

ARCL0156: FUNERARY ARCHAEOLOGY

2023-24, Term 1

MA/MSc module
15 credits

Co-ordinator: Mike Parker Pearson
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Room 310

Mondays, 4.00–6.00, Room 209



A former mummy of the Late Bronze Age from Cladh Hallan, South Uist, Scotland

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING ASSESSMENTS:

The **coursework coversheet** is available on the course Moodle pages and here: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeology/current-students> under “Policies, Forms and Guidelines”.

Please enter **your five-digit candidate code on the coversheet and in the subject line** when you upload your work in Moodle.

Please use **your five-digit candidate code as the name of the file** you submit.

Please refer to the IoA Student Handbook and IoA Study Skills Guide:
<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeology/current-students/ioa-student-handbook>
<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeology/current-students/ioa-study-skills-guide>
for instructions on coursework submission, IoA referencing guidelines and marking criteria, as well as UCL policies on penalties for late submission, over-length work and academic misconduct.

1. MODULE OVERVIEW

Module description

How we dispose of and commemorate our dead is fundamental to human culture. Human remains are some of the most significant archaeological finds and archaeologists have to know something about the diversity of attitudes and practices relating to the dead. This half-module begins with the study of methods and techniques of analysis, followed by a survey of contemporary societies' funerary practices and the variety of human responses to death. It then focuses on the interpretive theories and models that have been used to reconstruct the social significance of funerary treatment in past societies. Case studies will focus on the interpretation of rank and status, ritual and symbolism, territory and legitimation, and the ethical and legal aspects of exhumation and reburial. These studies will range across a wide variety of periods and places, from the Lower Palaeolithic to the present day.

Module Aims

This half-module's aims are:

- to evaluate different types of archaeological and historical evidence
- to integrate this variety of evidence in a theoretically informed manner
- to develop developed a critical awareness of the ritual, political, social and economic factors influencing funerary practices
- to investigate a range of themes and patterns of human behaviour in funerary archaeology
- to explore the relationship between material culture and funerary practices
- to apply this knowledge to a range of archaeological periods, appreciating the need for a broad geographical and chronological approach

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the module, students should be able to demonstrate/have developed:

- a good knowledge of the principles and practice of funerary archaeology
- engagement with different forms of evidence and methodologies, and understanding of how to use them critically in class discussions and writing assessments
- a nuanced understanding of the themes and controversies surrounding the study of funerary archaeology
- knowledge of methods and theories of archaeological, anthropological and historical analysis in funerary studies, and the ability to apply them to archaeological data.

Methods of Assessment

This module is assessed by means of two pieces of coursework, each of 1500 words, which each contribute 50% to the final grade for the module.

Penalties will only be imposed if you exceed the upper figure in the range. There is no penalty for using fewer words than the lower figure in the range: the lower figure is simply for your guidance to indicate the sort of length that is expected.

Communications

- **Moodle is the main hub** for this course.
- Important information will be posted by staff in the **Announcements section of the Moodle page** and you will automatically receive an email notification for these.
- Please post any general queries relating to module content, assessments and administration in the Moodle Q&A or via email). The forum will be checked regularly.
- For personal queries, please contact the co-ordinator by email.

Week-by-week summary

| Week | Date | Topic | Lecturer |
|------|--------------|---------------------------------------|----------|
| 1 | 2/10/22 | Funerary archaeology: an introduction | MPP |
| 2 | 9/10/22 | Principles of analysis | MPP |
| 3 | 16/10/22 | Ethnoarchaeology of death | MPP |
| 4 | 23/10/22 | Reading the body | MPP |
| 5 | 30/10/22 | Bodies, status and power | MPP |
| 6 | READING WEEK | | |
| 7 | 13/11/22 | Death in the landscape | MPP |
| 8 | 20/11/22 | Death and human consciousness | MPP |
| 9 | 27/11/22 | The human experience of death | MPP |
| 10 | 4/12/22 | The politics of the dead | MPP |
| 11 | 11/12/22 | Review session/ discussion forum | MPP |

Lecturer

Mike Parker Pearson (MPP)

Weekly Module Plan

The module is taught through lectures and discussions. Students will be required to undertake set readings, complete pre-class activities and actively participate in discussion.

