

**CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY
EAST CLEVELAND PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
PROVOST SCHOLARS
Intensive University Seminar
Session Seventeen – Spring 2016
Thursday, March 3, 2016, 2:30pm-5:00pm
Guilford House, 11112 Bellflower Road, Cleveland, OH 44106**

Purpose

The Provost Scholars will be exposed to anthropology and paleontology with the help of seminar speaker, Dr. Darin Croft. Dr. Croft will share information about his recent discovery of a tortoise shell in Bolivia (South America) and his research of ungulates (large mammals) found in South America.

Presenter Biography



Dr. Darin Croft is an Associate Professor in the Department of Anatomy at Case Western Reserve University's (CWRU) School of Medicine and a Research Associate at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. He has a secondary appointment in the Biology Department in the College of Arts and Sciences at CWRU and is also a Research Associate at the American Museum of Natural History in New York, the Carnegie Museum of Natural History in Pittsburgh, and the Field Museum in Chicago. Dr. Croft's primary research area is the evolution of mammals in South America, including rodents, armadillos, sloths, marsupials, and several groups of extinct herbivores known as endemic South American ungulates.

Fieldwork is an integral part of Dr. Croft's research, and he focuses on mammals that lived between about 40 and 10 million years ago. He has ongoing field projects in Bolivia and Chile and has collected fossils in several other parts of South America, as well as in western North America, Madagascar, and Australia. Dr. Croft received his bachelor's degree in Organismal Biology from the University of Iowa (Iowa City), and his master's and doctoral degrees in Organismal Biology and Anatomy from the University of Chicago. For more information about Dr. Darin Croft, please visit: <http://dcpaleo.org/welcome/>.

Objectives

The Provost Scholars will...

- 1) Learn about paleomammalogy, a special field of anthropology focusing on the study of ancient mammals
- 2) Examine the importance of anthropology in scientific and academic research, how it is applied in current biological and medical research, and its significance to human health and well-being in the here-and-now

Agenda

2:30 p.m. – 2:40 p.m.: Hors d'oeuvres will be served

2:40 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.: Tutoring Hour

3:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.: Brief Intermission

3:45 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.: Seminar speakers, Dr. Darin Croft

4:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.: Wrap up and Questions

Faculty & Staff

- Dr. Faye Gary
- Katrice Williams, Master's Student, Program Manager
- Haruna Suleman, Master's Student, Program Assistant
- CWRU Undergraduate Tutors

Guest

- Dr. Darin Croft, Paleomammalogist

Word of the Week: Paleomammalogist. **What does it mean?** A **paleomammalogist** is an anthropologist who studies the evolution of mammals over geologic time with the help of living mammals and fossil records.

Concierge and Matre'D

- Provost Scholars Kevin Oliver and Jiara Sanders