

ACMS Mongolia Field School 2024

[www.mongoliacenter.org](http://www.mongoliacenter.org)



# About the American Center for Mongolian Studies



- Founded in 2002, Ulaanbaatar office and Research Library opened in 2004.
- Full-time staff in Ulaanbaatar. Local staff will be arranging and supporting your visit to Mongolia.

- **Charles Krusekopf, Director**

- A consortium of International Universities and members – supports all scholars, not just “Americans”
- “Academic Embassy” in UB with international and Mongolian staff who help visiting and local scholars do research work and build resources, connections and networks. Your “home away from home” in UB.



Visit [www.mongoliacenter.org](http://www.mongoliacenter.org)

- ACMS Programs include:

- Research Fellowships and Summer Field School
- Mongolian Language Program
- Publications such as This Month in Mongolian Studies
- Regular hosting of conferences and speakers.

- Please subscribe to **This Month in Mongolian Studies**. Send an email request to [info@mongoliacenter.org](mailto:info@mongoliacenter.org) to be added to the distribution list.



**acms\_mongolia**



**@ACMSMongolia**



# Other ACMS Research and Study Opportunities

## Field Research Fellowships

Deadline Feb 15, 2024



Funded by US State  
Department Educational and  
Cultural Affairs Bureau



- **The program will provide awards of up to \$4,000 to approximately 4-8 students, post-docs, or faculty to conduct short-term student, post-doctoral, or faculty field research in Mongolia between May and October, 2024.**
- **Applicants must be US citizens currently enrolled full-time (students) or employed at least part-time (post-docs and faculty) at a university or college.**
- The program priority is to support individuals from non-research intensive universities and colleges, especially those who are helping guide student research projects or who can show how the fellowship experience will enhance their teaching and outreach.
- Joint applications submitted by a student and post-doctoral scholar or faculty member are highly encouraged. Joint applicants must submit individual applications, but the applications will be evaluated both individually and jointly during the review process. Joint applications are not required, and individual applications are welcome.
- The field research project should involve at least 6 weeks for students or 3 weeks for post-docs or faculty of fieldwork in Mongolia.

# **Mongolian Language program:** **Courses in summer and during** **the year**



- **ACMS invites students and scholars to enroll in an eight-week Intensive Mongolian Language Program from June 3 to August 2, 2024 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. Application Deadline March 1, 2024.**
- The purpose of this summer language program is to provide Intermediate-level students of the Mongolian language with an opportunity to enhance their communicative competence through systematic improvement of reading, writing, listening and speaking skills, in an authentic environment.
- Intermediate level of language learning program is equivalent to approximately 9 semester credit hours. The course will be taught by experienced Mongolian language teachers.
- **ACMS Language Program Fellowships of up to \$2,000 to cover the cost of tuition will be awarded to applicants based on merit and need. The program is eligible for FLAS awards for qualified students.**
- **Students interested in taking Mongolian language lessons during the academic year in Mongolia or from the ACMS instructors via Zoom can contact the ACMS office for more information.**





- Special fellowships for librarians or information resource specialists interested in working with the ACMS Research Library and other Mongolian libraries and librarians to help develop access to academic resources and training.
- Opportunities on site in Ulaanbaatar or for distance based projects.
- Please contact the ACMS [info@mongoliacenter.org](mailto:info@mongoliacenter.org) for more information

# CAORC

Council of American Overseas Research Centers  
Fostering International Scholarship

## INTERNATIONAL OVERSEAS FACULTY DEVELOPMENT SEMINARS

- Fully-funded, group seminars of 15-21 days held overseas in partnership with a host Overseas Research Center (ORC)
- 2024 winter and summer application cycles for programs in India, Senegal, Mongolia, Cambodia, and Mexico, with more planned for 2025.
- **Open to faculty and administrators from community colleges and minority-serving institutions**
- Focused on specific academic topics, such as global health, sustainability, indigenous language, and political science.
- Fully-funded by grants from the State Department Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA), including international travel







Council of American Overseas Research Centers  
Fostering International Scholarship

