Corrin Laposki

University of Connecticut

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**Research Interests**

***Theoretical*:** Game Theory, Cooperation and Competition, Evolutionary Ecology

***Methodological***: Ancient DNA, Stable Isotope Analysis, Metagenomic Analysis

***Topical***: Biomolecular Archaeology, Neolithization in the Levant, Oral Microbiome Evolution, Respiratory Disease, Biological Isotopes, Dietary Change

**Education**

**Ph.D, Anthropology, University of Connecticut, Expected 2024**

**Concentration:** Biomolecular archaeology, stable isotopes, metagenomics

**Dissertation:** *Pulmonary Disease at the Advent of Agriculture*

**Dissertation Committee:** Gideon Hartman, Natalie Munro, Deborah Bolnick, Richard Sosis

**M.A, Archaeological Studies, Yale University, May 2016**

**Concentration:** Biomolecular archaeology, malaria

**Thesis:** *West Africa's Furtive Crystals: A MALDI TOF Analysis of Archaeological Malaria*

**Thesis Readers:** Roderick McIntosh, Thomas Fenn

**B.A, Anthropology, University of Minnesota, May 2014**

**Thesis:** *Mass Spectroscopy and Residue Analysis: An exploration of the application of MS technology towards residue analysis in archaeology*

**Thesis Advisor:** Gilliane Monnier

**Research Experience**

**The Fallow Deer Microbiome and Antler Growth Project, University of Connecticut, April 2020-Present**

**Role: Research Associate**

• Using shotgun metagenomics and stable isotopes to understand the taxonomic and functional composition of the Fallow Deer microbiome during periods of antler growth. Findings will be submitted for publication in the Journal of Archaeological Science.

**YUAL Malaria Project, Yale University, April 2015-June 2020**

**Role: Research Associate**

**•**Developed a protocol to identify hemozoin (a malarial byproduct) within archaeological bone using a matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization time of flight mass spectrometer (MALDI-TOF). Published as part of Master’s Thesis, protocol is currently in use at Yale University for further research on ancient malaria.

**Summer School in Osteoarchaeology and Paleopathology, Pisa, Italy, June 2018**

**Role: Participant**

**•**Received training in paleopathological laboratory methods and conducted biological profile reconstructions of 13th century Medieval individuals.

**Proyecto Atalla, Huancavelica, Peru, May-June 2016**

**Role: Research Assistant**

•Analyzed pottery sherds and camelid bones containing cinnabar pigment to better understand the use of cinnabar pigment within the wider domestic and economic environment of Atalla and its neighbors during the Early Horizon Period in Peru.

**Belize Valley Archaeological Reconnaissance Project, San Ignacio, Belize**

**May-June 2015**

**Role: Participant**

**•** Gained experience in archaeological field techniques, artifact cataloguing, artifact preservation, and site mapping. Contributed towards the preservation and analysis of a Post-Classic Mayan burial. Findings included in the 2015 field report.

**Work Experience**

**Inventory and Database Assistant, Connecticut State Museum of Natural History, September 2020-May 2021**

* Served as primary inventory staff for the Barnum-Secor Collection as well as identified items in the collection that fell under NAGPRA purview.

**Laboratory Assistant, Microbial Analysis, Services, and Resources Center (MARS), University of Connecticut, September 2017-May 2018**

* Assisted with DNA extractions and PCR of a variety of biological samples submitted to MARS. Managed equipment, reagents, and trained individuals in DNA extraction protocols.

**Research Assistant, The Nolan Center, Yale University, January-May 2016**

* Assisted primary library staff with research regarding Annie and Josef Albers and their travels throughout Mesoamerica. Research contributed towards Jennifer Reynolds-Kaye’s publication *Small-great objects: Anni and Josef Albers in the Americas*.

**Research Assistant, The Hull Lab, Yale University, January 2014-May 2016**

* Responsible for preparing oceanic samples for faunal and isotopic analysis. This included washing, sorting, bottling, and cataloguing prepared samples. In addition, selected desired foraminifera for analysis and logged their presence within samples. Gained extensive experience arranging foraminifera slides for computational scans. Additionally, trained in SEM imaging techniques as well as microscope work involving a LEICA DM750 LED, part of the phase contrast microscope series.

**Laboratory Assistant, The Thomas Lab, University of Minnesota, February 2013-May 2014**

* Cleaned glassware, handled packages, produced stock chemical solutions, made LB media with required antibiotics, autoclaved solutions and trash, and performed other general lab maintenance activities.

**Laboratory Assistant, The Titus Lab, University of Minnesota, August 2013-July 2014**

* Cleaned glassware, handled packages, produced stock chemical solutions, made LB media with required antibiotics, autoclaved solutions and trash, and performed other general lab maintenance activities.

**Chapter President for The National Society of Leadership and Success, University of Minnesota, July 2012-January 2014**

* Responsible for the upkeep of the honor society’s chapter within the University of Minnesota. Founded the chapter, established two campus leaders as advisors, and assembled an executive board composed of five student members. Connected with University administration and the student body, while organizing chapter activities and leadership-training days.

**Teaching Experience**

**Primary Instructor**

*University of Connecticut, Storrs*

ANTH 1000W Peoples and Cultures of the World (Summer 2019)

* Developed and narrated weekly lectures on cultural anthropology topics, assigned student essay topics, graded student essays, implemented a diverse array of activities such as music video review and DNA analysis to compliment weekly lecture series.

