Fall 2023
Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Positions

-AREAS/CONCENTRATIONS FOR RESEARCH-

Archaeology
Bioarchaeology
Environmental Social Science
Evolutionary Anthropology
Geology
Global Health
Museum Studies
Physical Anthropology
Social Sciences
Sociocultural Anthropology

Students should be certain to review all positions as many opportunities are combined with one or more other concentrations or disciplines.

Highlighted positions can be completed remotely and by online students.
Research Project or Internship Title:
An experimental use-wear study of ostrich eggshell (OES) water canteens

Academic Discipline:
Archaeology  
Evolutionary Anthropology

Project Description:
Fragments of ostrich eggshells (OES) are found in the Middle and Later Stone Age of South Africa. Some of these fragments are decorated with engravings and others were used to manufacture beads. Engraved OES and OES beads are thought to be early material evidence for symbolic behavior. In addition to being used for symbolic purposes, ethnographic data suggests that OES were also used as storage containers or functioned as water canteens. However, we currently do not have the ability to identify whether OES fragments were used for these utilitarian purposes. The majority of OES research has focused on the symbolic nature of this material despite much of the record being filled with blank, broken fragments. This research aims to develop a methodology for identifying whether an OES fragment was once part of an eggshell used as a water canteen through experimental archaeology and use-wear analysis. Experimental methods involve walking with an OES canteen and recording the use-wear. After walking a total of ~50-75km with a water-filled OES (in increments of 1-5 km at a time), we will be using a Keyence VR-3200 3D macroscope and a Dino-Lite digital microscope to analyze the inside surface of the egg to determine whether there are recognizable changes that can be indicative of use as a canteen.

Student’s Duties:
- Walk with OES water canteen to produce use-wear.
- Analyze ostrich eggshell with digital and 3D microscope.
- Maintain an organized spreadsheet.

Required Qualifications or Pre-requisites:
None - all skills will be taught in the lab

Project/Internship Location:
WCPH/ASU Tempe Campus

Hours Per Week or Days and Times Needed:
Minimum of 3 hours per week.

Project Supervisor:
Jayde Hirniak

Supervising Faculty:
Curtis Marean

Contact Information:
Jayde Hirniak at jhirniak@asu.edu
**Research Project or Internship Title:**
Science outreach: ancient DNA research in Peru and Chile

**Academic Discipline:**
Bioarchaeology
Evolutionary Anthropology
Global Health
Museums
Physical Anthropology

**Project Description:**
We are creating YouTube videos in English and Spanish about ancient DNA research (i.e. how it is done) and our current research projects in Northern Chile and Southern Peru. These projects are examining human population history through time, changes in the microbiome (particularly spanning the transition to agriculture), and the disease landscape (with a focus on tuberculosis). To date, we have one video in final stages of production and seven more planned. These videos will be posted to our lab web site and shared with local museums in Peru and Chile that we are collaborating with.

**Student’s Duties:**
The student would assist Dr. Stone and two graduate students (Adele Crane and Mario Apata) to make these videos.

**Required Qualifications or Pre-requisites:**
It is helpful (but not required) if the student has previous experience with video editing, training in art or design, and speaks Spanish.

**Project/Internship Location:**
ASU main campus or [online](#)

**Hours Per Week or Days and Times Needed:**
5-10 hours per week

**Project Supervisor(s):**
Anne Stone and Adele Crane

**Supervising Faculty:**
Anne Stone

**Contact Information:**
Anne Stone at acstone@asu.edu
**Research Project or Internship Title:**
Primate Conservation Education Systematic Literature Review

**Academic Discipline:**
Environmental Social Sciences  
Primatology

**Project Description:**
This project is a systematic literature review which seeks a motivated undergraduate student who can read, code, and discuss scientific papers from primary literature (peer-reviewed papers). This project will investigate primate conservation education programs, or any kind of educational program that is focused on conserving non-human primates (like lemurs, monkeys, and apes). Examples of papers would include empirical designs that investigate changes to beliefs, attitudes, behaviors, and/or decisions of participants in a primate conservation education program and any relevant conservation outcomes (i.e. reduced poaching rates, reforestation, changes in human-wildlife conflicts, population changes in primates of focus).

The benefits of engaging on this project include gaining some experience, receiving credit (under the supervising faculty (Dr. Caitlin Drummond Otten), and mentorship/a recommendation letter depending on the student’s educational and professional interests.

**Student’s Duties:**
Activities include:
(1) reading abstracts of peer-reviewed papers for inclusion criteria into a final sample of papers,
(2) reading and thoroughly coding 2-3 academic papers per week (coding would include marking an excel document for themes and factors present in each paper), and
(3) meeting with the project supervisor weekly (30 minutes) to discuss papers and project progression.
Depending on student interest, there may be an opportunity to develop data analysis skills and writing skills in addition to the primary duties.

