

Jess Beck

Curriculum vitae

Center for Comparative Archaeology
Department of Anthropology
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Bioarchaeology, human osteology, emerging social complexity, bioarchaeology of social identity commingled human remains, European prehistory, quantitative methods in bioarchaeology.

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2016 **Visiting Scholar, University of Pittsburgh, Center for Comparative Archaeology.**

EDUCATION

2016 **Ph.D. Anthropology, University of Michigan.**
Thesis: The Bioarchaeology of Mortuary Practice at Marroquíes Bajos, Spain.
2011 **M.A., Anthropology, University of Michigan.**
2009 **Diploma in Environment, McGill University.**
2008 **B.A., 1st Class Honours Anthropology, English Literature, McGill University.**

PUBLICATIONS

2016 Kinkopf, Katherine and **Jess Beck**. Bioarchaeological approaches to looting: A case study from Sudan. Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports 10: 263-271.
2016 Quinn, Colin and **Jess Beck**. Essential tensions in mortuary contexts: Exploring inequality through bioarchaeology. Open Archaeology, Topical Issue in Bioarchaeology. 2:18-41.
2016 **Beck, Jess**. Minding the gaps: A methodological approach to inter-individual variability in skeletal completion. American Antiquity 81(4):148-156.
2015 **Beck, Jess**. Part of the family: Age, identity and burial in Copper Age Iberia. In Theoretical Approaches to Analysis and Interpretation of Commingled Human Remains. Edited by A. Osterholtz, pp. 47-73. Springer International: Cham.
2015 **Beck, Jess**, Ian Ostericher, Gregory Sollish and Jason De León. Animal scavenging and scattering and the implications for documenting the deaths of undocumented border crossers in the Sonoran Desert. Journal of Forensic Sciences 60: S11-S20.
2008 **Beck, Jessica** and Stephen Chrisomalis. Landscape archaeology, paganism, and the interpretation of megaliths. The Pomegranate: The International Journal of Pagan Studies 10(2): 142-162.

RESEARCH SUPPORT

External

- 2016 American Association of Physical Anthropologists William S. Pollitzer Student Travel Award (\$500).
- 2014 National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant: “Social organization and mortuary practices at Marroquíes Bajos, Spain” (\$25,180).
- 2014 American Association of Physical Anthropologists William S. Pollitzer Student Travel Award (\$500).
- 2008 American Center of Oriental Research Jennifer C. Groot Fellowship (\$1,500).

Internal (University of Michigan)

- 2014 UMMAA Graduate Radiocarbon Years Before Present (\$1,425).
- 2014 Rackham International Research Award (\$6,000).
- 2014 Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant – Candidate (\$2,982).
- 2013 James B. Griffin Scholarship Fund (\$3,000).
- 2012 Department of Anthropology Fellowships Committee Grant (\$1,719).
- 2012 Center for European Studies Summer Research Grant (\$1,004).
- 2009 Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant – Pre-Candidate (\$1,500).
- 2009 Department of Anthropology Fieldwork Grant (\$1,400).

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2016 Milford H. Wolpoff Graduate Student Writing Award (\$1,000).
- 2015 Mary Malcomson Raphael Fellowship, Center for the Education of Women.
- 2015 Department of Anthropology Block Grant Write-Up Fellowship.
- 2015 Rackham Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award (\$1,000).
- 2015 Sweetland Dissertation Writing Institute (\$3,000).
- 2015 Rackham Humanities Research Fellowship.
- 2015 Outstanding Teaching Award, Department of Anthropology (\$100).
- 2012 Innovative Teaching Award, Department of Anthropology (\$100).
- 2009-2012 LSA Regent's Fellowship, University of Michigan.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION (* = invited session)

- 2016 09/01 – Díaz-Zorita Bonilla, M., **J. Beck**, H. Bocherens, J. Escudero Carillo, M. Isabel Martínez Navarrete, J. Vicent, P. Díaz-del-Río. “Dental paleopathology, diet, and mobility at the Copper Age site of Marroquíes Bajos (Jaén, Spain).” European Association of Archaeologists, Biogeochemical Approaches to Archaeological Diet, Mobility and Disease Podium Session.
- 2016 04/15 – **Beck, J.** and M. Díaz-Zorita Bonilla. “Bodies in motion: Isotopic analyses of mobility and diet at Marroquíes Bajos, Spain.” American Association of Physical Anthropologists, Bioarchaeology Poster Session.
- 2016 *04/08 – **Beck, J.** “Mortuary multiplicity: Variability in mortuary treatment at a Late Prehistoric matrix village from Spain.” Society for American Archaeology, Buried, Burned, Bundled and Broken: Approaches to Co-Occurrence of Multiple Methods, Treatments and Styles of Burials Within Past Societies Podium Session.

