The 2015 Oregon State University Department of Anthropology Historical Archaeology Field School will be held at the 1856 to 1865 Site of Fort Hoskins located in southern Kings Valley, Oregon. The site is located approximately 17 miles west of Corvallis, Oregon in the central Coast Range Mountains. The field school will begin June 29 and end August 7. Camping facilities will be available near the site in Fort Hoskins County Park. The site is also in easy commute range of Corvallis and a van will be providing daily round trip transportation.

Participants will learn state of the art archaeological field techniques ranging from site survey strategies through full-scale excavation techniques. Training in archaeological laboratory techniques and historical materials identification will also be available. The recently returned commander’s house will be undergoing restoration so an historical architecture component will be part of the field school experience. You do not have to be
an Anthropology major or have any prior archaeological experience to participate on the field school.

Participants will register for Anth 438 for 12 credit hours for undergraduates and Anth 538 for 9 credit hours for graduate students. If you have questions about the field school or are interested in registering, contact Dr. David Brauner at dbrauner@oregonstate.edu or call 541 737-3855. Applicants will receive more specific information about the summer agenda. Deadline for applications is June 10, 2015.

**Brief History of Fort Hoskins**

Fort Hoskins was established in July 1856 as one of three forts designed to protect and monitor the newly established coastal Indian reservation. Fort Yamhill was positioned north of Fort Hoskins on the Yamhill River near the Grand Ronde Agency and Fort Umpqua was built near the mouth of the Umpqua River to the south. The soldiers’ primary responsibilities were to keep unauthorized people off the reservation and to keep the Indians on their designated lands. Company G and F of the 4th United States Infantry under the command of Captain Christopher Augur manned Fort Hoskins. Second Lieutenant Philip Sheridan selected the site of Fort Hoskins and served as one of Col. Augur’s subordinate officers. Fort Hoskins was named for Lieutenant Charles Hoskins killed during the Mexican War in 1846 while serving in the same regiment as Augur. The regular army troops at Fort Hoskins were sent back east with the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861. The Fort was then garrisoned by California and Washington Volunteer infantry troops until 1864 when the 1st Oregon Infantry Volunteers were mustered. Fort Hoskins served as a training center for Oregon Volunteers until mid-1865 when the post was permanently closed at the end of the Civil War. During the Civil War the
troops still monitored activity on the Coastal Indian Reservation but their duties were expanded to keep the Secessionist movement in the central Willamette Valley from erupting into armed conflict.

The fort was built around a square parade ground. Three officers’ houses were located on the view property overlooking the Luckiamute Valley on the south side of the parade. The enlisted men’s barracks were situated on the northern parade near the powder magazine. A warehouse, a bakery, and laundress buildings were positioned along the west side of the parade ground. An Adjutant’s office and the guardhouse were located along the east parade overlooking the base hospital that was just west of the Frantz-Dunn house that still stands. Recently the base commanders house was returned to its original footprint and is undergoing restoration.