**Required Qualifications or Pre-requisites:**
The ideal candidate will have experience reading and interpreting peer-reviewed literature, will have demonstrated prior experience in effective collaboration, attention to detail, and ability to respond well to instruction. Ideally, the applicant will have prior experience working in excel and working with online academic peer-review databases.

**Project/Internship Location:**
Remote

**Hours Per Week or Days and Times Needed:**
4-5 hours per week; flexible

**Project Supervisor(s):**
Caitlin Hawley

**Supervising Faculty:**
Dr. Caitlin Drummond Otten

**Contact Information:**
Caitlin Hawley at crhawley@asu.edu
Research Project or Internship Title: Pan-American Ceramics Project

Academic Discipline: Archaeology

Project Description: The Pan-American Ceramics Project is an open-access digital repository and tool for all aspects of ceramics, from clay selection to finished vessels, throughout the Americas, beginning with their initial appearance ca. 5500 BCE through the Historic Period. Our web application fosters synthetic research across borders by eliminating the complications of access to physical collections and paywalled publications, and it facilitates the inclusion of prehistoric material culture in educational resources. PACP’s analytical capabilities allow users to explore multiple facets of human societies and identify gaps in our knowledge that can be addressed with future research.

Student’s Duties: Students will be responsible for reading archaeological reports and monographs on ceramic studies from sites throughout the Americas. We are interested in collecting data on all aspects of ceramic production (i.e., vessel shapes, petro-fabrics, decorative styles, and technological attributes) that are currently available in the literature. Students will work with the Project Director to identify a site or region of interest and develop a bibliography of relevant reports/monographs/articles detailing ceramic analyses that have been conducted for the site or region. The remainder of the semester will involve uploading data into the PACP web application using either a lab computer or their personal computer and providing feedback to the Project Director about the functionality of the web application. This work can be competed remotely by online students but requires maintaining regular contact with the Project Director, who will be traveling quite often so the ability to work independently is essential.

Required Qualifications or Pre-requisites: Completion of introductory course in archaeology; preferred completion of course on archaeological ceramics, but not required. Ability to work independently but maintain regular contact with the Project Director.

Project/Internship Location: SHESC 112 / Online

Hours Per Week or Days and Times Needed: up to 10 hours/week; days and times are flexible

Project Supervisor: Andrea Torvinen

Supervising Faculty: Matthew Peeples

Contact Information: Andrea Torvinen at atorvine@asu.edu
Research Project or Internship Title:
Archaeological Collections Care and NAGPRA

Academic Discipline:
Archaeology
Sociocultural Anthropology
Museum Studies
History
Cultural Resource Management

Project Description:
The purpose of this internship is to provide you with hands-on experience with anthropological collections and an introduction to federal compliance for the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). You will learn museum collections practices relating to the documentation, cataloguing, and care of anthropological items. Additionally, you participate in weekly reading discussions of critical topics related to the care of and Indigenous concerns with anthropological collections, and NAGPRA topics. You will contribute to social justice efforts centered at the Center for Archaeology and Society Repository and learn necessary skills for careers in NAGPRA, museums, and cultural resource management.

In this course students will:

• Gain experience with the documentation, proper care, and transfer of NAGPRA and non-NAGPRA related collections
• Assist with documenting and rehousing NAGPRA and non-NAGPRA relevant objects
• Participate in a weekly reading group that discusses collections and NAGPRA

Learning Outcomes:
• By the end of this internship, you will:
  • Understand the basic principles of anthropological curatorial care
  • Understand the legal and ethical context of anthropological collections
  • Understand how to properly document anthropological collections and documents
  • Understand the importance of respectful terminology and best practice in curatorial work
  • Understand how to recognize artifacts in the lab
  • Understand how to function as part of a collections team

Required Qualifications or Pre-requisites:
There are no pre-requisites for this internship. This internship is ideal for students looking to gain experience with the care of archaeological collections and those that are interested in archaeological social justice work. We are looking for students with the following personal qualities: punctuality, ability to commit to and keep a regular schedule, attention to detail in record keeping, a sense of curiosity, a desire to learn, and respectful to the concerns of descendant communities.

Project/Internship Location:
Internship activities and the weekly reading group are located in the Repository spaces of the Alameda Building.

Center for Archaeology & Society Repository (Alameda Building)
734 W. Alameda, Suite 120, Tempe, AZ 85282
Free Parking available, city bus 62 on Hardy Dr. to west, Venus Orbit on Broadway/Roosevelt intersection. Students should allow time in their schedules to get back and forth between CASR and campus for classes.

