

Packing List - Mojave-Nevada Field School (EPSC231 and EPSC645)

Prepare for: Mapping on hot days, mapping on cool windy days (sun is a constant). Mornings and nights may be quite cool so plan to dress in layers in camp and in the field. Laundry will only happen once (May 7).

When we land in Las Vegas we will leave town straight away so there isn't much time to do shopping there, besides groceries. So, please bring everything you will need with you from Montréal. That said, if you find you have forgotten something or discover an unexpected need, we will find a way to take you shopping or lend you something until we can get to a store.

Clothing

- Field pants (light weight, pockets are nice) for hot weather (2-3 pairs)
- Warm layers (long underwear, light-weight fleeces, windbreaker jacket)
- Lots of socks and underpants
- Cozy comfy camp clothes (e.g. sweats, pajamas, sneakers)
- Wide-brimmed hat and light scarf/bandana to protect face and neck from the sun
- Sunglasses - maybe 2 pairs if you lose things a lot
- Warm jacket for nights down to 5-10°C
- Touque and gloves
- Hiking boots or heavy-soled trail shoes – if you need new ones, buy them now, wear them in before we start mapping
- Rain jacket (light, packable)
- T-shirts or your favorite top layer - I have seen someone wear the same T-shirt the whole time but everyone who rides in the van with you will prefer it if you change every once in a while.
- Swim suit (optional)
- Luggage - soft duffle bags are easier to pack in the van, but lightweight suitcase/roller bags will also work. We will camp at the cars so there is no need for a framepack or backpacking type bag.
- Compression sacks are great for making your clothes smaller in your pack.

Some things are not good:

Short shorts / tank tops – wear sparingly, sunburn is brutal
flip flops or any open toed shoes – there are rocks and cactus on the ground

Camping equipment

If you need to acquire camping gear, you can rent tents, sleeping bags and pads, and headlamps from the McGill Outdoors Club (<http://www.mcgilloutdoorsclub.ca/services/gear>). Funds will be available from the department to assist with gear rentals - see Christie to inquire.

- Sleeping bag - be ready for night temperatures in the single digits
- Sleeping pad e.g. thermarest or inflatable mattress - but no plug-in pumps

- Tent - can be shared. Tent stakes are important because it can be very windy at night.
- Headlamp or flashlight, extra batteries.
- Tupperware container and/or bag to carry lunch in the field
- Towel
- If you love your pillow, bring your pillow! and extra cases or a plastic case to keep it clean
- Headphones / music device if it will help you sleep

Personal stuff – most of this could be purchased at grocery stop in Las Vegas, but if you prefer a specific brand it is better to bring it.

- Sunscreen - high SPF because it will be BRIGHT out there.
- Medications/prescriptions IN ORIGINAL BOTTLE.
- Small bottles of shampoo, conditioner, soap, lotion, shaving cream if you want it
- Deodorant
- lip balm (SPF)
- Wet wipes – really help freshen up after a dusty day
- Tooth brush, tooth paste, floss
- Feminine hygiene supplies (if you need them)
- Toilet paper
- Small plastic bags for packing feminine hygiene supplies and TP out of the field
- Small first aid kit
- Alarm clock + batteries
- Swiss army knife or multitool
- Whistle
- Watch with alarm or travel alarm clock - phones run out
- External battery pack if you need to charge a phone
- Ziplocks - always good to have ziplocks
- Electrical tape - can fix stuff in an emergency
- Camping knife or multitool
- It is really nice to have some money (cash) for interesting souvenirs, spontaneous snacks at the gas station, etc.

Field equipment

- Water bladder (best) or hard, reusable bottles for up to 4 L capacity.
- Watch with alarm or travel alarm clock - phones run out
- Brunton compass (will be checked out to you when we get there)
- Handlens (7x or 10x preferable)
- Comfortable backpack large enough for all your mapping supplies, food and water
- Field vest or belt could also be used to keep your mapping supplies handy
- Colored pencils (at least 12 colors). Pencil sharpener (or knife or sandpaper)
- A couple of permanent markers (i.e. Sharpies) for sample marking

- Field notebook - bound, NO SPIRAL. Rite-In-The-Rain is the best, but any bound book is OK.
- Pencil (mechanical is best) or fine-tipped pen for taking field notes
- Camelback or water bottles with 4L capacity
- Mapboard or clipboard with cover
- Protractor and ruler
- Camera and/or phone
- Stereonet and tracing paper
- Rock hammer - you don't really need one, but it can be useful to break a fresh surface on a sample or climb a steep hill. Some places we go they are not allowed. If you bring one you might like to have a hammer loop on your belt.

YOU MAY NOT BRING:

Illegal drugs - this includes alcohol if you are under 21 years old
firearms or weapons (besides camping knives)

Some tips from former students:

- Keep a plastic bagged clean outfit to put on for the way home!
- Some people like to wear gaiters with shorts to protect the legs.
- Christie likes to sleep out under the stars on a small tent – no flapping in the wind and the stars are awesome! I do bring a tent for clothing changes or surprise rain.
- Binoculars can be fun to have and helpful for mapping