

Curriculum Vitae for Dr. Chad Ryan Thomas, RPA

10/2/2023

CONTACT INFORMATION

Home Address: Dr. Chad Ryan Thomas, RPA
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DEGREES

May, 2010: Ph.D. in Anthropology from School of Human Evolution and Social Change, Arizona State University.

Dissertation title: Relationships among Ideology, Iconography, and Sociopolitical Organization in the Mississippian World

Committee members: Dr. Christopher Carr (chairperson), Dr. Katherine Spielmann, Dr. Ben Nelson, Dr. Paul Welch

May, 2001: M.A. in Anthropology at Arizona State University.

Thesis title: Archaeological Evidence for Oral Narratives at Spiro, Oklahoma, and Its Implications for Spiro Leadership

Committee members: Dr. Christopher Carr (chairperson), Dr. Katherine Spielmann, Dr. Elizabeth Brandt

May, 1998: B.A. from Indiana University, Bloomington, with majors in Anthropology, Folklore Studies, and Classical Civilization (Literary and Cultural Emphasis)

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- University of Evansville (UE), Evansville, IN
 - Department of Archaeology
Spring 2022-Spring 2023: Adjunct Professor of Anthropology
 - World Cultures/First Year Seminar,
Fall 2006-Fall 2013: Adjunct Professor
- University of Southern Indiana (USI), Evansville, IN
 - Department of World Languages and Cultures,
Fall 2010-Present: Adjunct Professor of Anthropology
 - Humanities Program
Fall 2007-Fall 2009: Adjunct Professor of Humanities
- Henderson Community College (HCC), Henderson, KY
 - Liberal Arts and Professional Studies Division
Spring 2015-Spring 2021: Adjunct Professor of Anthropology
- Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana (IvyTech), Evansville, IN
 - Social/Behavioral Sciences Program
Spring 2005-Fall 2017: Adjunct Professor of Anthropology

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Anthropology Courses:

- (Introduction to) Cultural Anthropology
 - IvyTech, USI, & UE
- Cultural Diversity in the Modern World
 - HCC; online course
- Introduction to Physical Anthropology
 - USI & UE
- Introduction to Archaeology
 - IvyTech
- North American Archaeology
 - USI; upper-level course
- World Prehistory
 - UE
- Origins of Old World Civilization
 - HCC; online course
- Origins of New World Civilization
 - HCC; online course

Other Courses:

- Introduction to Sociology (Ivy Tech)
- Foundations of World Traditions: Antiquity to the Renaissance (UE)
- Ancient Anthropologies (UE)
- The Hero's Journey in Folklore, Literature, and Pop Culture (UE)
- Myth and Mythopoeia (UE)
- The Western Tradition in the Humanities I (USI)
- World Cultures: Emergence of the Modern World (UE)
- World Cultures: Foundations of World Traditions and Ancient Thought (UE)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Register of Professional Archaeologists
Society for American Archaeology

Golden Key Honor Society
Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Mississippian Chiefdoms
- Cognitive Archaeology
 - Ideology
 - Iconography
 - Semiotic methods of analysis
 - Art as performance
 - Applications of Cognitive Linguistics to archaeological problems
- Folklore
 - Prehistoric-Historic continuities among Mississippian and historic Southeastern tribes
 - Type and Motif analysis
- Public Archaeology
 - Public outreach and interpretation, especially for teen audience

SELECTED PAPERS/PUBLICATIONS

- 2014 *(with Haley Tallman and Heather Stone)* Thinking Outside the Sandbox: Teaching the Whole Process of Archaeology. Poster presented at the 2014 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Archaeological Conference, Champaign, IL.
- 2013 *(with Haley Tallman and Heather Stone)* Bringing Baggetaway Back to the Mounds. Poster presented at the 2013 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Archaeological Conference, Columbus, OH.
- 2012 The Life of Cahokian Ideology: A Narrative. Paper presented at the 2012 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Archaeological Conference, East Lansing, MI.
- 2011 Religion at Angel. In *Angel Mounds: A Mississippian Town on the Ohio River*. By Besse Freeman LeBudde and Marjorie Melvin. pp. 43-49. Friends of Angel Mounds, Evansville, IN.**
- 2010 The Cross-in-Circle Motif at Angel. Paper presented at the 56th Annual Meeting of the Midwest Archaeological Conference, Bloomington, IN.
- 2010 Performance in Everyday Experience. Paper presented at the 75th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, St. Louis, MO.
- 2007 Iconography and Ideology at Angel Site. Paper presented at the 64th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Knoxville, TN.
- 2005 The Vacant Quarter Hypothesis: A Summary of Previous Thought. Paper presented at the 51st Annual Meeting of the Midwest Archaeological Conference, Dayton, OH.
- 2005 *(with Christopher Carr and Cynthia Keller)* Animal Totemic Clans of Ohio Hopewell Peoples. In *Gathering Hopewell: Society, Ritual, and Ritual Interaction*. Edited by Christopher Carr and D.Troy Case. pp. 339-385. Kluwer Academic/Plenum Press, New York.**
- 2004 Regional Variation in the Construction of Mississippian Birdmen: Unlocking Identities. Paper presented at the 50th MAC and 61st SEAC meetings, St. Louis, MO
- 2003 *(with Cynthia Keller)* Ohio Hopewell Clan Organization: Their Locality, Interrelations, and Prestige. Paper presented at the 68th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Milwaukee, WI.
- 2000 Digression and Insertion in a Belizean Folktale. *Journal of American Folklore* 113:185-194.**

SELECTED ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK

Fall 2004/Fall 2005: Research Assistant, Indiana University Department of Anthropology. Field project at Hovey Lake Village, Hovey Lake Fish and Wildlife Management Area, Posey County, IN

Immediate supervisor: Cheryl Ann Munson (IU)

Responsibilities: site interpretation, excavation, documentation, etc.

Summer 2003: Research Assistant, Arizona State University Department of Anthropology. Field project at Hopeton Earthworks, Hopewell Culture National Historical Park, Chillicothe, OH

Immediate supervisor: Kate Spielmann (ASU)

Responsibilities: supervision of field school students, site interpretation, excavation, documentation, etc.

Summer 2002: Archaeological Technician, Midwest Archaeological Center, National Park Service.

Field project at Hopeton Earthworks, Hopewell Culture National Historical Park, Chillicothe, OH

Immediate supervisor: Mark Lynott (MWAC)

Responsibilities: supervision of field school students, site interpretation, excavation, documentation, etc.

Summer 2001: Chaperone/Field Assistant, Center for American Archaeology Education Program fieldschool.

Immediate supervisor: Mary Pirkl (CAA)

Responsibilities: supervision of field school students, site interpretation, excavation, documentation, etc. at Koster South site

Spring 2000: Field Technician, Jordan Valley Village Project, Tell Abu en-Ni'aj, Jordan

Immediate supervisors: Dr. Steven Falconer (ASU), Dr. Jennifer Jones (ASU)

Responsibilities: supervision of hired workers, excavation, documentation, etc.

Excavation of an Early Bronze Age village site in the Jordan River Valley, with ASU fieldschool students and paid local laborers.