## Climate Change and Public Health: What does Climate Change Mean for the People of Mongolia?

Seminar dates: May 31 - June 15, 2024 Instructor: Dr. Charles Krusekopf

- Participants will experience the wide diversity of Mongolia's rich history, society, and culture and its relevance for the climate resilience of the United States.
- Seminar is focused on issues related to climate change and public health that will include site visits in Ulaanbaatar, Kharkhorin, Erdene Zuu Monastery, and a visit to Hustai National Park, home to the rare and endangered Przewalski's horses.
- Round-trip travel, accommodations, in-country transportation, and meals provided
- **Open to faculty and administrators from US community colleges and Minority-Serving Institutions**
- **Applications are open now and close on January 31<sup>st</sup>. Visit [www.caorc.org](http://www.caorc.org)**



# ACMS 2024 Mongolia Field School Overview

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- ACMS interdisciplinary Mongolia Field School first held in 2019, then (online) in 2021 and onsite in Mongolia again in 2022 and 2023.

## **For 2024:**

- Three courses are offered in two sessions in late-July and early August.
- Participants can take one individual course, or take the first course and one in the second session
- All courses will start and end in Ulaanbaatar and will include a significant field component in the Mongolian countryside.
- **The Field School is open to all participants from any country, including undergraduate and graduate students, teachers and faculty, and life-long learners at any age and stage.**



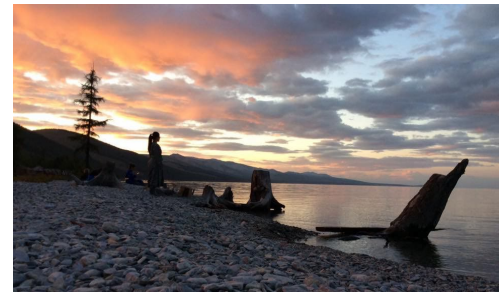
# 2024 Summer Field School Sessions and Courses

## Session 1      July 20-28

- **Horses and History: How the Mongols and their Horses Reshaped the World**

## Session 2      July 29 - August 11

- **Hustai National Park: Managing Biodiversity in the home of Mongolia's Native Horses**
- **Steppe Ethnographies: Mobile Pastoralism, Cosmology and Development in Rural Mongolia**
- Take one course in either session, or if you want to take 2 courses, you can take the Horses and History course and either course in session 2.
- Can combine a Field Research Fellowship or Summer Language Program and Field School course



# Field School Overview



- Each course will have approximately 20 international and Mongolian participants.
- The language of instruction is English.
- Previous experience in Mongolia or with field studies is not required.
- Participants are responsible for making their own travel arrangements to and from Ulaanbaatar. ACMS can help with accommodations in UB before and after the program. Most participants will arrive via air, rail travel from China is an option.
- During the program, ACMS will make transportation, accommodation and meal arrangements for the group, which will travel together as a class.





# Tuition and Fellowships

- **Tuition for Session 1 is \$1750 and for Session 2 is US\$3500 for all international participants**, which will cover program costs in Mongolia, including meals, housing, transportation, instruction and site visits.
- **Mongolian participants** have a separate tuition and fellowship schedule, please check with the Ulaanbaatar office for details.
- **A significant number of fellowships are available for international participants based on merit and need through the generous support of the Henry Luce Foundation.** Apply for this fellowship when filling out a field school application
- **Please apply by the March 30 Priority Deadline if you are interested in a fellowship.**
- Final application deadline is May 30
- Applicants are encouraged to apply for funding from other sources. Fellowships from other sources help support your fellowship application and program participation, and partial funding is allowed.



