

KATHLEEN J. BIRNEY, Ph.D.

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RESEARCH INTERESTS:

Cultural interaction between the Near East and the Aegean, Persian and Hellenistic history, “knock-offs” and elite emulation, ‘modeling’ ethnicity, child sacrifice and burial, ancient cosmogonies

POST-DOCTORAL POSITIONS

Wesleyan University, Asst. Professor, Classical Studies & Archaeology Program 2011-present
Affiliate Member: Departments of Jewish Studies and Art History, Middle Eastern Studies Certificate

Harvard Semitic Museum, Volume Editor & Author 2009-2010

Harvard University, Post-Doctoral Fellow 2007-8

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Wesleyan University, Dept. of Classical Studies 2011- present

- CCIV 201
Bronze Age Art & Archaeology
- CCIV 214
Greek Art & Archaeology
- CCIV 244
Death and Afterlife in Egypt & Greece
- CCIV 283
Greek Vase as Art & Artifact
- CCIV 153
Single Combat in the Ancient World
(Freshman Writing Seminar)
- GRK 101-102
Introduction to Attic Greek
- GRK 365
Hesiod (Advanced Greek Seminar)
- ARCP 401
Archaeological Field Methods
(on-site at Ashkelon)
- ARCP/CCIV 409-410
Senior Thesis Tutorials for Archaeology and
Classical Studies

Ashkelon Archaeological Field School 2008 - present
Field instruction and seminar for second-year and graduate students

Harvard University, Classics Department and Core Program 2006
Teaching Fellow, “Images of Alexander the Great” (Professor David Mitten)

Independent Tutor for Latin Language SAT 2006

Harvard University, Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations 1999, 2001, 2003
Head Teaching Fellow “The Bible and Its Interpreters” Prof. James Kugel (1999, 2001), Prof. Gary Anderson (2003)

Harvard University, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations 2002
Head Teaching Fellow “The Archaeological History of Egypt” (Prof. Peter der Manuelian)

EDUCATION

Harvard University Ph. D., Near Eastern & Mediterranean Archaeology 2007
Fields: Near Eastern History, Syro-Palestinian Archaeology, Mediterranean Archaeology, Hebrew Bible

Harvard Divinity School Master of Theological Studies 1998

Yale University B.A., Classics (Ancient Greek) 1996

DISSERTATION

Sea Peoples or Syrian Peddlers? The Late Bronze – Iron I Aegean Presence in Syria and Cilicia

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXPERIENCE

Co-Director, Grid 32 Salvage Project, Ashkelon, Israel	Oct-Nov 2014
Grid Supervisor & Field School Instructor, Ashkelon Excavations (Israel)	2007-present
Square Supervisor, Ashkelon Excavations	1998-2002, 2004
Researcher, Ashkelon Publication Season, Cambridge MA	2003, 2005
Archaeological Field School, Caesarea-Maritima Excavations (Caesarea, Israel)	1997

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

“Infant Burial and the Iconography of Death on a Burial from Philistine Ashkelon”, with B. Doak, *Israel Exploration Journal* 61/1 (2011):32-53.

“ ‘Phoenician’ Inscribed Bronze Cuboid Weights” and “Iron II Weights and Measures”, with E. Levine, in Stager, Schloen and Master (eds.) *Final Reports of the Leon Levy Expedition to Ashkelon, vol. III.: The 604 B.C.E. Destruction*. (Eisenbrauns, 2011)

“Tracking the Cooking pot *à la steatite*: Signs of Cyprus in Iron Age Syria”, *American Journal of Archaeology* 112 (2008): 565-580.

“Stratigraphy and Methodology”, in L. Stager, J. Greene, B. Gernand and K. Birney (eds.) *Excavations in the “Precinct of Tanit” (Tophet) at Carthage, 1976-1979*. American Schools of Oriental Research Punic Project, vol. 1. (in editing)

“Tracing Persian decline? Excavations of a Persian Period Neighborhood at Ashkelon” (forthcoming)

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND INVITED TALKS

“From Ashkelon to *Askelon*: Towards a Reconstruction of the Hellenistic City.” Paper delivered at the Albright School of Archaeological Research, Jerusalem, Israel. December 4, 2014.

“The Impact of Hellenism on the Coast of Palestine: Ashkelon as a Test Case”. Invited talk for the Rothberg International School, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel. December 3, 2014.

