

JOHN M. STEINBERG

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University of Massachusetts Boston

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Prehistoric and historic archaeology, economic anthropology,
methodology, regional analysis, remote sensing; Northern Europe, Northeast US

EDUCATION

- UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES 1992-1997
Ph.D., Anthropology
The economic prehistory of Thy, Denmark: a study of the changing value of flint based on a methodology of the plowzone. Tim Earle, Chair
- UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES 1989-1992
M.A., Anthropology
Labor in Maya architecture: a theory of consumption.
- UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD, ST. PETER'S COLLEGE, DEPARTMENT OF ETHNOLOGY AND PREHISTORY, PITT-RIVERS MUSEUM 1988-1989
M.St., Ethnology and Museum Ethnography
- UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO 1984-1988
A.B., Anthropology

FIELD EXPERIENCE

- SKAGAFJÖRÐUR ARCHAEOLOGICAL SETTLEMENT SURVEY, Iceland 2000-Present
Directed by myself, Doug Bolender (Northwestern), & E. Paul Durrenburger (Penn State)
<http://fiskecenter.umb.edu/SASS>
- MOSFELL ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT, Iceland 1998-1999
Directed by myself, Jesse Byock (UCLA), and Tim Earle (Northwestern)
- THY ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT, Denmark 1991-1997
Directed by Tim Earle (Northwestern), Jens-Henrik Bech (Thisted Museum), and Kristian Kristiansen (Göteborg)
- BELIZE RIVER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SETTLEMENT SURVEY, Central America 1983-84, 1990
Directed by Anabel Ford (UCSB)
- WESTERN LESOTHO, Southern Africa 1989
Directed by Peter J. Mitchell, (Pitt-Rivers Museum, Oxford)
- UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO FIELD SCHOOL, Kampsville, IL 1986
Directed by Jane Buikstra (University of New Mexico)
- ADDITIONAL FIELD EXPERIENCE: In 1999 & 2000 with Guðmundur Ólafsson (Þjóðminjasafn Íslands) at Eiríksstaðir in Iceland, remote sensing and excavation. In 2000 with Kevin Smith (Brown) at Háls in western Iceland, excavation. In 2003 with Michael Love (CSUN) at La Blanca, Guatemala, remote sensing and excavation. In 2003 with Tom McGovern (Hunter College) and Orri Vesteinsson (University of Iceland) at Mývatn in Iceland, learning excavation techniques. In 2006 with Stephen Mrozowski (UMass Boston) at Sylvester Manor, NY, remote sensing and training NSF REU students.

AWARDS & GRANTS

- NSF SENIOR ARCHAEOLOGY RESEARCH GRANT (\$101,719 + POLAR LOGISTICAL) 2005
 Chieftdom to Manor: Comparative excavations at primary and secondary Viking Age farmsteads in Skagafjordur, Iceland
- NSF SENIOR ARCHAEOLOGY RESEARCH GRANT (\$39,969) 2005
 Chieftdom to Manor: Using Ground Penetrating Radar on Viking Age and Medieval Archaeological Sites in Skagafjordur, Iceland
- NSF Research Experiences for Undergraduates (\$3,663) 2002
 Supplement to Chieftdom to Manor—Settlement Survey: Organic content of turf walls
- NSF SENIOR ARCHAEOLOGY RESEARCH GRANT (\$99,984) 2001-2002
 Chieftdom to Manor: An Archaeological Settlement Survey of Viking Age and Medieval Skagafjordur, Iceland (Funded jointly with Arctic Social Sciences, Office of Polar Programs)
<https://www.fastlane.nsf.gov/servlet/showaward?award=0107413>
- WENNER-GREN INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH GRANT (\$12,723) 2001
 Chieftdom to Manor: An Archaeological Settlement Survey of Viking Age and Medieval Skagafjordur, Hjaltadalur, Iceland
- NSF HIGH RISK EXPLORATORY RESEARCH GRANT (\$19,970) 1999
 Political Economy of Free State Iceland—Regional Archaeology in the Mosfell Valley
- BEN CULLEN PRIZE 1996
 Award for the outstanding article in *Antiquity* by a junior scholar
- FIELD RESEARCH GRANT 1995
 Department of Anthropology, University of California, Los Angeles
- RESEARCH GRANT 1994 & 1995
 Friends of Archaeology, University of California, Los Angeles
- FULBRIGHT PH.D. RESEARCH GRANT IN ARCHAEOLOGY 1993
 The rise of prehistoric chiefs in Northwest Denmark through manipulation of the value of stone tools

