

Curriculum Vitae

Tatiana Niculescu
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Education

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS, Urbana-Champaign, IL (IN PROGRESS)
Ph.D. in Anthropology with concentration in Archaeology. Museum Studies Minor.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS, 2015 (December), Urbana-Champaign, IL.
Master of Arts in Anthropology

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA, 2011, Charlottesville, VA
Bachelor of Arts in Archaeology
Bachelor of Arts in Physics

Teaching Experience

Alexandria Archaeology, Alexandria, VA

Intern Supervisor- Fall 2018-present (as part of Archaeologist/Curator position, see below)

Supervise and mentor several collections management and archaeology interns performing a variety of tasks. Designed and implemented syllabi to ensure that interns receive a well rounded and valuable experience and are not just free labor.

University of Illinois, Department of Anthropology, Urbana-Champaign, IL

Instructor-Spring 2017

Designed, developed, and taught Anth 462: Museum Theory and Practice. Administered the course, produced lectures, graded papers, and facilitated a positive learning environment. Used diverse teaching methods, including lectures, discussions, debates, and digital media to stimulate student curiosity and discovery.

Teaching Assistant- Spring 2015

Worked as a TA for MUSE 250: The World through Museums. Helped maintain the course website, held office hours, graded research projects, and answered student emails.

Teaching Assistant- Fall 2011 and 2014

Worked as a TA for Anthro 143: Biological Basis for Human Behavior. Graded assignments and ran office hours.

Teaching Assistant-Spring 2014

Worked as a TA for Anth 175: Archaeology and Pop Culture. Helped maintain the course website, held office hours, graded exams, answered student emails, and performed a variety of other tasks as assigned by the professor.

Teaching Assistant- Spring and Fall 2013

Worked as a TA for Anth 101: Introduction to Anthropology. Maintained the course website and began transitioning coursework, exams, etc. to the Compass 2g online course management system. Graded exams and held office hours

Teaching Assistant- Spring and Fall 2012

Worked as a TA for Anth 102: Human Origins and Culture. Helped prepare sections, ran sections and office hours, graded assignments. Gained further experience working directly with undergraduates.

University of Illinois, Department of Religion, Urbana-Champaign, IL

Teaching Assistant- Fall 2015

Teaching assistant for RLST 110: World Religions. Plan discussion sections, create and grade quizzes, grade exams and writing assignments, hold office hours. Gained further experience in helping manage a large introductory level course.

James Madison University Content Teaching Academy, Harrisonburg, VA.

Assistant Curricula Developer- Summers 2011 and 2012

Developed activities for K-8 teachers to use LEGO robotics in the classroom. Correlated the content with the Virginia Standards of Learning. Gained experience in designing curricula and hands-on activities.

Related Experience

Alexandria Archaeology, Alexandria, VA

Archaeologist/Curator, August 2018-present

Support the implementation of the City's archaeological preservation code by performing collections management and interpretation tasks. Perform routine museum registration and collections management tasks such as tracking and creating paper trails for the collection (accessions, loan agreements, etc.), researching found in collection items, assessing the condition of artifacts, and preventative conservation for collection (including three 18th century ships). Exploring the possibilities of rehabilitating and reanalyzing Alexandria Archaeology's collections for new research, education, and interpretation. Collaborated on exhibit designs, providing both support in choosing artifacts and providing interpretive content to go with the materials. Serve as manager of the public lab. This involves supervising volunteers who help process archaeological materials from sites across the city. The public lab is in a period of transition which involves brainstorming and experimenting with new public archaeology models. Additionally, support the preservation code by assessing development projects and building permits for their potential to disturb archaeological resources, organizing physical and digital collections, conducting site visits, and reviewing documentary studies and archaeological reports. Also assist with museum events, increasing social media presence, outreach activities, and applying for external funding.

Alexandria Archaeology, Alexandria, VA.

Museum Technician, July 2017-August 2018.

Enforce the City's archaeological preservation code by performing a variety of tasks. These include assessing development projects and building permits for their potential to disturb archaeological resources, organizing physical and digital collections, conducting site visits, and reviewing documentary studies and archaeological reports. Also assisted with museum events, increasing social media presence, outreach activities, and applying for external funding. Assisted with the excavation, continued preservation, and long term planning of the archaeologically discovered ships.

Spurlock Museum, Urbana, IL.

Collections Management Volunteer and Employee, August 2014-June 2017

Assisted with collections management activities, including cleaning, condition reporting, and packing of artifacts. Lead effort to reorganize portion of storage to more efficiently and safely store artifacts. Also involved in some exhibit preparation, report preparation, and miscellaneous other duties.

