EXPLORATION OF MAMMOTH CAVE
Tentative Class Schedule
June 11-16, 2023

Sunday, June 11 – Meet & Greet

    6:00 PM   Meet at the Conference Room at Hamilton Valley to meet your instructor and fellow participants, as well as representatives of WKU, Mammoth Cave National Park, and the Cave Research Foundation. We will spend 1-2 hours introducing ourselves, preparing participants for the coming week, orienting everyone to Hamilton Valley, Mammoth Cave National Park, and the surrounding area, and addressing any questions and/or concerns. This will also provide participants that have arranged to stay at Hamilton Valley the opportunity to check into their rooms. **The Meet & Greet is mandatory for all participants – not just for those staying at Hamilton Valley!** By addressing questions/concerns, gear-related issues, etc. on Sunday night, we can avoid dealing with these issues on Monday and delaying cave trips.

Monday, June 12 – Introduction to Exploration and Early Explorers of Mammoth Cave

    8:00 AM   Introduction to the Geology and Nature of Mammoth Cave
    9:00 AM   A Very Quick History of Mammoth Cave
    9:30 AM   Aboriginal Exploration of Mammoth Cave
    10:00 AM   Cave Trip w/lunch in the cave
    4:00 PM(ish)   Recap of Day's Trip

Tuesday, June 13 – The Roots of Modern Exploration

    8:00 AM   Early 19th Century History
    9:00 AM   Cave Trip w/ lunch in the cave
    4:00 PM(ish)   Recap of Day's Trip

Wednesday, June 14 – Exploration During the Cave Wars Era

    8:00 AM   Late 19th & Early 20th Century History
    9:00 AM   Cave Trip w/lunch in the cave
    4:00 PM(ish)   Recap of Day's Trip

Thursday, June 15 – The Park Years and the Push for the Longest Cave

    8:00 AM   C-3, NSS, Austin & Pohl, CRF, & the 1972 Connection
    9:00 AM   Cave Trip w/lunch in the cave
    4:00 PM(ish)   Recap of Day's Trip

Friday, June 16 – Modern Exploration of Mammoth Cave

    8:00 AM   Cave Research Foundation, NPS, Roppel, and Current Exploration of Mammoth Cave
    9:00 AM   Cave Trip w/lunch in the cave
    4:00 PM   Recap of Day's Trip & Closing of the class.
    5:00 PM   Dinner and Celebration!