

Curriculum Vitae
Siavash Samei

Department of Anthropology
Old World Archaeology Program
University of Connecticut, Unit-1176
Beach Hall, 354 Mansfield Rd.
Storrs, CT 06269
siavash.samei@uconn.edu

Education

- 2013- Ph.D. Candidate, University of Connecticut, Department of Anthropology; Storrs, CT
Dissertation: “Modeling Variability in Pastoral Strategies: A Case Study from Late Prehistory in the South Caucasus.” (Committee: Natalie Munro, chair; Alexia Smith, Gideon Hartman, Philip Kohl)
- 2012 M.A., University of Connecticut, Department of Anthropology; Storrs, CT
- 2009 Certificate in Arabic Literature, Arabic Literature Faculty, University of Damascus; Syria
- 2008 B.A., University of Georgia, Department of Anthropology; Athens, GA (*Magna Cum Laude*)

Research Interests

Evolution of pastoralism, diversity in husbandry practices, emergence of social inequality, social complexity, economic theory, behavioral ecology, highland adaptations, Caucasus, Iran

Awards & Scholarships

- 2014 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) Graduate Travel Award, University of Connecticut; \$850
- 2008 Most Outstanding Undergraduate Paper Award, Georgia Academy of Sciences; Jacksonville, FL. Paper title: “Tin Trade Failure in Ancient Mesopotamia and the Fall of the Late Bronze Age Civilizations of Eastern Mediterranean.”
- 2007 Eugene Freeman Jr. Memorial Scholarship, University of Georgia; \$1200
- 2005 Helping Outstanding Pupils Educationally Scholarship, University of Georgia; \$16,000

Fellowships

Center for Arabic Study Abroad, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University; 2008-2009 Summer Fellow at the American University in Cairo. [Unable to attend, visa related issues]

Research Funding

- 2015 National Science Foundation, Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (#1550683); “Modeling Variability in Pastoral Strategies: A Case Study from Late Prehistory in the South Caucasus;” \$17,060

- 2015 American Research Institute of the South Caucasus, Junior Research Fellowship; “Unpacking Transhumance: Pastoralism and Mobility in the South Caucasus Chalcolithic;” [selected as alternate]
- 2014 Norian Armenian Programs; “Socioeconomic Developments of the Sionian Chalcolithic Culture in the South Caucasus: A Zooarchaeological Perspective from Areni-1;” \$3,291
- 2013 Summer Research Fellowship, Department of Anthropology, University of Connecticut; “Zooarchaeological Research in the Middle Holocene of the Southern Caucasus;” \$1,200
- 2012 Summer Research Fellowship, Department of Anthropology, University of Connecticut; “Zooarchaeological Investigations at the Early Bronze Age Kura-Araxes Settlement of Köhne Shahar in Northwestern Iran;” \$3,400
- 2011 Summer Research Fellowship, Department of Anthropology, University of Connecticut; “Archaeological Research at the Early Epipaleolithic Site of Wadi Madamagh, West-Central Jordan;” \$4,480

Publications

- In Prep. Alizadeh, K., and **S. Samei**. Craft production and political power at Köhne Shahar, a Kura-Araxes Settlement in the Iranian Azerbaijan. Targeted journal: *Antiquity*.
- 2016 **Samei, S.**, Munro, N., al-Nahar, M., and D. Olszewski. Differential bone preservation and human foraging at the Early Epipaleolithic site of Tor at-Tareeq (WHS1065) in the western highlands of Jordan. *Quaternary International* 396:52-61.
- 2016 Munro, N.D., Kennerty, M., Meier, J.S., **Samei, S.**, al-Nahar, M., and D.I. Olszewski. Human hunting and site occupation intensity in the Early Epipaleolithic of the Jordanian western highlands. *Quaternary International* 396:31-39.
- 2015 Alizadeh, K., Eghbal, H., and **S. Samei**. Approaches to social complexity in Kura-Araxes Culture: a view from Köhne Shahar (Ravaz) in Chaldran, Iranian Azerbaijan. *Paléorient* 41(1): 37-54.