PUBLICATIONS

- BOLENDER, D.J., J.M. STEINBERG, & E.P. DURRENBERGER.
 2008 Unsettled Landscapes: Settlement patterns and the development of social inequality in Northern Iceland. *Economies and the Transformation of the Landscape*. edited by Lisa Cliggett & Christopher A. Pool. Society for Economic Anthropology Monograph No. 25. Altamira Press, Lanham, MD
- STEINBERG, J. M.
 2006. A political economy of increasing marginal returns to labor: An example from the Viking Age Chieftdoms of Iceland. *Labor in cross-cultural perspective* edited by E. P. Durrenberger & J. Marti, pp 217-244. Society for Economic Anthropology Monograph No. 23. Altamira Press, Lanham, MD

- STEINBERG, J.
2005 Logistics of field work and collecting field data. IN *Handbook of Archaeological Methods*, edited by C. Chippindale and H. Maschner. pp 75-105. Altamira Press, Lanham, MD
- STEINBERG, J. M. & D. J. BOLENDER
2004 Rannsóknir á búsetuminjum í Skagafirði [Settlement Pattern research in Skagafjörður]. *Árbók Hins Íslenska fornleifafélags* 2002-2003: 107-130
- STEINBERG, J. M.
2004 Note on organic content of turf walls in Skagafjörður, Iceland. *Archaeologia Islandica* 3:60-70
- STEINBERG, J. M.
2003 The Viking Age long-house at Glaumbaer, Skagafjordur, Northern Iceland. *Antiquity* 77 (295) <http://antiquity.ac.uk/ProjGall/Steinberg/Steinberg.html>
- EARLE, T., J H. BECH, K. KRISTIANSEN, P. APERLO, K. KELERTAS & J. STEINBERG
1998 The political economy of Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age society: the Thy Archaeological Project. *Norwegian Archaeological Review* 31:1-28.
- STEINBERG, J. & B. PLETKA
1997 The value of flint in Thy, Denmark: A cost-return analysis. IN *Man and Flint: Proceedings of the VIIth International Flint Symposium*. edited by R. Schild & Z. Sulgostowska, pp. 301-12. Institute of Archaeology and Ethnology, Warsaw.
- STEINBERG, J.
1996 Ploughzone sampling in Denmark: isolating and interpreting site signatures from disturbed contexts. *Antiquity* 270:368-392.
- MITCHELL, P. & J. STEINBERG
1992 Ntontua Tuana: A Middle Stone Age assemblage from Western Lesotho. *South African Archaeological Bulletin* 47:24-30.
- BOOK REVIEWS
- 2005 *The Political Landscape: Constellations of Authority in Early Complex Polities*. 2003 by Adam T. Smith. *American Anthropologist*. 107:745-746
- 1999 *The Ephemeral Civilization: Exploding the Myth of Social Evolution*. 1997 by Graem D. Snooks. *American Anthropologist* 101:225-226.
- 1999 *The Danish Storebælt since the Ice Age—man, sea, and forest*. 1998 Edited by Lisbeth Pederson, Anders Fischer and Bent Aaby. *American Antiquity* 64:363-367.

PAPERS PRESENTED

- 2006 “Iceland/Greenland” paper presented in the session “Exploring Scholarly and Best-selling Accounts of Social Collapse and Colonial Encounters” organized by Patricia McAnany & Norman Yoffee at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association, San Jose, CA.
- 2006 “Fertile ground for Christianity: rational chiefs and institutional change in Viking Age Iceland” (with T. Carter) paper presented at the Society for American Archaeology annual Meeting, San Juan.
- 2005 “Unsettled Landscapes: Settlement patterns and the development of social inequality in Northern Iceland” (with D. Bolender & E. P. Durrenberger) paper presented at the Society for Economic Anthropology annual Meeting, Dartmouth.