“Living the Happy Life(?) in a Hellenistic City”. Invited talk for Al-Quds University, Jerusalem, Israel. November 23, 2014.

“Pushing Boundaries: Pioneers of Attic Red Figure 520-490 B.C.” Invited talk for Wesleyan Potters, Middletown, CT March 28, 2014.

“Recent Excavations at Ashkelon: The Persian and Hellenistic Periods in Grid 51”. Paper delivered at the Annual Meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research, Baltimore, MD. Nov. 21, 2013.

“From Philistines to Phoenicians and Beyond: Ongoing excavations at the city of Ashkelon”. Invited talk for the Wasch Center Lecture Series, Wesleyan University, January 2013.

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND INVITED TALKS (cont'd)

“David and Goliath: Greek Epic, archaeology, and the construction of Israelite Identity”. Invited talk for the Ashkelon Archaeological Lecture Series, June 2012.

“An Introduction to Philistine Culture.” Invited talk for the American Institute of Archaeology Lecture Series, Trinity University, Hartford CT November 2011

“Rethinking our Approach to the Sea Peoples.” Invited talk for the Core Archaeology Graduate Group, Harvard University, March 10 2010.

“Economy and Trade in Ancient Egypt”. Invited talk for the Harvard Semitic Museum Docent Series, February 2009.

“Mycenaean Influence in Iron Age Syria – Reconstructing the Big Picture”, delivered at the Annual Meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research, Boston, MA Nov. 19-22, 2008.

“Intramural Infant and the Iconography of Death at Ashkelon,” with B. Doak, delivered at the Annual Meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research, Boston MA, November 2008.

“Late Bronze Age Trade in the Mediterranean: Modern Market Principles in the Ancient World”. Invited talk for the Harvard Semitic Museum Docent Series April 15, 2008.

“Mycenaean-Style Pottery in the 'Amuq Valley, Syria,” Invited Talk, Dept. of Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL March 10, 2006.

“Tracking the Cooking Pot à la Stéatite: the Road Inland,” delivered at the Annual Meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research, Philadelphia, PA Nov 16, 2005.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Session Chair, “Archaeology of the Near East: Bronze and Iron Ages,” Annual Meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research, Baltimore, MD	Nov 2013
Wesleyan University First Year Program Committee	2013-2014
Wesleyan University Archaeology and Anthropology Collections Committee	2013-2014
Admissions Office Faculty Panel Speaker	2013-2014
Allbritton Center for Public Life, Collaborative Proposal Grant to host Archaeology and Politics Symposium at Wesleyan Fall 2013	Spring 2013
Allbritton Center for Public Life, University Lecture Grant to co-sponsor Guest Lecture by Dr. Adriaan Lanni, Harvard Law School Feb 2013	Winter 2012
Mentor, AIA/APA Women’s Classical Caucus	2012-present
SHARE Field Program Coordinator	2012-present
Reviewer, Israel Science Foundation (Archaeological Grant Proposals)	2011-present

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE (cont'd)

Voting Institutional Representative, American School of Classical Studies at Athens	2011-present
Board Member, Society for Humanitarian Archaeological Research and Exploration	2010-present
Instructor and Coach, Harvard Karate Club and Harvard Karate Team	1998-2011
Non-resident Tutor, Lowell House, Harvard University	2004

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Center for Hellenic Studies Fellowship, Washington D.C.	awarded for Spring 2015
Loeb Classical Library Fellowship (declined)	awarded for Spring 2015
National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship Albright Institute of Archaeological Research, Jerusalem	Fall 2014
U.S. Women's National Team, Shotokan Karate	2004-2011
Robert Pfeiffer Traveling Fellowship for archaeological research in Israel	2000, 2004, 2007
Derek Bok Certificate of Distinction in Teaching	2001, 2006
Dorot Foundation Travel Fellowship	1998, 1999, 2002
G. Ernest Wright Prize for academic excellence in the study of ancient history	1998

LANGUAGE TRAINING

Ancient: Latin, Greek, Hebrew, Phoenician, Ugaritic, Aramaic, Hittite, Luwian

Modern: Russian, reading fluency in French and German.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- American Institute of Archaeology
- American Schools of Oriental Research
- American School of Classical Studies at Athens
- Society for Humanitarian Archaeological Research and Exploration
- American Anthropological Association
- Society for Biblical Literature