Public Service Archaeology & Architecture Program (PSAAP), Urbana, IL.

Project Facilitator, March 2013-June 2017

Conducted archaeological survey, excavation, laboratory analysis, and report writing for cultural resource management purposes. Designed a new Access database to streamline laboratory processing and curation. Contributed and wrote report sections. Prepared materials for long term curation in several Midwest states. Familiar with federal and regional curation standards. Developed and participated in outreach activities including an anthropology focused 4H camp

Archaeology of Edgefield Pottery Communities, Urbana, IL

Research Assistant, January-May 2016

Managed the historical archaeology laboratory, including scheduling and teaching undergraduates about lab work. Prepared materials for long term curation, prepared materials for the 2016 field season, and wrote the 2013 field report. This formal position was an extension of work started Fall 2013.

Theoretical Archaeology Group

Member of the 2014 Theoretical Archaeology Group Organizing Committee, Urbana, IL.

Helped organize and plan the annual Theoretical Archaeology Group- U.S. conference held May 23-25, 2014 at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

University of Illinois Archaeology Student Society, Urbana, IL

Co-President August 2013-August 2014

Planned and conducted meetings of graduate and undergraduate students. Procured funding for and organized professionalization and outreach events relating to archaeology. Gained experience in fundraising, grant writing, event planning, and public outreach.

University of Illinois Summer Field School, Edgefield, SC

Supervising Archaeologist and Co-instructor (with C. Fennell and J. Arjona) of the Archaeology of Edgefield Pottery Communities Field School, May-July, 2013

Conducted archaeological surveys, remote sensing surveys, and excavations of the nineteenth century stoneware production facility at Pottersville, Edgefield County, SC, and helped train

undergraduate students and volunteers in these skills. Designed a cataloging and tracking system for the lab and oversaw artifact processing and analysis. This work continued through Spring 2016.

James Madison's Montpelier, Montpelier Station, VA.

Archaeology Field School and Lab Volunteer- Summer 2012

Gained further experience in field and lab methods and theory at a historic presidential home. Skills gained include Phase III excavation, washing, wet screening, flotation, labeling, and public outreach.

University of Virginia, Department of Anthropology, Charlottesville, VA.

Independent Study-Spring 2011

Catalogued faunal material from Upper Mesopotamia under the guidance of Patricia Wattenmaker

Monticello, Charlottesville, VA.

Field School Student- Summer 2010

Gained experience in field and laboratory archaeological methods and theory. Given a basic introduction to the DAACS cataloging system.

Articles (Peer Reviewed and Public)

- 2019 "Banking Out: 18th and 19th Century Land Making in Alexandria, Virginia." *MAHSNews*, 30(2), 5-9.
- 2017 "Tides of Celadon: Glaze Color Chronology from the Edgefield Pottery District, South Carolina." *Journal of African Diaspora Archaeology and Heritage*, 6(3), 196-224.
- 2017 "Orpheum Children's Science Museum Archaeology Exhibit Grand Opening." *Illinois Antiquity*, 52(2), 1-2.
- 2014 "Turning Clay into Craft: Field Notes from 2013 Excavations at Pottersville, SC." *South Carolina Antiquities*, 46(1), 77-80. (By J. Arjona and T. Niculescu).
- 2013 "Granular avalanches in a two-dimensional drum with imposed vertical vibration." *Physical Review E*. 88(1). (By D. Amon, T. Niculescu, and B. Utter).

Professional Posters

- 2019 "And Fill It Solidly with Brushwood and Earth or Such of Them as Would Suit Him Best: 18th and 19th Century Landmaking in Alexandria, VA." Presented at the Society for Historical Archaeology Conference, January 9-12, 2019, St. Charles, MO.
- 2015 "Tides of Celadon: Glaze Developments in the Edgefield Pottery District, SC." Presented at the Society for Historical Archaeology Conference, January 7-12, 2015, Seattle, WA.