- 2001 “The development of socio-political complexity where land is abundant and labor scarce.” Paper presented at the Society for Economic Anthropology Invited Presidential Session at the American Anthropological Association, Washington D.C.
- 2000 “Production.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Philadelphia.
- 2000 “Early Neolithic long barrows and lithic scatters in Thy, Denmark” (with T. Carter). Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Philadelphia.
- 1999 “Marxist & Institutional theories of conspicuous consumption: an application to archaeology.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Chicago.
- 1999 “Site and off-site, good and bad data, plowzone and shovel testing” (with S. Pletka). Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Chicago.
- 1998 “Institutional economics and archaeology: directions for economic prehistory.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Economic Anthropology, Evanston, IL.
- 1998 “Monumental labor: consumption or investment?” Paper presented in the symposium Ideology: costs and returns (co-organized with E. DeMarrais) at the annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Seattle.
- 1996 “Economies of scale in Neolithic and Early Bronze Age Thy, Denmark: The rise of chiefdoms from the plowzone.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association, San Francisco.
- 1994 “The plowzone: disturbed household archaeology of chiefdoms in Northwest Denmark.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Minneapolis.
- 1991 “Labor in Maya domestic architecture.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, New Orleans.

POSITIONS

SENIOR SCIENTIST	2006-Present
University of Massachusetts Boston, Fiske Center for Archaeological Research	
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE	1997-2006
University of California, Los Angeles, Cotsen Institute of Archaeology	
GUTMAN READING ROOM LIBRARIAN	1997-2005
University of California, Los Angeles, Cotsen Institute of Archaeology	
VISITING LECTURER	1998-2005
California State University, Northridge	
VISITING LECTURER	1998-2005
University of California, Los Angeles, Department of Anthropology	
TEACHING ASSISTANT	1992-1995
University of California, Los Angeles, Department of Anthropology	
RESEARCH ASSISTANT to Tim Earle	1989-1993
University of California, Los Angeles, Institute of Archaeology	
PRESIDENT, Anthropology Graduate Student Association	1992
University of California, Los Angeles	

COURSES

- UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS BOSTON Department of Anthropology
Viking Civilization. S08
 General survey of cultural history and archaeology of the pre, proto and historic peoples of Europe around the Viking Age. Students will gain an understanding of the factors that produced these spectacular, and sometimes warlike, societies.
<http://www.fiskecenter.umb.edu/VikingCiv.htm>
- UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES Department of Anthropology
Archaeology: An Introduction. f04
 General survey of field and laboratory methods, theory, and major findings of anthropological archaeology, including case-study lectures.
<http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/04F/anthro8-1/>
- Evolution of Human Societies.* s02
 Review of economic and ecological approaches to studying organization of production and exchange. Economic life viewed from three perspectives: adaptation, decision making, and social structure. Comparative theories discussed in context of ethnographic evidence from a wide variety of cultural systems.
<http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/02S/anthro153-1/>
- History of Archaeology* w02
 Development of world archaeology from the Renaissance to the present, stressing how each of the major branches of archaeology has evolved a special character determined by peculiarities of its own data, methods, and intellectual affiliation.
<http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/02W/anthro183-1/>
- Regional Analysis in Archaeology* s99, s00, s02
 Graduate core course. A survey of analytical methods used in archaeology to study prehistoric settlement systems. Specific projects include site and off-site sampling, population growth curves, site catchment, settlement hierarchy, central place, rank size, and nearest neighbor analysis.
<http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/02S/anthrom211-1/>
- Strategy of Archaeology* w03
 Introduction to problem formulation, theory, and method in archaeology, with emphasis on development of research designs. Focus on how archaeological research is conceived and planned, with consideration of differing viewpoints and their usefulness.
<http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/03W/anthroc115r-1>
- Study of Archaeology* w00
 An upper division survey of contemporary prehistoric archaeology. The emphasis is on the interplay between the discoveries that shape archaeology and the theories used to explain the archaeological record.
<http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/00W/anthro111-1/>
- Warfare and Conflict* w04
 Examination of conflict and violent confrontation as these have been treated in anthropological literature. Cross-cultural comparison of institutions such as raids, feuds, ritual warfare. Consideration of application of anthropology to study of militaries, modern warfare, and large-scale ethnic conflict.
<http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/04W/anthro159-1/>
- World Archaeology* s98, w99, f02
 An upper division survey of human culture history from its Stone Age beginnings to the primary civilizations of the Old and New Worlds. Emphasis on the interaction of technology, population and social organization in prehistoric societies around the world.
<http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/02F/anthro110-1/>