*Monday 16.00-18.00: Teaching sessions
(Lectures for following week available after each session.)*

Workload

This is a 15-credit module which equates to 150 hours of learning time including session preparation, background reading, and researching and writing your assignments. With that in mind you should expect to organise your time in roughly this way:

| | |
|----------|--|
| 20 hours | <i>Staff-led teaching sessions (lectures, tutorials)</i> |
| 60 hours | <i>Self-guided session preparation (reading, listening, note-taking and online activities), about 6 hours a week</i> |
| 35 hours | <i>Reading for, and writing essay 1</i> |
| 35 hours | <i>Reading for, and writing, essay 2</i> |

2. ASSESSMENT

Essay 1 (1500 words) submission date: **24 November 2023**

(Target return: **4 December 2023**)

Essay 2 (1500 words) submission date: **16 January 2024**

(Target return: **23 January 2024**)

Each assignment and possible approaches to it will be discussed in class, in advance of the submission deadline. If students are unclear about the nature of an assignment, they should discuss this with the module co-ordinator in advance (via office hours or class Moodle forum). You will receive feedback on your written coursework via Moodle, and have the opportunity to discuss your marks and feedback with the co-ordinator in their office hours.

For more details see the 'Assessment' section on Moodle. The coursework coversheet is available on the course Moodle pages and here: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeology/current-students> under "Policies, Forms and Guidelines".

Please make sure you enter your five-digit candidate code on the coversheet and in the subject line when you upload your work in Moodle.

Please use your five-digit candidate code as the name of the file you submit.

The [IoA marking criteria](#) can be found in the IoA Student Handbook (Section 13: Information on assessment). The [IoA Study Skills Guide](#) provides useful guidance on writing different types of assignment.

Please note that **late submission, exceeding the maximum word count** and **academic misconduct (plagiarism)** will be penalized and can significantly reduce the mark awarded for the assignment and/or overall module result. On requirements, please do consult <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeology/current-students/ioa-student-handbook/13-information-assessment> with sections 13.7–13.8: coursework submission, 13.10: word count, 13.12–14: academic integrity.

Assessment 1 (Essay 1)

Essay 1a: What methods can archaeologists use to identify past impacts of plagues and epidemics from cemeteries, graves and burials?

Introductory reading:

- Cessford, C., Scheib, C., Guellil, M., Keller, M., Alexander, C., Inskip, S. and Robb, J. 2021. Beyond plague pits: using genetics to identify responses to plague in medieval Cambridgeshire. *European Journal of Archaeology* 24: 1–23. **Online**
- Grainger, I., Hawkins, D., Cowal, L. and Mikulski, R. 2008. *The Black Death Cemetery, East Smithfield, London*. London: MOLA. **INST ARCH DAA 416 Qto GRA**
- Pfizenmaier, S. 2016. *Charterhouse Square: Black Death cemetery and Carthusian monastery, meat market and suburb*. London: MOLA. **INST ARCH DAA 416 PFI**
- Spyrou, M.A., Keller, M., Tikhbatova, R.I. *et al.* 2019. Phylogeography of the second plague pandemic revealed through analysis of historical *Yersinia pestis* genomes. *Nature Communications* 10: 4470. **Online**
- Spyrou, M.A., Tikhbatova, R.I., Wang, C.C. *et al.* 2018. Analysis of 3800-year-old *Yersinia pestis* genomes suggests Bronze Age origin for bubonic plague. *Nature Communications* 9: 2234. **Online**

See also Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA) blogs on: 1665 Great Plague bacterium DNA identified for the first time; The Black Death cemetery, East Smithfield, London; and other relevant sites (e.g. Charterhouse Square, West Smithfield, Bedlam etc.).

Essay 1b: How are concerns with 'green' and environmental issues leading to changes in mortuary practices in the UK and/or elsewhere?

Introductory reading:

Clayden, A. 2011. Reclaiming and reinterpreting ritual in the woodland burial ground. In P. Post and J. Kroesen (eds) *Sacred Places in Modern Western Culture*. Louvain: Peeters. 289–94.