Professional Papers

- 2020 “Four Ships, Three Years, Two Blocks: Managing Alexandria’s Derelict Merchant Fleet”. To be presented at the Society for Historical Archaeology Conference, January 8-12, 2020, Boston, MA.
- 2017 “In the Land of Milk and Honey? Non-Urban Jewish Spaces in Late Nineteenth Century Staunton, Virginia.” Presented at the Society for Historical Archaeology Conference, January 4-8, 2017, Fort Worth, TX.
- 2016 “Transcending Dualities and Forging Relationships: An Example from Staunton, Virginia.” In the “Praxis and Value in Performing Archaeology: Heritage, Affect, and the Relevancy of Archaeological Research” symposium at the Society for Historical Archaeology Conference, January 6-9, 2016, Washington, D.C.
- 2014 “Disabling Agency: the Queer Figure of Dave Drake.” Presented at the Theoretical Archaeology Group Conference, May 23-25, 2014, Urbana-Champaign, IL. (By J. Arjona and T. Niculescu)
- 2014 “The Politics and Ideology of Jewish Agricultural Colonies in 19th Century America.” Presented at the Society for Historical Archaeology Conference, January 8-12, 2014, Quebec City, Canada.
- 2013 “Active Landscapes: A Proposal and Case Study.” Presented at Graduate Conference “Landscapes: Performing Space and Culture”, April 5-6, 2013, Urbana-Champaign, IL.

Organized Symposia

- 2020 “Urban Archaeology: Down by the Water.” Session at the Society for Historical Archaeology Conference, January 8-11, 2020, Boston, MA. (with E. Breen and B. Skolnik)
- 2014 “Queer Matter: The Convergence of Queer Affects, Bodies, and Temporalities.” Session at the Theoretical Archaeology Group Conference, May 23-25, 2014, Urbana-Champaign, IL. (with J. Arjona)

Other Presentations

- 2019 “Historic Glass.” Lecture for the Archaeological Society of Virginia Archaeological Technician Certification Program. August 6, 2019, Richmond, Virginia.
- 2019 “Odd Bedfellows or Soul Mates: Physics Applications in Archaeology”. Invited lecture at the James Madison University Physics Department Seminar series. March 14, 2019, Harrisonburg, VA.
- 2016 “The Ties that Bind: How Archaeological Materials Merge the Past, Present, and Future, an Example from Staunton, Virginia.” Presented as part of the East Central Illinois

Archaeological Society Lecture Series. January, 21, 2016, Urbana, IL.

- 2013 “Southern Jewish Experiences of the late 19th Century: Questions of Identity Formation and Cultural Articulation in a Small Town.” Presented at the University of Illinois Department of Anthropology Graduate Research Symposium, March 2, 2013, Urbana-Champaign, IL.
- 2012 “The Archaeology of the Roman Colonization of Dacia.” Guest lecture at the Shenandoah Valley Governor’s School, Fishersville, VA.

Honors and Awards

- 2018 Alexandria’s 18th Century Ship selected as number 2 in the Virginia Association of Museums Top Ten Endangered Artifacts Competition on behalf of Alexandria Archaeology (Office of Historic Alexandria).
- 2016 Forest N. Baker Fund for American Archaeological Research Award, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Department of Anthropology.
- 2016 Illinois Association for the Advancement of Archaeology (IAAA) Permanent Fund Grant on behalf of the Orpheum Children’s Science Museum (OCSM) and the Archaeology Student Society for the installation of a permanent archaeology exhibit at the OCSM.
- 2015 Selected to the list of Teachers Ranked as Excellent by students.
<http://citl.illinois.edu/docs/default-source/teachers-ranked-as-excellent/tre-2015-fall.pdf>
- 2014 Department of Anthropology Summer Research Funding, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
- 2014 Student Cultural Programming Fee to the Archaeology Student Society (President) for the event Archaeology Day: Engaging the Senses, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
- 2014 Student Affairs Program Coordinating Committee Award to the Archaeology Student Society (President) for the event Archaeology Day: Engaging the Senses, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
- 2014 Second Place, Society for Historical Archaeology, Gender and Minority Affairs Committee, Diversity Field School Competition. (with C. Fennell and J. Arjona).
- 2010 Half Tuition Stipend from the Thomas Jefferson Foundation for the UVa/Monticello Summer Archaeological Field School
- 2007-2011 University of Virginia Echols Scholar: Selected to receive special coursework and unique educational opportunities.

Research Interests

Historical archaeology. Public archaeology. Ethnicity and ethnogenesis. Practice theory. Household archaeology. Southern Jewish history.

Archaeological curation problems and solutions, museum collections management, rehabilitating orphan collections.

Professional Organizations

- Society for Historical Archaeology
- Register of Professional Archaeologists
- Council of Virginia Archaeologists
- Southern Jewish Historical Society

SKILLS AND CERTIFICATIONS

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| • Registered Professional Archaeologist | • ArcGIS |
| • Curriculum Development | • FileMaker Pro |
| • Exhibit Design and Installation | • CAD |
| • Event Planning | • Microsoft Office, including Access database development |
| • Project Management | |