Winter 2017 in COSTA RICA

Las Mercedes Archaeological Project
January 15 – February 26, 2017

The Las Mercedes Archaeological Project field school carries on a UAlbany tradition of providing high quality undergraduate and graduate training in archaeological field methods. The 2017 field school will be our third foray into the archaeology of Costa Rica, where we began work in 2009. The site of Las Mercedes is located on the piedmont of the country’s Atlantic watershed and was occupied from A.D. 1000 – 1500. It was the center of a large chiefdom – the likes of which early Spanish explorers reported from the coast of Panama. Las Mercedes had two 1.5 km-long causeways leading to site center formed by over a dozen large mounds.

Join us as we explore the Late Prehispanic Civilizations of Costa Rica. How were village leaders able to consolidate political power and build planned cities with monumental architecture? How were these chiefdoms organized and why did they eventually collapse with the coming of the Spanish?

Spend Jan. & Feb. in Costa Rica and earn 9 credits!!
…then return to Albany and earn another 6 credits

For more information:
http://www.albany.edu/anthro/15505.php

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