**Teaching Assistant**

*University of Connecticut, Storrs*

ANTH 1000 and 1000W Peoples and Cultures of the World

Fall: 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021

Spring: 2017, 2018, 2021, 2022

Summer: 2020

* Led weekly discussion sections on cultural anthropology topics, provided essay feedback, developed weekly activities to compliment lecture modules, graded all student work.

ANTH 1500 Great Discoveries in Archaeology, University of Connecticut,

Spring: 2019

* Led weekly discussion sections on archaeological topics, provided quiz feedback, developed weekly activities to compliment lecture modules, graded all student work.

ANTH 1006 Introduction to Anthropology

Spring: 2017, 2018

* Led weekly discussion sections on the four fields of anthropology, provided quiz feedback, developed weekly activities to compliment lecture modules, graded all student work.

ANTH 5503 Stable Isotopes

Spring: 2017

* Assisted with preparing bone samples for stable carbon and nitrogen isotope analysis. Aided students in preparing collagen extraction as part of the laboratory module. Demonstrated proper laboratory safety measures and ensured proper disposal of hazardous waste.

**Undergraduate Student Mentoring**

* Samantha Morales [Hartman lab Intern, University of Connecticut Storrs, 2020-2021]
* Gary Brownbill [Hartman Lab Intern, University of Connecticut Storrs, 2021-]
* Danielle Falci [Hartman Lab Intern, University of Connecticut Storrs, 2021-]
* Antonio Prizio [Hartman Lab Intern, University of Connecticut Storrs, 2021-]
* William Luchon III [Hartman Lab Intern, University of Connecticut Storrs, 2021-]

**Poster Presentations and Conference Abstracts**

* **Laposki, Corrin K.** and Christina Balentine. *Oral Microbial Peptidase Distribution Reflects Phylogeny and Relationship with Host*. Poster presented at the [Ancient Biomolecules of Plants, Animals, and Microbes](https://coursesandconferences.wellcomeconnectingscience.org/event/ancient-biomolecules-of-plants-animals-and-microbes-virtual-conference-20210329/)Virtual Conference: March 29-31, 2021
* **Laposki, Corrin K***. A Spoonful of Bacteria Helps the Gluten Go Down: Probing the Oral Microbiome for Evidence of Positive Selection in the Face of Diets Enriched in Wheat, Barley, and Rye* Poster presented at the 88th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, Cleveland, Ohio; March 27th- 30th, 2019
* Julio Mercader (University of Calgary), Steven Larter (University of Calgary), Thomas Oldenburg (University Calgary), Melisa Brown (University of Calgary), Patrick Lee (University of Calgary), Maria Soto (University of Calgary), Ryan McRae (Washington University), Brooke Luokalla (Yale University), **Corrin Laposki (University of Connecticut)**, Kate Trinkhaus (University of St. Andrews), Mallory Cox (Yale University). *Bio-molecular investigation of Malaria in ancient human remains*. Experiencing Change: Politics, Environment, and Health. Conference Presentation at the AAA/CASCA Annual Meeting, November 20th-24th, Vancouver, BC, 2019.

**Invited Talks**

* 2021 Eastern Connecticut State University **Neolithization in Three Acts**. Windham, CT.

**Grants and Awards**

* 2021 UConn 3 Minute Thesis Competition: Finalist and Third Place Winner, $100
* 2021 Summer Research Award, University of Connecticut, $500
* 2020 Summer Research Award, University of Connecticut, $500
* 2018 University of Connecticut Anthropology Department Summer Research Funding $1,500
* 2016 Albers-Coe-Hazard Summer Field Grant, Yale University, $1,800
* 2015 Albers-Coe-Hazard Summer Field Grant, Yale University, $3,000
* 2014 Elder Johnson Research Award: Best Senior Thesis in Archaeology: University of Minnesota, $50
* 2013 Nominated for Elder Johnson Research Award: University of Minnesota
* 2011 Curt Culver MGIC scholarship: $1,000
* 2010 Milwaukee Collaborative Cinema Student Film Award: $500
* 2010 Montana State University ACT Score Scholarship: $2,000

**Skills**

* Wet lab proficiencies: DNA extraction, PCR, aseptic techniques, collagen and carbonate stable isotope analysis, media preparation and plating.
* Dry lab proficiencies: QIIME2, MOTHUR, Phyloseq R package
* Microsoft suite proficiencies: Microsoft Access Databases, Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint.
* Database proficiencies: UniProt database, NCBI Refseq database, SILVA, and Greengenes databases, MEROPS database.
* Coding Proficiencies: Working knowledge of Python, Perl, R

**Languages**

* Proficient in English
* Working knowledge of Japanese

**Affiliations**

* Society for American Archaeology
* American Association of Physical Anthropologists
* Society for the Study of Evolution
* Phi Beta Kappa

**Academic and Community Service**

* 2020-2022 Graduate Admissions Peer Mentor-Assisted incoming graduate students with application materials, personal statements, and provided information about departmental atmosphere and funding opportunities.
* 2020-2022 Graduate Student Representative to Anthropology Department-Voiced graduate concerns to the Anthropology Department faculty and assisted with graduate-faculty relations.
* 2020 COVID Test Kit Assembly Volunteer
* 2019 Connecticut Archaeology Day Volunteer
* 2019 Guest Lecturer for ANTH 5517 Hunter-Gatherers [University of Connecticut, Storrs]
* 2016 Connecticut Archaeology Day Volunteer