

Ethiopia REU Site Program Application

Middle Stone Age Research Experience for Undergraduates (MSA REU)

Department of Anthropology

The University of Texas at Austin

POSTMARK DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: 15 May 2018

Application Instructions:

1. The Middle Stone Age Research Experience for Undergraduates (MSA REU) Program is intended for college freshmen through juniors. To be eligible to participate in the 2018-2019 program, a student *must be enrolled full time through December 2019*.
2. Please read through *all* sections of this application in order to determine what materials will be necessary prior to submitting your application.
3. *All* sections must be completed in full and submitted before the application deadline.
4. Be certain to include all required information in the spaces provided and to adhere to specific space limitations where noted. Please attach undergraduate academic transcripts to the back of the application form. Unofficial transcripts are acceptable.
5. Please sign and date the application on page 9.
6. Send the completed application with attached academic transcript(s) (pdfs ok) to:
 Mailed to: *Middle Stone Age Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU)*
c/o Dr. John Kappelman
The University of Texas at Austin
Department of Anthropology
2201 Speedway, Stop C3200
Austin, TX 78712-1723
 Or, E-mailed to: MSA_REU@austin.utexas.edu
7. Letters of reference from three recommenders should be submitted by the writers directly to the Middle Stone Age REU program office at the above email address.
8. **Postmark deadline for submission of all materials is 15 May 2018.**

Applicant Name _____

Institution _____

Academic Department _____

Year in School (as of 9/1/18): Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior

Citizenship Status (check one): U.S. Citizen U.S. National Permanent Resident

If Permanent Resident, Country of Citizenship: _____

Reference letters requested from:

Name

REU Program Office Use Below	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Received (Date _____)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Received (Date _____)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Received (Date _____)

Application

**Middle Stone Age Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU)
Department of Anthropology
The University of Texas at Austin**

Applicant Name _____ E-mail: _____

Home Contact Information (during the academic year):

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Fax: _____

Permanent Home Contact Information: Same as above

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Fax: _____

Institutional Contact Information:

Academic Department: _____

Institution: _____

Institution Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Academic Information:

Academic Major: _____

Degree Objective: A.A. A.S. B.A. B.S. Other: _____

Expected Graduation Date (as mm/yyyy): _____

Name of Department Chair: _____

or Major Advisor: _____

Grade Point Average (GPA): Overall GPA _____ Major GPA _____

Transcripts: Please attach one copy of undergraduate academic transcripts to the back of this application. Transfer students should include transcripts from all undergraduate institutions attended.

Letters of Reference

Applicants should request letters of reference from three individuals able to comment on the applicant's academic background and readiness to participate in a rigorous research experience at an international site. Typically, recommenders will be university faculty or active researchers in the field. Each writer should be provided a copy of the reference request form with completed FERPA waiver section. Recommenders may also find it useful to have a copy of the completed application. Reference letters should be submitted by the writers directly to the Middle Stone Age REU program office.

Reference letters requested from:

Name	Affiliation (Department and Institution)
1) _____	_____ _____
2) _____	_____ _____
3) _____	_____ _____

Research Interests

Provide a concise description of your research interests relative to the projects that are available under the Middle Stone Age REU Program. Possible projects are described on the MSA website within the biographical statements of each senior scientist. Be specific. State how participation in the REU program will benefit your academic training and how it will further your intended professional career. (Limit your narrative answer to one page.)

Previous Research Experience

Describe any previous research experience, and note its relevance to the REU Program theme. State explicitly whether the work you describe was part of an undergraduate independent study or honors project, another REU experience, or a research experience acquired through employment. Do not list organized laboratory coursework at your university, but do be certain that laboratory courses are clearly identified on your transcript(s). (Limit your narrative answer to one page.)

Research Topic Essay

Select one of the two research topics below and write a 2-3 page paper that addresses the question. References are required and are not included in the page count.

1. Outline a research topic that details a question about the behaviors, habitats, or climates of the Middle Stone Age, and that integrates the approaches from at least two of the senior researchers' specialties (i.e., paleoanthropology, geology, archaeology, isotope geochemistry, sedimentology, paleoecology, dating). Be specific about the scientific methods that you propose to use to address the question.
2. What are some of the most pressing issues that need to be addressed in order to come to a better understanding of the movement of anatomically modern humans out of Africa? What one issue do you consider to be in greatest need of an immediate research focus, and how could it be investigated?

Remember to attach a pdf copy of your completed paper to this end of this application.

Foreign Language(s)

Complete the following table regarding your foreign language training and competence.

Language	# Years of Study	Proficiency (Excellent, Good, Fair)		
		Reading	Writing	Speaking

List your previous international travel experience in table below.

Country	Travel Years (yyyy)	Duration	Purpose

Additional Information

Please discuss any special skills, abilities, experiences, or expectations that you have as they relate to living and working in remote areas. Do you enjoy camping and hiking? Do you have any first aid training? Discuss how you might deal with undeveloped camping conditions such as high temperatures, dust, primitive toilet and shower facilities, and working long distances from medical care facilities? Do you have any experience in dealing with a lack of electricity and internet access? How do you think you will acclimate to a different culture? (Limit your narrative answer to one page.)

How did you learn about this program? Please be as specific as possible (*e.g.*, project website, advertisement through a specific professional society, announcement through a faculty mentor or student club at your school, recommendation from former participant, *etc.*).

Applicant Certification and Signature:

I, _____ (print name), certify that the information provided in this application to the Middle Stone Age REU Program is correct and true to the best of my knowledge.

I understand, if I am accepted, that I am required to inform the Program Directors immediately should I decide to withdraw from the program, and will be required to reimburse the program for any and all funds spent on airline tickets and visas, as well as any other expenditures.

Applicant's Signature _____

Date _____