GEOGRAPHY H 27 POS

Clayden, A. Hockey, J. and Powell, M. 2010. Natural burial: the de-materialising of death? In J. Hockey, C. Komaromy and K. Woodthorpe (eds) *The Matter of Death: space, place and materiality*. London: Palgrave. 148–64. **Online**

Clayden, A., Green, T., Hockey, J. and Powell, M. 2014. *Natural Burial: landscape, practice and experience*. London: Routledge. **INST ARCH AH CLA & Online**

Hockey, J. Green, T. Clayden, A. and Powell, M. 2012. Landscapes of the dead? Natural burial and the materialisation of absence. *Journal of Material Culture* 17: 115–32. **Online**

Jackson, M. 2022. Water cremation in the UK: what is it, and how does it work?

<https://fenixfuneral.co.uk/guidance/water-cremation-uk-5-step-guide-to-alkaline-hydrolysis/>

Rugg, J. 2006. Lawn cemeteries: the emergence of a new landscape of death. *Urban History* 33: 213–33. **Online**

Essay 1c: How are archaeologists able to detect and interpret the evidence for reopened or deliberately disturbed graves?

Introductory reading:

Aspöck, E., Gerdau-Radonic, K. and Noterman, A.A. In press. Reopening graves for the removal of objects and bones: cultural practices and looting. In C.J. Knüsel and E. Schotsmans (eds) *The Routledge Handbook of Archaeoethnology*. London: Routledge.

Carlsen, E.B., Haue, N. and Nielsen, J.N. 2015. The chronology and structure of the Sejlflod cemetery, Northern Jutland, Denmark. *Danish Journal of Archaeology* 4:1: 33–63. **Online**

Geary, P.J. 1990. *Furta Sacra: thefts of relics in the central Middle Ages*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. **HISTORY 83 D GEA & Online**

Klevnäs, A., Aspöck, E., Astrid A. Noterman, A.A., van Haperen, M.C. and Zintl, S. 2021. Reopening graves in the early Middle Ages: from local practice to European phenomenon. *Antiquity* 95: 1005–26. **Online**

Parker Pearson, M., Mulville, J., Smith, H. and Marshall, P. 2021. *Cladh Hallan: roundhouses and the dead in the Hebridean Bronze Age and Iron Age*. Oxford: Oxbow. Chapter 4. **Online**

Parker Pearson, M., Smith, H., Mulville J. and Brennand, M. 2018. *Cille Pheadair: a Norse-period farmstead and Pictish burial in South Uist*. Oxford: Oxbow. Chapter 2. **INST ARCH 510 Qto PAR & Online**

Essay 1d: To what extent has human sacrifice been associated with early state formation and similar legitimations of power in ancient societies?

Introductory reading:

Baadsgaard, A., Monge, J., Cox, S. and Zettler R. 2011. Human sacrifice and intentional corpse preservation in the royal cemetery of Ur. *Antiquity* 85: 27–42. **Online**

Donnan, C.B. 2010. Moche state religion: a unifying force in Moche political organization. In J. Quilter and J.L. Castillo (eds) *New Perspectives on Moche Political Organization*. Washington, DC: Dumbarton Oaks. 47–69. **INST ARCH DGF 100 QUI**

- Hassett, B. and Sağlamtimur, H. 2018. Radical 'royals'? Burial practices at Başur Höyük and the emergence of early states in Mesopotamia. *Antiquity* 92: 640–54. **Online**
- Judd, M. and Irish, J. 2009. Dying to serve: the mass burials at Kerma. *Antiquity* 83: 709–22. **Online**
- O'Connor, D. 2009. *Abydos: Egypt's first pharaohs and the cult of Osiris*. London: Thames & Hudson. Chapter 9 (136–57). **EGYPTOLOGY E 100 OCO**
- Porter, A. and Schwartz, G. (eds) *Sacred Killing: the archaeology of sacrifice in the ancient Near East*. Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns. **INST ARCH DBA 100 POR**
- Schwartz, G. 2017. The archaeological study of sacrifice. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 46: 223–40. **Online**

Essay 1e: What are the main contributions of archaeoethnology to understanding funerary practices and social structure in past societies?