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES Extension

Archaeological Laboratory Methods: Lithic Analysis f98

Introduction to the analysis of stone tools in archaeological research. This course addresses both methodological and theoretical issues of lithic analysis. Students use various methods to analyze flake and stone tool collections.

<http://tyr.ioa.ucla.edu/LithicAnalysis/anthro117.htm>

European Pre-History: Neolithic to the Viking Age f03

Cultural history of the pre-historic peoples of Europe. Instruction concentrates on the period from the Early Neolithic, when agriculture was introduced, to the discovery of the New World at the end of the Viking Age. Students gain an understanding of the factors that produced the megalithic monuments of the Neolithic era, the rich burials of the Bronze Age, and the warlike societies of the Iron Age.

<http://sass.ioa.ucla.edu/lep.htm>

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE Department of Anthropology

Human Origin and Culture s99 s04

A general four-field undergraduate course. Provides an overview of human physical and cultural origins. Covers the development and distribution of diverse populations, languages, social institutions, and beliefs. It provides an introduction to the methods of physical anthropology, archaeology, linguistics, and cultural anthropology.

<http://tyr.ioa.ucla.edu/Anthro150s99.htm>

Old World Archaeology f98, s01, s04

Upper division undergraduate survey of the culture history of the Old World from the Paleolithic to the rise of the Iron Age states. The course emphasizes the prehistory of Southwest Asia, the Mediterranean, and Northern Europe.

<http://tyr.ioa.ucla.edu/CSUN/anthro426s01/OldWorld426Syllabus.htm>

Prehistoric Archaeology f98, s99, f99 f00, f01 s02 f02 s05

An introductory course for anthropology majors that covers methods, archaeological problem solving and culture history. Specifically, the origin and development of prehistoric human cultures from hunting and gathering to the origin of state societies in both the New and Old Worlds.

<http://sass.ioa.ucla.edu/anthro319f02.htm>

Regional Analysis f98, s03

Undergraduate senior seminar. A survey of analytical methods used in archaeology to study prehistoric settlement systems. Specific issues include settlement distribution with respect to natural resources and settlement hierarchy.

<http://tyr.ioa.ucla.edu/Northridge/csunanth490.htm>

Third World cultures f04, s05

Compares and contrasts non-western, kin-organized societies with class-oriented Western societies. Examines the historic relationship between Western societies and those of indigenous peoples in the Third World.

<http://sass.ioa.ucla.edu/anthro315f04.htm>

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE Liberal Studies

Gateway experience for pre-credential students f04, s05

Gateway to the eight required subject matter areas (language arts, mathematics, science, history/ social science, child development, visual and performing arts, health, and physical education), in the context both of their university-based curriculum and of the Academic Content Standards and State Curriculum Frameworks for grades K-8.

<http://sass.ioa.ucla.edu/GWf04.htm>

EAST LOS ANGELES COLLEGE,
Archaeology: Reconstructing the Human Past

Department of Earth Sciences
s98

FUTURE COURSES

Ancient Political Economy	Anthropology of Climate Change
Economic Anthropology	Geoarchaeology
GIS in Archaeology	Historical Archaeology
Households	Prehistoric Technology
Remote Sensing & Archaeological Prospecting	Statistics in Archaeology/Anthropology

ADVISING

Supervised: 7 Independent Studies, 1 Certificate in Archaeology, 4 Undergraduate Honors\ Papers, 2 MA theses

Advised: 1 Undergraduate Honors Paper, 1 Ph.D. Dissertation

MEMBERSHIPS

American Anthropological Association	Archaeological Institute of America
European Association of Archaeologists	Register of Professional Archaeologists
Society for American Archaeology	Society for Economic Anthropology
Society for Historical Archaeology	