# Applications



- **Please review the detailed application information on the program website. All applications are submitted through the online system.**
- Everyone: Statement of Interest, Experience in Remote Areas, CV, personal details.
- Optional letter of recommendation
- Fellowships – open for all, will be given based on financial need first, and an effort to create a diverse cohort of participants. You are asked to provide information to support your fellowship request.
- **Priority deadline is March 30, 2024 for fellowship consideration.** Fellowship awards of \$500-\$2000 will be made on a rolling basis after application.
- Mongolian applicants – submit required application information, special fellowships will be available to support Mongolian student and professional participants



# Program Options and Academic Credits



- ACMS can't directly offer academic credits, but all courses are designed to be equivalent to a 3 to 6-credit university course (5-10 ECTS).
- Those who want to receive academic credits for participation should first talk with their home institutions about their requirements for recognizing academic credits for field school courses (e.g., credit may be available as supervised independent study).
- We will arrange appropriate assessment and marking for course exercises and will work with individual applicants to provide the information and resources necessary to help you get academic credit for participation.

# Safety and Health in Mongolia, including COVID Planning

- Mongolia has a high COVID-19 vaccination rate and many people are boosted. There are no travel restrictions currently for Mongolia, and no disruption to summer 2024 travel is anticipated.
- Deposits are refundable if the program is canceled or with some restrictions if you can not attend.
- All travelers should study the travel restrictions in place at the time of travel for all countries visited.
- Mongolia has flights from multiple international locations, with most travelers arriving through Seoul, Istanbul (Turkish Airways) or Beijing.
- It can be cheaper to book your flight legs separately, such as USA-Seoul and then Seoul-UB
- A direct flight from USA to Ulaanbaatar may be offered beginning May 2024.
- ACMS has developed a safety, health and risk management plan for the program. We can discuss special concerns or situations with participants.
- ACMS will support participants to find and access appropriate medical care in Mongolia, but the costs of care are the responsibility of participants.
- All international participants are required to have a travel insurance plan to participate.





# Field Travel in Countryside





# A unique opportunity that combines expert led academic studies together with special cultural insights and experiences





# Horses and History: How the Mongols and their Horses Reshaped the World

8 days with 3 instructors  
July 20 - 28 , 2024



William Taylor  
University of  
Colorado, Boulder



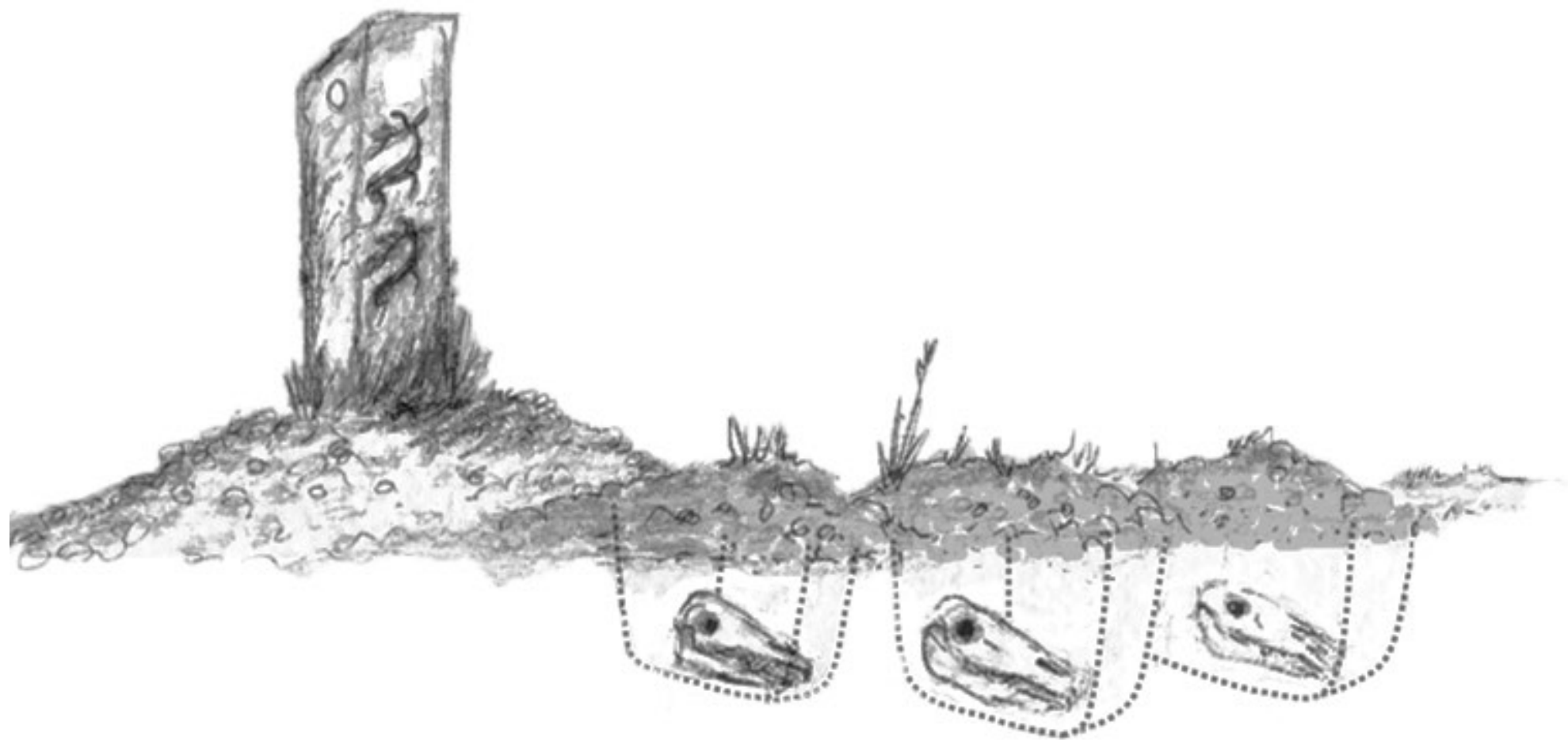
Bayarsaikhan Jamsranjav  
Max Planck Institute for  
Geoanthropology



