

MEGAN CRUTCHER

Curriculum Vitae

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EDUCATION

2025 expected Ph.D. Anthropology, Nautical Archaeology Program Texas A&M University

Working Title: *Maritime Cultures and Identities in Early Modern Liberia and Sierra Leone*
Chair: Dr. Christopher Dostal

Conservation Training Certificate (2023 expected)
Historic Preservation Certificate (2022)
Africana Studies Certificate (2023 expected)

2020 M.A. Public History Duquesne University

2018 B.A. History, *magna cum laude*
Minors: international studies, French

RESEARCH INTERESTS

West African seafaring; Kru; Sierra Leone, Liberia; Early Modern Atlantic World; heritage politics; archaeological conservation; migration, refugees, forced displacement; tattoo and scarification; public archaeology; museology.

SCHOLARSHIP AND PUBLICATIONS

PUBLICATIONS

Under Review "For King and Empire: The Changing Political, Economic, and Cultural Identities of Kru Mariners in Atlantic Africa, 1460-1945."

CONFERENCE PAPERS

September 2022 *European Association of Archaeologists (EAA)*.

Session: The Evolution of Coastal Archaeological Sites: Submerged, Preserved, in Flux.

Paper: "GIS Mapping Maritime Cultural Landscapes in Liberia and Sierra Leone."

March 2022 *Charting African Waterscapes: A Conference on African Maritime History Across Time and Space*.

Session: Marine Heritage, Colonialism, and Sovereignty.

Paper: "From Canoes to Canoemen in West African History: West African Seafaring Traditions and their Importance in Atlantic World History."

January 2022 *Society for Historical Archaeology (SHA)*.

Session: Current Research at Texas A&M University's Conservation Research Laboratory.

Paper: "Biofilms, Biocolonization, and the Conservation of Marble from Submerged Archaeological Environments."

July 2021 *North American Society for Oceanic History (NASOH)*.

Session: Gender at Sea.

Paper: "Reinterpreting Anne Bonny and Mary Reade: Public History and the Commemoration of Piracy, Sexuality, and Gender in Maritime Spaces."

March 2021 *National Council on Public History (NCPH)*.

Session: Oral History and COVID-19.

Paper, with Celestin Mpagaze: "The Pittsburgh Refugee Stories Oral History Initiative."

March 2020 *National Council on Public History (NCPH)*.

Chair of Session: The Historian's Gaze: Moving Images and Visual Texts in Public Interpretation of Social Justice Issues.

Paper: "Student Films: *A Message of Liberation*." Moved [online due to COVID-19](#).

April 2018 *Duquesne University Graduate Research Symposium*.

Paper: “Engaging Visitors with Conservation: The Key to Museum Sustainability.”
<https://dsc.duq.edu/gsr/2019/Proceedings/7/>

CONFERENCE SESSIONS CHAIRED

- March 2022 *Charting African Waterscapes: A Conference on African Maritime History Across Time and Space. Trade and Mobilities by River and Sea.*
- March 2020 *National Council on Public History (NCPH). The Historian’s Gaze: Moving Images and Visual Texts in Public Interpretation of Social Justice Issues.*

CONFERENCE POSTERS

- May 2022 *National Council on Public History (NCPH).*
Poster: “Defining the Terms: A Review of Trends in Maritime Public Archaeology.”
- April 2021 *Vaughn M. Bryant Memorial Anthropology Conference, Texas A&M Department of Anthropology*
Poster: “Cultural Heritage, Cultural Rights, and Human Rights: A Statistical Analysis.”

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

- April 2022. Guest presenter on The Mariner’s Mirror Podcast hosted by the Society for Nautical Research and Dr. Sam Willis.
- 2019-2020 Pittsburgh Refugee Stories Oral History Initiative. www.refugeesofpittsburgh.org.
- [11 June 2020](#). “Artificial Reality is the Likely Future of Preservation.” *History@Work*.