Introductory reading:

- Duday, H. 2009. *The Archaeology of the Dead: lectures in archaeoethnology*. Oxford: Oxbow. **INST ARCH JF DUD**
- Knüsel, C.J. and Schotsmans, E.M.J. (eds) 2022. *Routledge Handbook of Archaeoethnology: bioarchaeology of mortuary behavior*. London: Routledge. Esp. chapter 5 and chapters in Parts II and III. **Online**
- Nilsson Stutz, L. 2003. *Embodied Rituals and Ritualised Bodies: tracing ritual practice in Late Mesolithic burials*. Lund: Acta Archaeologica Lundensia 46. **INST ARCH DAM 100 STU, SCANDINAVIAN A 52 STU**
- Nilsson Stutz, L. 2009. Coping with cadavers: ritual practices in Mesolithic cemeteries. In S. McCarten (eds) *Mesolithic Horizons: Papers Presented at the Seventh International Conference on the Mesolithic in Europe, Belfast 2005*. . Volume 2. Oxford: Oxbow. 656–63. **INST ARCH DA Qto CAR**

Assessment 2 (Essay 2)

Essay 2a: To what extent is the practice of inhumation the most significant indicator of sophistication in the human species' development of mortuary practices , and how might the discoveries in Rising Star Cave be understood in this light?

Introductory reading:

- Berger, L.R., Makhubela, T., Molopyane, K, Krüger, A., Randolph-Quinney, P. *et al.* 2023. Evidence for deliberate burial of the dead by *Homo naledi*. *eLife* 12: RP89106. **Online**
- Callaway, E. 2023. Sharp criticism of controversial ancient-human claims tests *eLife's* revamped peer-review model. *Nature* 620: 13–14. **Online**
- Pettitt, P. 2010. *The Palaeolithic Origins of Human Burial*. London: Routledge. 11–40, 261–70. **ISSUE DESK IoA PET 20, INST ARCH BC 120 PET**
- Pettitt, P. 2018. Hominin evolutionary thanatology from the mortuary to funerary realm. The palaeoanthropological bridge between chemistry and culture. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences* 373(1754): 20180212. **Online**
- Pettitt, P. and Anderson, J.R. 2020. Primate thanatology and hominoid mortuary archeology. *Primates* 61(1): 9–19. **Online**
- Zilhão, J. 2016. Lower and Middle Palaeolithic mortuary behaviours and the origins of ritual burial. In C. Renfrew, M. Boyd and I. Morley (eds) *Death Rituals, Social Order and the Archaeology of Immortality in the Ancient World: 'Death Shall Have No Dominion'*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. 27–44. **INST ARCH AH REN & Online**

Essay 2b: To what extent might high-status burials of women represent their own status in life rather than the status of male relatives?

Introductory reading:

- Butler, H. 2009. Community and the 'princess' of Vix: a reinterpretation of the Late Hallstatt tumuli. *Studia Celtica* 43: 37–52. **Online**
- Cintas-Peña, M., Luciañez-Triviño, M., Montero Artús, R., Bileck, A., Bortel, P., Kanz, F., Rebay-Salisbury, K. and Garcia Sanjuan, L. 2023. Amelogenin peptide analyses reveal female leadership in Copper Age Iberia (c. 2900–2650 BC). *Scientific Reports* 13: 9594. **Online**
- Knüsel, C.J. 2002. More Circe than Cassandra: the Princess of Vix in ritualized social context. *European Journal of Archaeology* 5: 275–308. **Online**
- Mays, S., Parker, G., Johns, C., Stark, S., Young, A.J., Reich, D., Buikstra, J., Sawyer, K. and Hale, K. 2023. Sex identification of a Late Iron Age sword and mirror cist burial from Hillside Farm, Bryher, Isles of Scilly, England. *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports* 104099. **Online**
- Price, N., Hedenstierna-Jonson, C., Zachrisson, T., Kjellström, A., Storå, J., Krzewińska, M., Günther, T., Sobrado, V., Jakobsson, M. and Götherström, A. 2019. Viking warrior women? Reassessing Birka chamber grave Bj.581. *Antiquity* 93: 181–98. **Online**
- Robinson, A. 2006. Review of the complete Taj Mahal and the riverfront gardens of Agra. *Times Higher Education Supplement*.
<https://homepage.univie.ac.at/ebba.koch/articles/timesedu.pdf>

Essay 2c: What contribution can funerary archaeology and human osteology make to understanding the origins of violence, and what does this evidence tell us about the human condition and its evolution?