Isaac Hart  
Resident Director  
ACMS













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# Questions?

Contact Isaac Hart at [ihart@mongoliacenter.org](mailto:ihart@mongoliacenter.org) or Will Taylor at [William.taylor@Colorado.edu](mailto:William.taylor@Colorado.edu)



Dr. William Taylor  
University of  
Colorado, Boulder



Dr. Bayarsaikhan Jamsranjav  
Max Planck Institute for  
Geoanthropology



Dr. Isaac Hart  
Resident Director  
ACMS in  
Ulaanbaatar

# Hustai National Park: Managing Biodiversity in the Home of Mongolia's Native Horses

14 days  
6 instructors  
July 29 - August 11, 2024



Tsermaa Nyamdavaa  
National University  
of Mongolia



Dr. Usukhjargal Dorj  
Hustai National Park



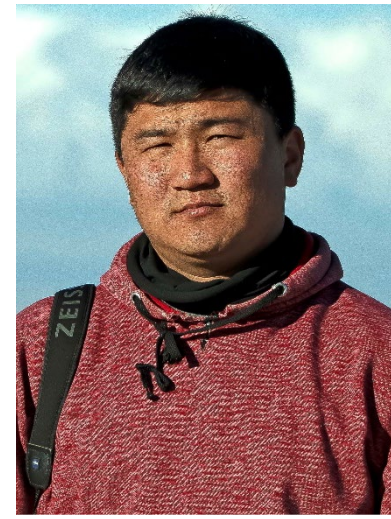
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International LLC



