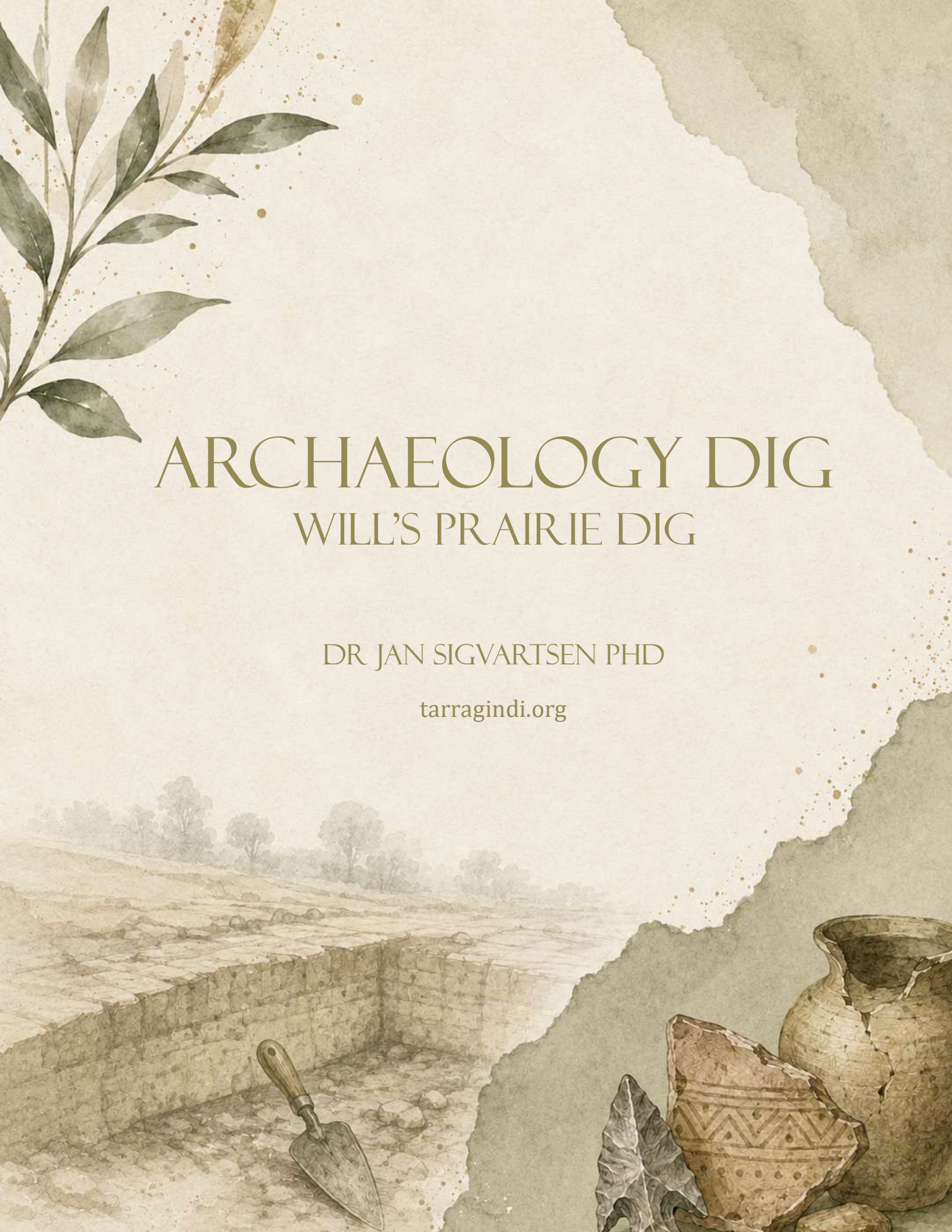




ARCHAEOLOGY DIG

WILL'S PRAIRIE DIG

DR JAN SIGVARTSEN PHD

tarragindi.org

Archaeology Dig – Will's Prairie Dig

CLASS TITLE: Archaeology Dig – Will's Prairie Dig (ages 8-20)
TOTAL REQUIRED HRS: 16.5
ADDITIONAL TIME POSSIBLE: Yes
TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS: 32 hours
LOCATION: 6161 Pheasant Court, Berrien Springs, MI 49103
PRIMARY INSTRUCTOR: Dr Jan A. Sigvartsen PhD
CONTACT INFORMATION: 269-363-3968 – info@tarragindi.org – tarragindi.org

LOCATION REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS, IF REQUIRED:

6161 Pheasant Court, Berrien Springs, MI 49103 – Your instructor will contact you regarding registration and orientation.

- Orientation for all of Dr Sigvartsen's 12 History, Archaeology, and Genealogy classes will be held on: September 1 **OR** September 3, 6pm – 8pm, 6161 Pheasant Court, Berrien Springs, MI 49103
- Your Local History Tour has been cancelled due to a scheduling conflict.
- From September 9 - October 18, this class is then held every
 - Wednesday, 4pm-6.30pm
 - Thursday, 10am-12.30pm

INSTRUCTOR QUALIFICATIONS: BA, MA, PhD

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To allow students to experience a real archaeology dig by digging at Will's Prairie. Native American artifacts have been found on the site, that is between two ancient local Native American trails, one that leads directly to Moccasin Bluff in Buchanan, a site that has been dated to 8,000 years ago. The 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 **OR** Thursday, September 3)

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 site and region and show you some of our previous finds.

Week 2 – 2.5 hours (September 9 – September 10)

Archaeology Dig – Will's Prairie 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. We will focus on basic excavation techniques and sifting techniques. We will also focus on the identification of stone arrow making chips/shards.

Week 2 – The local history tour to Fernwood has been cancelled due to a scheduling conflict. A bonus week has been added to your schedule (see below).

Week 3 – 2.5 hours (September 16 – September 17)

Archaeology Dig – Will's Prairie Dig, 6161 Pheasant Court, Berrien Springs, MI 49103.

We keep digging! There is no telling what you may find. We will talk about investigating hardened clay layers in the soil and how to identify if they are from human use, glaciers, or natural exposure hundreds of years ago.

Week 4 – 2.5 hours (September 23 – October 24)

Archaeology Dig – Will's Prairie Dig, 6161 Pheasant Court, Berrien Springs, MI 49103.

We continue digging and sifting. Students are encouraged to investigate their finds, and will learn how to date arrowheads and axe heads.

Week 5 – 2.5 hours (September 30 – October 1)

Archaeology Dig – Will's Prairie Dig, 6161 Pheasant Court, Berrien Springs, MI 49103.

We continue digging and sifting. We hear about the four groups of indigenous people who have lived in this region – the Paleoindian group, the Archaic group, the Woodland group, and the Potawatomi, particularly the Pokagon Band who still live in the area.

Week 6 – 2.5 hours (October 7 – October 8)

Archaeology Dig – Will's Prairie Dig, 6161 Pheasant Court, Berrien Springs, MI 49103.

We classify our finds and start measuring and photographing them.

Bonus Week: October 14 – 18

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 - page on our website giving links to local history resources.

CLASS-SPECIFIC POLICIES:

Attendance: Students can attend any one of the two 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 (not what you don't like about them), zero tolerance of bullying, report bullying, have fun!

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

Other: Do not enter the dig site or dig when Dr Sigvartsen is not there. Be kind to the neighbors and visitors to the Courthouse Square museum by parking in the designated areas, being courteous, and keeping the noise down.