

# The University of Oregon Northern Great Basin archaeological field school at the Paisley Caves!



The Paisley Caves were first investigated by Luther Cressman of the UO between 1938 and 1940. The presence of extinct ice-age animal bones such as camel, horse, and bison with obsidian artifacts led Cressman to report that he had found proof of human presence during the Pleistocene. Other archaeologists doubted that, and the UO field school conducted new investigations at the site in 2002, 2003, and 2007. Recovery of human DNA from coprolites associated with horse and camel bones dated at 12,300 radiocarbon years was reported in the journal *Science* in 2008. This summer's field work will complete current investigations at the site and initiate surveys of land forms in the Chewaucan Basin that could contain undiscovered sites of Pleistocene age.

Students will participate in world acclaimed research into the first colonization of the

Americas. With an emphasis on the recovery of coprolites and their protection from contamination by modern DNA, the Paisley Caves field school students will leave with a unique set of skills not generally taught by the best of field schools.

Summer Field School Dates: June 22 - July 31, 2009

Undergrad. (Anth. 408) or Grad. (508) Credits: 8

Cost (tuition, food, housing, transportation): \$2,700

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Visit the Field Website at:

UO Northern Great Basin