Excavation dates: 
June 23 - July 6, 2019

Two weeks in the field!
Logs and other paleoclimate indicators of the Younger Dryas into Early Holocene, ~13,000 - 11,000 BP, are buried at Bell Creek in the Lake Ontario lowlands. We will collect log samples, sediments, pollen, and other macrofossils to test these hypotheses:
1. Climatic change in the lowlands immediately prior and into the Younger Dryas interval included warming summer temperatures, directly opposite to the extreme cooling generally associated with the YD.
2. The older organics and carbonates locked in the ice sheet, thus released over time in glacial deposits and meltwater, caused significant variations in local atmospheric radiocarbon content.

Come to help test the hypotheses, learn about late glacial climate change, and be out in the sun!

The course includes finding and collecting samples, recording stratigraphy, and learning procedures for optimal collection and site preservation. Lab experience includes an intro to sample prep of logs and macrofossils, species identification, and tree-ring analysis. Five lectures/discussions include the changing climate and environment, radiocarbon variation and its record, and the overall late glacial period in northeastern North America. Also included is a day-long outing to the Chimney Bluffs State Park on Lake Ontario.

For more information about the course and enrollment please contact:
Cornell University Special Programs
Summer: Younger Dryas Tree-Ring Field Research
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Please e-mail any questions!