PROFESSIONAL REPORTS

- July 2021. *Informe de conservación y propuesta de intervención: Piezas arqueológicas de material orgánico extraídas del Galeón de Ribadeo (Santiago di Galicia).* Prepared with Laura Carmona Lopez, Christopher Dostal, Ph.D., and Archeonauta for the Naval Museum of Spain, Madrid.
- January 2020 *Keystone Grant Application and Historic Report for the Blairsville Armory.* Pfaffmann + Associates. Pennsylvania SHPO grant application.
- December 2019 *Conservation Treatment Proposal for the August Wilson House.* Chantal Bernicky, Pfaffmann + Associates.
- October 2019 *Interpretive Plan and Historic Report for 2400 Smallman Street.* Pfaffmann + Associates. [Featured in Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, June 2020.](#)
- November 2018 *Finding Aid: Phenomenology Institute collections.* Duquesne University Archives.
- October 2018 *Report on Multispectral Imaging of the Dashur Boat.* Carnegie Museum of Natural History. Grant report for the National Endowment for the Humanities.

INVITED SYMPOSIA

- September 2021 *SEC Emerging Scholars Program.* Southeastern Conference (SEC).
- April 2021 *Cultural Heritage 360: Arts and Science.* UK Arts and Humanities Research Council. Discussant.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL & ANTHROPOLOGICAL FIELDWORK

- June 2022 ***Santiago de Galicia Galeón de Ribadeo Excavation and Conservation – Ribadeo, Spain***
- June-July 2021 Conservation, Archaeological Technician. Responsibilities: underwater excavation and survey; consultation and assessment for conservation of seven bronze cannons; assessment and treatment of materials excavated from 2019-2022; preparation of reports; registration; laboratory administration.
- 2019-2020 **Pittsburgh Refugee Stories Oral History Initiative**

Oral Historian. Responsibilities: conducting oral history interviews with refugee narrators, historical research, community outreach, recruitment, conducting home visits, photography and videography, recording, transcription, indexing, and web design for www.refugeesofpittsburgh.weebly.com.

June 2019 **Marco Simone Villa Conservation and Excavation Field School – Rome, Italy**
 May-July 2017 Responsibilities: site surveying, excavation, registration, and *in situ* conservation of mosaic flooring and artifacts from the 1st century B.C.E. Roman villa.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

April 2022- Present **Graduate Research Assistant, Gulf Coast Heritage Preparedness Initiative (GCHPI)**
 Conducted archival research, historic preservation fieldwork, and planning for the GCHPI, an interdisciplinary effort to create a community heritage preparedness assessment protocol for at-risk heritage in the Gulf Coast region. Goals of the project are to increase at-risk communities’ capacity for heritage preservation and conservation in times of disaster.

Aug 2021- Present **Graduate Teaching Assistant, Texas A&M University Department of Anthropology**
 Supervisors: Dr. Chris Dostal, Dr. Carolyn Kennedy
 Taught: ANTH 605, ANTH 313

July 2019- July 2020 **Historic Preservationist, Pfaffmann + Associates**
 Primary public historian on the August Wilson House preservation project, the Blairsville Armory rehabilitation, and 2400 Smallman Street reuse project. Gained experience with Section 106 compliance, National Register nominations, National Trust grants and reporting, documentation of historic structures, interpretive planning, and preservation fieldwork.

June 2018- June 2020 **Lead Conservation Technician, Carnegie Museum of Natural History**
 Conducted conservation treatment, preventive conservation, collections management and storage, and public outreach.

Aug 2018- May 2020 **Graduate Research and Teaching Assistant, Duquesne University Department of History**
 Supervisors: Dr. Robin Chapdelaine, Dr. Philip Stelzel
 Acknowledged Research Contributions: Chapdelaine, R. *The Persistence of Slavery: An Economic History of Child Trafficking in Nigeria*. University of Massachusetts Press. Jan. 2021. Chapdelaine, R. “Marriage Certificates and Walker Cards: Nigerian Migrant Labor, Wives, and Prostitutes in Colonial Fernando Pó.” *African Economic History* 48, No. 2 (2020): 1-36.

April 2019- April 2020 **Docent, The Frick Pittsburgh**
 Led 60-90 minute tours of the Car and Carriage Museum.

May-June 2019 **Project Archivist, Collegio di Sant’Isidoro**
 Assessed, arranged, described, and wrote finding aid for the Quaracchi Archives.