- 2015 02/09 – Díaz-Zorita, M., **J. Beck**, J. Escudero, H. Bocherens, M. Martínez-Navarrete, J. Vicent, and P. Díaz-del-Río. “Testing the scale of human mobility at the third millennium BC mega-site of Marroquies Bajos (Jaén, Spain) through $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ isotope analyses”. European Association of Archaeologists, (Re)writing the Past Using ‘Novel’ Scientific Techniques Podium Session.
- 2015 04/18 – **Beck, J.** “Commingled, communal and complex: reconstructing Iberian Copper Age mortuary practices.” Society for American Archaeology, Bioarchaeology and Mortuary Archaeology in Europe Podium Session.
- 2015 04/17 – Kinkopf, K. and **J. Beck**. “Bioarchaeological detection of looting: A case study from Sudan.” Society for American Archaeology, Global Studies in Bioarchaeology and Mortuary Archaeology Poster Session.
- 2015 03/26 – **Beck, J.** “A dental approach to salvage excavated and commingled burials.” American Association of Physical Anthropologists, Bioarchaeology Poster Session.
- 2015 *01/09 – Hall, K., A. Antoniou and **J. Beck**. “Etched in bone: The forensic taphonomy of undocumented migration.” Society for Historical Archaeology, Crossing Borders and Erasing Boundaries: An Overview of the First Five Years of the UMP Podium Session.
- 2014 04/26 – Hall, K., A. Antoniou, H. Stewart, **J. Beck** and J. De León. “Exploring the taphonomic processes that impact the remains of undocumented border crossers in the Sonoran Desert of Arizona.” Society for American Archaeology, Archaeology in the Modern World Poster Session.
- 2014 *04/24 – **Beck, J.** “Age, identity and burial in Copper Age Iberia.” Society for American Archaeology, Theoretical Approaches to Analysis and Interpretation of Commingled Human Remains Presentation Session.
- 2014 04/10 - **Beck, J.** “Intrasite variability in subadult burial during the Iberian Copper Age.” American Association of Physical Anthropologists, Bioarchaeology: Childhood, Population Dynamics and Cranial Change Poster Session.
- 2013 04/05 – De León, J., **J. Beck**, G.Sollish and S.Yackhsaw. “Desert death, taphonomy, and the ethics of killing animals to understand what happens to the corpses of border crossers.” Society for American Archaeology, Violence, Place-Making and The Materiality of Border Crossing Poster Session.
- 2013 03/11 – **Beck, J.** “Dental evidence of changes in female social status during the Middle to Late Woodland Transition.” American Association of Physical Anthropologists, Bioarchaeology: aDNA, Paleodemography, Status and Variation Poster Session.
- 2012 04/18 – **Beck J.** “Diachronic change in avifaunal exploitation at four Late Pueblo village sites in southeastern New Mexico.” Society for American Archaeology, Zooarchaeology and Animal Use Poster Session.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

I am prepared to teach Introduction to Archaeology, Introduction to Biological Anthropology, Inequality and the Body in Anthropology, Archaeology of Prehistoric Europe, Bioarchaeology, and Human Osteology.

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

2016 **Instructor of Record (IR):** Inequality and the Body in Archaeology and Bioarchaeology, Graduate Seminar.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

2015 **IR:** The Science of Skeletons: Introduction to Bioarchaeology.
2014 **Graduate Student Instructor (GSI):** Nutrition & Human Evolution.
2013 **GSI:** Primate Social Behavior.
2013 **GSI:** Introduction to Biological Anthropology.
2012 **GSI:** Human Behavioral Ecology.
2011 **GSI:** Human Evolution.
2010 **GSI:** Human Evolution.