Uuganbayar Ganbold  
Hustai National Park



Dr. Tserendulam  
Tseren-Ochir  
Hustai National Park

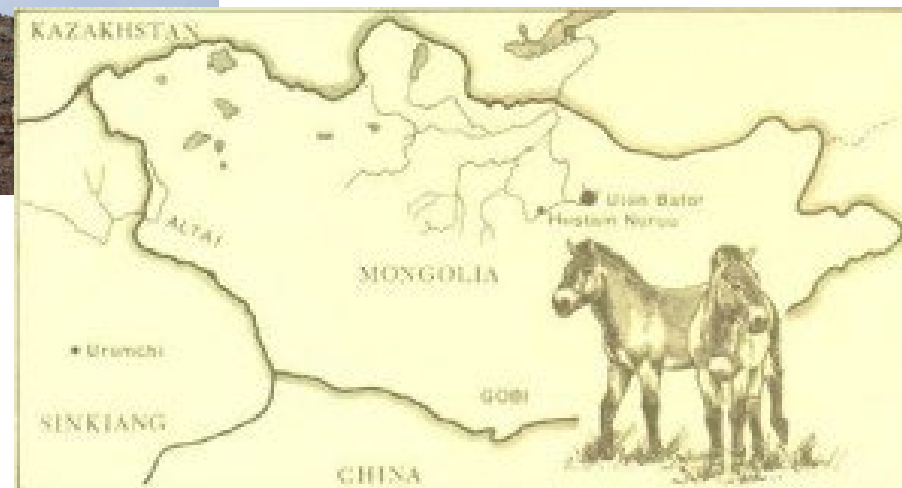
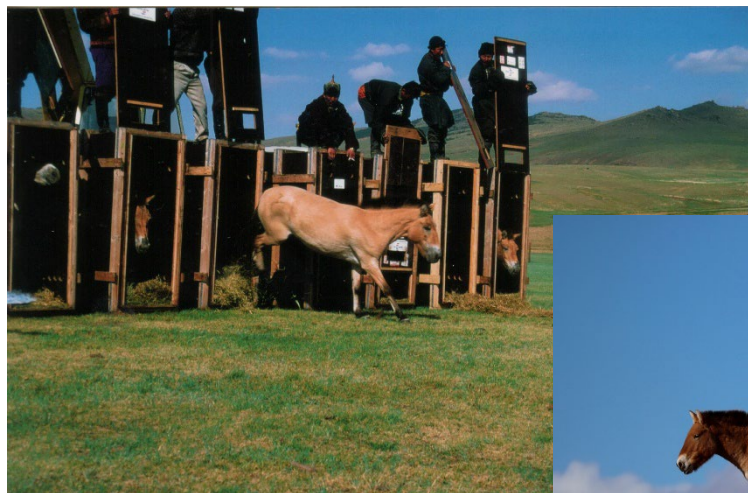


Batzaya Tsogt  
Hustai National Park



# Hustai National Park, Mongolia

- ❖ The reintroduction of the Przewalski's horses – 1992
- ❖ The Przewalski's horse is a rare and endangered species of horse
- ❖ The last surviving species of wild horse in the world
- ❖ The world's largest number of the Przewalski's horses exist in HNP
- ❖ The total population of the Przewalski's horses in HNP – over 400 in 2023
- ❖ Other important wildlife: red deer, Mongolian gazelles, argali sheep, wolves, and marmots



# I. Biodiversity conservation at Hustai National Park

- Journey deep into the heart of Hustai National Park, a thriving ecosystem boasting remarkable biodiversity and groundbreaking conservation initiatives. Unveil the park's unique features, unravel its intricate management strategies, and delve into innovative wildlife conservation methodologies.
- Through hands-on fieldwork, engage in the observation and study of Przewalski's horses, along with other awe-inspiring species such as Mongolian elk, gazelles, Argali sheep, marmots, and gray wolves.
- Participate in crucial activities like vegetation biomass assessments, refining your skill in ecological research techniques to effectively collect and analyze crucial data supporting conservation endeavors





## II. Community-based conservation

- We will explore the concept of community-based conservation, examining its profound implications within both the park and its adjoining buffer zone.
- Witness firsthand the positive outcomes of sustainable resource management on local livelihoods by visiting local enterprises, including eco-tourism enterprises, community-scale cheese factories, and sustainable sea buckthorn horticulture operations.
- These activities will serve to demonstrate and reinforce the importance of implementing community-based, ecologically informed rangeland management for safeguarding biodiversity and sustainability.