May-Aug 2018 **Summer Camp Supervisor, Carnegie Museums**
 Supervised a team of 6 to run summer camp programs for over 100 children weekly.

May-Aug 2018 **Curation Intern, Carnegie Museum of Natural History**
 Assessed, managed, and created database for the Education Department collections.

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, & AWARDS

EXTERNAL

Finalist, 3 Minute Thesis (3MT) at Texas A&M	2021	\$100
National Council on Public History (NCPH), Graduate Student Travel Award	2020	\$250
NCAA Scholar All-American, Swimming and Diving	2018	

INTERNAL

Glasscock Center for the Humanities at Texas A&M University, Archive and Fieldwork Grant	2022	\$1000
Texas A&M University Department of Anthropology, Conference Travel Grant	2022	\$1500
Texas A&M University Department of Anthropology, Professional Development Grant	2022	\$1000
Texas A&M University Association of Former Students, Merit Fellowship	2020-2025	\$192,550
Texas A&M University Department of Anthropology, Professional Development Grant	2021	\$1700
Duquesne University Department of History, Excellence in Graduate History Award	2020	\$300
Duquesne University Dean's Office, Internship of the Year Award	2019	\$250
Duquesne University Dean's Office, Collegio di Sant'Isidoro Archival Fellowship	2019	\$9000
Duquesne University Department of History, 1 st Place Clio Award for Graduate Research	2019	\$200
Duquesne University Department of History, Graduate Research Assistantship	2018-2020	\$16,000

TEACHING & ADVISING

Spring 2022, Texas A&M	Teaching Assistant, ANTH 313: Historical Archaeology
Fall 2021, Texas A&M	Teaching Assistant, ANTH 605: Conservation of Archaeological Resources I
April 2021, Texas A&M	Substitute Teaching Assistant, ANTH 402: Archaeology Artifact Conservation
2021-2022, Texas A&M	Co-coordinator, Anthropology Graduate-Undergraduate Mentorship Program
2020-2022, Texas A&M	Mentor, Anthropology Graduate-Undergraduate Mentorship Program
Spring 2021, Texas A&M	"Teaching Anthropology" Seminar
Fall 2020, Texas A&M	Academy for Future Faculty: Teaching Certificate

CERTIFICATIONS & SKILLS

Diving Qualifications	PADI Rescue Diver (03/2022) PADI Drysuit (03/2022) PADI Emergency Oxygen Provider (04/2021) Red Cross First Aid/CPR/AED (05/2021) PADI Advanced Open Water (04/2021) PADI Nitrox/EANx (04/2021) PADI Open Water (09/2020)
GIS	Esri ArcGIS Pro 2.8, QGIS
Statistics	R, RStudio
3D Design	Revit, SketchUp, AutoCAD, GeoMagic Design X, FARO ScanArm
Digital Imaging	Adobe Photoshop, GIMP, photo/videography, artifact and archaeological drawing
Laboratory	UV Fluorescence, General and Organic Chemistry 1-2, X-Ray, FTIR

LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

2021-present	Aggie Allies Board Member, Texas A&M University
2021-present	Anthropology Department Conference Co-Coordinator, Texas A&M University
August 2022	Volunteer, Annual Meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists
July 2021	Reviewer, World Monuments Watch Site Nominations, ICOMOS and the World Monuments Fund
2019-2020	Graduate and Professional Student Council, PR and Events Manager, Duquesne University
April 2019	Panelist, Faculty Senate Task Force on Diversity and Inclusion, Duquesne University
2019-2020	Interpretive Planning Committee for the August Wilson House rehabilitation project, Pittsburgh
July-Aug 2017	TOEFL Tutor/English Teacher at Go Global, Bamako, Mali

LANGUAGES

English (native); French, Spanish (advanced/CEFR C1); Portuguese, Italian, Latin (reading)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Society of Africanist Archaeologists (SAfA)
International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS)
International Federation of Public History (IFPH-FIHP)
International Council of Museums (ICOM)
National Council on Public History (NCPH)
European Association of Archaeologists (EAA)