CAMPUS, DEPARTMENTAL, AND PUBLIC TALKS

2016 09/09 – “Commingled complexity: Reconstructing Iberian Copper Age mortuary practices” – University of Pittsburgh Department of Anthropology Colloquium Series.
2016 03/18 – “How bioarchaeology can contribute to studies of mobility and movement in the past” – University of Michigan Collaborative Archaeology Workgroup Conference, Migration and mobility: Permanent and persistent movements of people.
2015 11/09 – “Bare bones? Bioarchaeological approaches to prehistory.” Department of Anthropology, Four-Field Graduate Talks.
2015 10/15 – “Bioarchaeological approaches to Copper Age complexity.” Kelsey Museum Field Archaeology Series on Thursday (FAST) Lecture Series.
2015 10/01 – “Piecing together the puzzle: The bioarchaeology of early complex societies in Iberia.” University of Michigan Museum of Anthropology Brown Bag.
2015 09/17 – “Skeleton keys: Using bioarchaeology to unlock the prehistoric past.” Michigan Archaeology Society, Huron Valley Chapter.
2013 12/03 – “Bring out your dead: What bioarchaeology and mortuary practices can tell us about social organization and identity in Copper Age Iberia.” Department of Anthropology, Four-Field Graduate Talks.
2013 11/21 – “Collective burials in Copper Age Iberia: Preliminary research at the site of Marroquíes Bajos, Jaén.” University of Michigan Museum of Anthropology Brown Bag.
2013 03/23 – “Shifting skeletons: Osteological indicators of health during the Middle to Late Woodland transition in the lower Illinois River valley.” University of Michigan Four Field Anthropology Graduate Conference.
2012 10/02 – “Death and burial in Copper Age Iberia.” Weiser Center for Europe and Eurasia, International Institute.

- 2009 10/31 – “The potential for hybridization between Neanderthals and AMHs: A survey of biological parallels and the ecological potential for interbreeding in Europe.” University of Michigan Graduate Workshop on Archaeology and Material Culture.

SELECTED ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD AND LABORATORY EXPERIENCE

- 2016 **Co-Director**, Mortuary Archaeology of the Rameč Bronze Age Landscape
- 2013-2015 **Director**, Marroquíes Bajos Bioarchaeological Project, Jaen, Spain.
Bioarchaeological analysis of commingled and fragmentary remains of more than 200 individuals.
- 2012 **Field archaeologist**, Bolorés Mortuary Rockshelter.
Directed by Katina Lillios, University of Iowa.
- 2011 **Crew chief**, Garden Creek Archaeology Project.
Directed by Alice Wright, University of Michigan.
- 2010 **Field archaeologist**, Phosphorus Sampling and Survey on Visingsö
Directed by T.J. Cheval, University of Buffalo.
- 2010 **Field archaeologist**, Bolorés Mortuary Rockshelter.
Directed by Katina Lillios, University of Iowa.
- 2009 **Field archaeologist**, Social Change and the Environment in Northern Prehistory,
Directed by Andre Costopoulos, McGill University.
- 2009 **Field Archaeologist**, Arena Candide.
Directed by Julien Real Salvatore, University of Denver.
- 2008 **Field Archaeologist**, Druze Marsh Archaeological and Paleoecological Research
Project, Directed by April Nowell, University of Victoria.
- 2006 **Field school student**, McGill-Oulu University Field School.
Directed by Andre Costopoulos, McGill University.

OSTEOLOGICAL AND BIOARCHAEOLOGICAL TRAINING

- 2012 ANA 7010: Human Gross Anatomy (9 credits),
Wayne State University Medical School.
- 2012 25th Annual Forensic Anthropology Course (06/11-06/15),
Maryland Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.
- 2011 ASM 583: Bioarchaeology and Human Osteology (9 credits),
ASU Kampsville Field Program.
- 2011 ANTHRBIO 477: Laboratory in Human Osteology (4 credits),
University of Michigan.