# III. Traditional culture

- This expedition will also transcend scientific exploration, offering a rich cultural immersion experience.
- Engage in a plethora of cultural immersion experiences, from participating in traditional festivals and visiting the revered Gandan Monastery to exploring the Mongolian National History Museum.
- Immerse yourself in the daily lives of herder families, partake in cultural activities such as horse and camel riding, traditional food preparation, and indulge in traditional games, unraveling the essence of Mongolia's ancient traditions and heritage.
- Witness innovative solutions in action through a visit to the Mongolian Bankhar Dog Breeding Project, showcasing a traditional approach to combat desertification and conserve vital grasslands.





# Questions?

Contact ACMS at [mfs@mongoliacenter.org](mailto:mfs@mongoliacenter.org) or Tsermaa Nyamdavaa at [tnyamdavaa@alaska.edu](mailto:tnyamdavaa@alaska.edu)



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Dr. Usukhjargal Dorj  
Hustai National Park



Byambadorj Purevdoo  
Mon Green One LLC &  
Mon Pre Me  
International LLC



Uuganbayar Ganbold  
Hustai National Park



Dr. Tserendulam  
Tseren-Ochir  
Hustai National Park



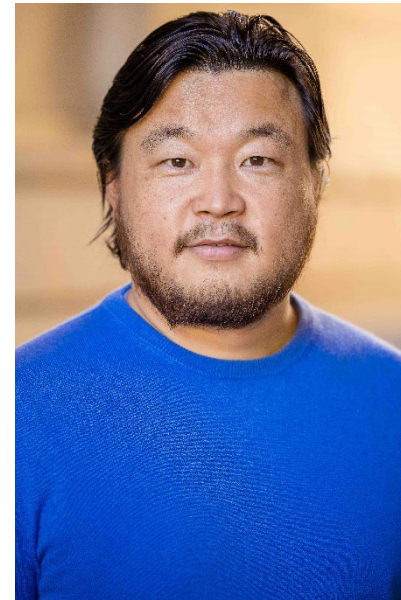
Batzaya Tsogt  
Hustai National Park

# Steppe Ethnographies: Mobile Pastoralism, Cosmonogy and Development in Rural Mongolia

14 days  
2 instructors  
July 29 – August 11 , 2024



Ariell Ahearn  
Oxford University



Munkh-Erdene Gantulga  
Oxford University





# Steppe Ethnographies

Mobile Pastoralism, Cosmology and Development in Rural Mongolia



# Lead Instructors

## Ariell Ahearn

**Departmental Lecturer in Human Geography,  
University of Oxford**

Expert in mobile pastoralism, rural governance, land use dynamics and social change in Mongolia

## Munkh-Erdene Gantulga

**PhD student in School of Geography and the  
Environment, University of Oxford**

Expert in development studies, digital pastoralism and the anthropology of capitalism in Mongolia





# Field school Learning Objectives

At the end of this course, participants should be able to:

- To identify and describe **ethnographic research approaches** and know when and how to implement them in a research project.
- To recognize the key elements of **mobile pastoralism** in Mongolia; including, forms of social and economic organization, livestock-human relations, pastoralist mobilities, relations with the environment and cosmologies.
- To examine, evaluate and critique **development discourse** and related policies focusing on rural Mongolia.
- To synthesize learnings and **communicate findings** to the public.









# Olziit Soum, Bayanhongor

- Traveling by public bus to Bayanhongor (approx. 10 hours)
- Time split between the provincial center and the rural county of Olziit
- Home-stays with herder families
- Immersive and experiential learning – prepared to be hands-on!
- **This trip is not suitable for people who are uncomfortable in rural environments with low access to infrastructure (i.e. indoor plumbing, private rooms, etc.)**





**Questions?**

**Contact [mfs@mongoliacenter.org](mailto:mfs@mongoliacenter.org)  
or Ariell Ahern [ariell.ahern@ouce.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ariell.ahern@ouce.ox.ac.uk)**





American Center  
for  
Mongolian Studies  
Bridging Cultures, Supporting Scholars

**Questions? Ask now via chat or follow up  
For more information**

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**See past Field School offerings and our Online Field School  
2021 Course Recordings:**

<https://www.mongoliacenter.org/mfs24/>





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# Thank you

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- Website [www.mongoliacenter.org](http://www.mongoliacenter.org)





# Questions?