**Hours Per Week or Days and Times Needed:**
We offer a 2 credit and a 3 credit options. You must commit to at least 2 credits to qualify for this internship. Acceptance of an applicant is also based on schedule coordination.

Be sure to specify your days and hours of availability in your application.
***Requirements: M-F, 8 am – noon, no evening hours, no weekend hours.***

**Project Supervisor:**
Dr. Allisen Dahlstedt
Dr. Emily Sharp
Aubree Gabbard

**Supervising Faculty:**
Dr. Christopher Caseldine

**Contact Information:**
Dr. Christopher Caseldine at Christopher.Caseldine@asu.edu
**Research Project or Internship Title:**
Sustainability and collapse of ancient Maya cities

**Academic Discipline:**
- Archaeology
- Sociocultural Anthropology
- History
- Sustainability Science

**Project Description:**
This project is part of a larger transdisciplinary project that asks, “Why did some cities and settlements persist for long periods, while others did not?”, and “How can this kind of information inform research on urban climate change adaptation today?” We are assembling archaeological and historical data on past urban growth trajectories of Maya cities, and try to determine what factors favored long-term survival or persistence. Students will work on an individual set of Maya cities and compile information on their growth, their decline, and possible reasons for those changes.

**Student’s Duties:**
- Assemble published reports and online information on specific sites.
- Enter data into project databases and create graphs of growth patterns.
- Contribute to exploratory data analysis.

**Required Qualifications or Pre-requisites:**
Required qualifications or pre-requisites:
- Classwork or field experience in archaeology, history, sustainability or a related field.
- Motivation, enthusiasm, attention to detail

Recommended qualifications:
- Experience working with archaeological or historical data and projects.
- Knowledge of elementary statistics.
- Ability to work well in groups

**Project/Internship Location:**
Mesoamerican archaeology lab, SHESC-104

**Hours Per Week or Days and Times Needed:**
6 to 12 hours, at times to be worked out individually

**Project Supervisor:**
Maranda Byrn (mwhitey@asu.edu)

**Supervising Faculty:**
Dr. Michael E. Smith (mesmith9@asu.edu)

**Contact Information:**
Dr. Michael E. Smith  at mesmith9@asu.edu
Research Project or Internship Title:
Serving Realness: An Exploration of Ballroom Kiki Culture, Community, and Gender in Arizona

Academic Discipline:
Sociocultural Anthropology

Project Description:
The “Ballroom” scene has existed for decades as an autonomously organized community created by and for Black and Latinx LGBTQIA+ people as a space for social support and creative expression. However, the house culture of Ballroom has recently emerged in Arizona within the past few years, when LGBTQIA+ identities, specifically transgender identities, are subject to legal discrimination. The Arizona Ballroom Kiki scene members desire to record and archive their story to educate people on Ballroom culture, preserve their history, and further build community. This is a community-led research project that will use semi-structured interviews, participant observation, and collaborative photovoice/mapping workshops to document the burgeoning Arizona Ballroom Kiki scene and explore how the Ballroom Kiki houses function, “do gender,” and find meaning and community in Arizona.

Student’s Duties:
Read and analyze interview transcripts to label/code the data according to pre-identified themes. Organize and digitize project materials to publish to a digital archive or website. Participate in bi-weekly project meetings and communicate with the project supervisor. When necessary, complete assigned readings to increase understanding of the project and research methods.

Required Qualifications or Pre-requisites:
Candidates must have basic computer skills, the ability to use Microsoft Office (Word, PowerPoint, and Excel) or equivalent, and experience with Google Drive or Dropbox. Candidates will need access to a computer and internet to complete the project. It is highly suggested that the candidate will have passed ASB 380 Language, Culture and Gender (or an equivalent course) – negotiable. Preferred applicants will have experience with spreadsheets, data entry, managing data, qualitative data coding, prior research involvement, ethnography, storytelling, archiving, or website management. Also, basic knowledge of the Ballroom Kiki scene is preferred. However, candidates lacking any of the above knowledge or skills should not be discouraged. Candidates will be trained in any necessary skills and provided with any necessary equipment.

Project/Internship Location:
Flexible -- In-person or Remote. The work can be conducted anywhere, but the candidate may also work in our designated lab space located in the School of Human Evolution and Social Change (SHESC).

Hours Per Week or Days and Times Needed:
Flexible, but 3 to 6 hours per week is preferred.

Project Supervisor:
Liam Gleason (they/them)

Supervising Faculty:
Prof. Cindi SturtzSreetharan (she/her)

Contact Information:
Liam Gleason (they/them) at lgleaso6@asu.edu