PEDAGOGY AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT

- 2016 Rackham-CRLT May Seminar on Preparing Future Faculty.
<http://www.crlt.umich.edu/programs/pff>
- 2016 Graduate Teaching consultant for the Center for Research on Learning and
Teaching (CRLT).
- 2016 Experienced GSI – English Language Institute 994: College Teaching at the UM.
- 2016 Practice Teaching Facilitator – Engineering IA Teaching Orientation.
- 2016 Practice Teaching Facilitator and Session Facilitator – Winter CRLT Graduate
Student Instructor (GSI) Teaching Orientation

- 2015 Facilitator for “Evaluating Student Writing” workshop, Philosophy Department.
- 2015 “Observing Classes & Gathering Midterm Student Feedback” – CRLT workshop.
- 2015 “Consulting with Graduate Student Instructors” – CRLT workshop.
- 2015 Graduate Teaching Consultant for the CRLT.
- 2015 Practice Teaching Facilitator and Session Facilitator – Fall CRLT GSI Teaching Orientation.
- 2015 “Advanced Strategies for Inclusive Teaching” – CRLT workshop.
- 2015 “Teaching Efficiently with Technology” – CRLT workshop.
- 2014 University of Michigan Graduate Teacher Certificate.
<http://crlt.umich.edu/um.gtc/description>
- 2013 SWC 993: Teaching Writing in the Disciplines – 1 credit course.
- 2013 “Engaging Students in Learning” – CRLT workshop.
- 2013 “Next Steps with Instructional Technology” – CRLT workshop.
- 2012 “Now That I Have It, What Grade Should I Give It? Evaluating Student Writing” – CRLT workshop.
- 2012 “Facilitating Classroom Discussions in the Social Sciences and the Humanities” – CRLT workshop.

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

- 2016 Honors Research Symposium Poster Judge, Dept. of Anthropology.
- 2016 Undergraduate Honors Thesis Writing Panel, Dept. of Anthropology.
- 2015 Career Path Panel, Undergraduate Archaeology Seminar
- 2015 Mentor for Honors Undergraduates, Dept. of Anthropology.
- 2015 Graduate Panel, Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP).
- 2015 Undergraduate Honors Thesis Writing Panel, Dept. of Anthropology.
- 2014 Honors Research Symposium Poster Judge, Dept. of Anthropology.
- 2013 Mentor for Honors Undergraduate, Dept. of Anthropology.
- 2011 Executive Committee Graduate Student Representative, Museum of Anthropological Archaeology.
- 2010 Secretary, Michigan Anthropology Graduate Association (Winter).
- 2009 Secretary, Michigan Anthropology Graduate Association (Fall).

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2016 Reviewer, International Journal of Osteoarchaeology.
- 2015 Reviewer, Journal of Anthropological Archaeology.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

- 2013-present **Bone Broke Blog** (author): <http://www.bonebroke.org/>. I write engaging osteology, bioarchaeology, and anthropology posts with an active emphasis on pedagogy. As of September 2015, 1,700 page views/week, average. Mentioned in K. Meyers Emery and K. Killgrove (2015) “[Bones, Bodies and Blogs: Outreach and Engagement in Bioarchaeology](#)” *Internet Archaeology*: 39.
- 2016 05/22 – Scientist Spotlight, station “Solving Puzzles Made of Bone” (Ruthven Museum of Natural History).
- 2016 03/19 – Discovery Day: It’s About Time!, station “Solving Puzzles Made of Bone (RMNH).

2016 03/12 – Portal to the Public Workshop 2: Prototyping Your Activity (RMNH).
2016 02/12 – Portal to the Public Workshop One: How People Learn (RMNH).
2016 Science Communication Fellow, National Science Foundation Portal to the Public Program (RMNH).
2016 02/12 – Archaeology Day (University of Michigan Museum of Anthropological Archaeology).
2015 02/07 – Behind the Scenes Day (Ruthven Museum of Natural History).
2015 01/27 – Archaeology Day (UMAA).
2014 03/21 – Archaeology Day (UMAA).
2014 02/09 – Behind the Scenes Day (RMNH).
2011 02/13 – Behind the Scenes Day (RMNH).
2011 02/11 – Archaeology Day (UMAA).

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Society for American Archaeology
Dental Anthropology Association
American Association of Physical Anthropologists

LANGUAGES

Spanish: Intermediate, reading and spoken.
French: Intermediate/beginner, reading and spoken.

REFERENCES

Robin A. Beck (no relation)
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University of Michigan
Department of Anthropology
101 West Hall, 1085 S. University Avenue
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1107
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17 North Clinton Street
127B Macbride Hall
Iowa City 52240
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3302 Wesley W. Posvar Hall
230 S. Bouquet St.
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