Reports

- 2014 Alizadeh, A., Eghbal, H., **Samei, S.**, Bayazidi, H., Hoseini, P., and E. Kharrazi. 2014. Excavations at Köhne Shahar, A Kura-Araxes Settlement in Iranian Azerbaijan: First Preliminary Report. Iranian Center for Archaeological Research.
- 2009 **Samei, S.** San Luis Faunal Remains: Zooarchaeological Analysis with a Problematic Sample. Manuscript on file, Georgia Museum of Natural History, Athens, GA.
- 2009 **Samei, S.** Stono and Beyond: In Search of a Dietary Pattern in Slave Contexts at an Antebellum Coastal Low Country Rice and Cotton Plantation in Southeastern United States. Manuscript on file, Georgia Museum of Natural History, Athens, GA.

Professional Presentations

- 2017 **Samei, S.**, Olszewski, D., and N. Munro. “Zooarchaeological Investigation of Late Pleistocene Subsistence Adaptations in Iran.” SAA 82nd annual meeting, Vancouver, BC.
- 2016 **Samei, S.**, and K. Alizadeh. “Three Seasons of Excavations at the Kura-Araxes Early Bronze Age Site of Köhne Shahar, West Azarbaijan Province, Iran.” Iranian Archaeology National Symposium 14th annual meeting, Tehran, Iran. [*Original in Persian*].
- 2015 **Samei, S.**, and K. Alizadeh. “Craft Production and Specialization in the Transcaucasian Early Bronze Age: A View from Köhne Shahar, NW Iran.” SAA 80th annual meeting, San Francisco, CA.
- 2014 **Samei, S.**, Alizadeh, K., and H. Eqbal. “A Quantitative Zooarchaeological Approach to Exploring Craft Specialization at the Early Bronze Age Site of Köhne Shahar in Northwestern Iran.” ICAZ 12th meeting, San Rafael, Argentina.
- 2014 **Samei, S.**, Munro, N., Kennerty, M., al-Nahar, Maysoon, and D. Olszewski. “Taphonomic and Zooarchaeological Analysis of the Early Epipaleolithic Site of Tor at-Tareeq (WHS-1065), Jordan.” SAA 79th annual meeting, Austin, TX.
- 2013 **Samei, S.** “Craftsmen and Herdsmen of Köhne Shahar: A Zooarchaeological Perspective on Social Complexity at a Kura-Araxes Settlement in Northwestern Iran.” South Caucasus Colloquium, Institute for the Studies of the Ancient World, New York, NY.
- 2013 **Samei, S.**, Alizadeh, K., and H. Eqbal. “Zooarchaeological Analyses from the Kura-Araxes Site of Köhne Shahar (Ravaz) in Northwestern Iran: A Preliminary Assessment of Social Complexity.” Poster, ASOR annual meeting, Baltimore, MD.
- 2008 **Samei, S.** “Tin Trade Failure in Ancient Mesopotamia and the Fall of the Late Bronze Age Civilizations of the Eastern Mediterranean.” Georgia Academy of Sciences annual meeting, Jacksonville, FL.

Zooarchaeological Projects

- 2016- Tepe Sarsakhti; Shazand, Iran; Neolithic-Islamic tel; senior specialist
- 2013- Areni-1 Cave; Areni, Armenia; Chalcolithic and medieval occupation; senior specialist
- 2012- Nader Tepe; Parsabad, Iran; Neolithic-Islamic tel; senior specialist
- 2011- Köhne Shahar; Chaldoran, Iran; Early Bronze Age fortification; senior specialist
- 2009- Western Highlands Early Epipaleolithic Project; western Jordan; co-specialist
- 2009 Mission San Luis de Apalachee; Tallahassee, Florida; 17th century; senior specialist
- 2007-2009 Stono Plantation; James Island, South Carolina; Antebellum; junior specialist

Research Projects Under Development

- Understanding and modeling variability in pastoral practices in the archaeological record through principles of economic theory and behavioral ecology
- “Migration” as a modern concept and its archaeological uses and abuses
- Developing a quantitative taphonomic approach for comparative analysis and assessment of scales of craft specialization using faunal remains

Courses Taught

Fall 2015 ANTH 1000W, "Other People's Worlds" (writing intensive)
Spring 2015 ANTH 1000W, "Other People's Worlds" (writing intensive)
Fall 2014 ANTH 1000W, "Other People's Worlds" (writing intensive)
Fall 2013 ANTH 1000W, "Other people's Worlds" (writing intensive)
Winter Intersession 2015 ANTH 1000, "Other People's Worlds"
Winter Intersession 2014 ANTH 1000, "Other People's Worlds"

Teaching Assistantships

Spring 2014 ANTH 1006, "Introduction to Anthropology" (2 sections)
Spring 2013 ANTH 1006, "Introduction to Anthropology" (2 sections)
Spring 2013 ANTH 3002, "Culture, Language, and Thought" (1 section)
Fall 2012 ANTH 1500, "Great Discoveries in Archaeology" (3 sections)
Spring 2012 ANTH 1500, "Great Discoveries in Archaeology" (3 sections)
Fall 2011 ANTH 1500, "Great Discoveries in Archaeology" (3 sections)
Spring 2011 ANTH 1500, "Great Discoveries in Archaeology" (3 sections)
Fall 2010 ANTH 1000, "Other People's Worlds" (1 section)

Honors Courses and Sections Taught

Fall 2016 ANTH 1000W, "Other People's Worlds" (writing intensive)
Spring 2014 ANTH 1006, "Introduction to Anthropology" (1 section)
Spring 2013 ANTH 1006, "Introduction to Anthropology" (1 section)

Professional Affiliations

American Research Institute of the South Caucasus (ARISC)
American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR)
International Council of Archaeozoology (ICAZ)
Society for American Archaeology (SAA)
Society for Iranian Archaeology (SIA)

Professional Service

Reviewer; Journal of the Society for Iranian Archaeology, 2013-present
President; Phi Kappa Literary Society, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, 2008
President; Student Association for Archaeological Sciences, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, 2006-2007
Student member; Executive Board of Center for Archaeological Sciences, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, 2006-2007
Vice-president; Lambda Alpha Anthropology National Honor Society, Zeta Chapter, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, 2006

Volunteer Work

Public archaeology presentations; various elementary schools within and around Athens-Clark County, 2007-2008

- Introducing students to the pre-European history of Georgia
- Emphasizing the importance of respecting Native American cultural heritage
- Teaching about the significance of cultural resources preservation

Graduate Employee Union, UAW Local 6950, 2014-2015 (except summers):

- Involvement in sit-ins, work-ins, and rallies on campus
- Lobbying at the Connecticut General Assembly
- Assistance with organizing efforts
- Assistance with voter registration efforts (2014)

Language Skills

English (fluent)

Persian (fluent)

French (intermediate)

Arabic (intermediate)

Armenian (basic reading)

Other Skills

Working knowledge of: ArcGIS, AutoCAD, Microsoft Office, SPSS, Surfer, HTML

References

Natalie Munro, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

Department of Anthropology

University of Connecticut

Beach Hall, 354 Mansfield Rd.

Storrs, CT 06269-1176

Natalie.munro@uconn.edu

Alexia Smith, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor

Department of Anthropology

University of Connecticut

Beach Hall, 354 Mansfield Rd.

Storrs, CT 06269-1176

Alexia.smith@uconn.edu

Gideon Hartman, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor

Department of Anthropology

University of Connecticut

Beach Hall, 354 Mansfield Rd.

Storrs, CT 06269-1176

Gideon.hartman@uconn.edu

Deborah Olszewski, Ph.D.

Adjunct Associate Professor

Department of Anthropology

University of Pennsylvania

3269 South St.

Philadelphia, PA 19104

deboraho@sas.upenn.edu