Introductory reading:

- Guilaine, J. and Zammit, J. 2005. *The Origins of War: violence in prehistory*. London: Blackwell. **INST ARCH HJ GUI & Online**
- Sala, N., Arsuaga, J.L., Pantoja-Pérez, A., Pablos, A., Martínez, I., Quam, R.M. *et al.* 2015. Lethal interpersonal violence in the Middle Pleistocene. *PLoS ONE* 10: e0126589.
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0126589>
- Holliday, T.W. 2013. Population affinities of the Jebel Sahaba skeletal sample: limb proportion evidence. *International Journal of Osteoarchaeology* 25: 466–76.
<https://doi.org/10.1002/oa.2315>
- Schulting, R. and Fibiger, L. (eds) 2012. *Sticks, Stones, and Broken Bones: Neolithic violence in a European perspective*. Oxford : Oxford University Press. Esp. chapters 1, 5 & 6. **INST ARCH DA 140 SCH & Online**

Essay 2dc: What was the sequence of architectural developments in funerary monumentality that culminated in the pyramids of ancient Egypt?

Introductory reading:

- Bestock, L. 2011. The first kings of Egypt: the Abydos evidence. In E. Teeter (ed.) *Before the Pyramids: the origins of Egyptian civilization*. Chicago: Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago. 137–44. **EGYPTOLOGY QUARTOS B 11 TEE & online**
- Dreyer, G. 2011. Tomb U-j: a royal burial of Dynasty 0 at Abydos. In E. Teeter (ed.) *Before the Pyramids: the origins of Egyptian civilization*. Chicago: Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago. 127–36. **EGYPTOLOGY QUARTOS B 11 TEE & online**
- Edwards, I.E.S. 1993. *The Pyramids of Egypt*. Revised edition. London: Penguin. **EGYPTOLOGY K7 EDW**
- Lehner, M. 2008. *The Complete Pyramids*. London: Thames and Hudson. **EGYPTOLOGY K7 LEH**
- O'Connor, D. Origins of the pyramids. In W. Manley (ed.) *The Seventy Great Mysteries of Ancient Egypt*. London: Thames & Hudson. 45–9. **EGYPTOLOGY A 6 MAN**
- O'Connor, D. 2009. *Abydos: Egypt's first pharaohs and the cult of Osiris*. London: Thames & Hudson. Chapter 11 (182–200). **EGYPTOLOGY E 100 OCO**

Essay 2e: To what extent can the burials of infants and children give insights into social and institutional inequalities?

Introductory reading:

- Derricourt, R. 2018. *Unearthing Childhood: young lives in prehistory*. Manchester: Manchester University Press. **INST ARCH BD 20 DER**
- Finlay, N. 2000. Outside of life: infant burials from cillin to cist. *World Archaeology* 31(3): 407–22. **Online**
- Heyd, V. 2006. Families, prestige goods, warriors and complex societies: Beaker groups of the 3rd millennium cal BC along the upper and middle Danube. *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society* 73: 327–79. **INST ARCH Pers & Online**
- Higham, C. and Bannanurag, R. 1990. The princess and the pots. *New Scientist* 126 (1718): 50–4. **Online**
- Lull, V., Mico Pérez, R., Rihuete Herrada, C. and Risch, R. 2005. Property relations in the Bronze Age of South-western Europe: an archaeological analysis of infant burials from El Argar (Almeria, Spain). *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society* 71: 247–68. **INST ARCH Pers**
- Murphy, E. and Le Roy, M. (eds) 2017. *Children, death and burial: archaeological discourses*. Oxford: Oxbow. **INST ARCH AH MUR & Online**

3. RESOURCES AND PREPARATION FOR CLASS

Preparation for class

You are expected to read the one or two **essential readings** (* especially recommended) **as well as watching the pre-recorded lectures** each week. Completing the readings is essential for your effective participation in the activities and discussions that we will do, and it will greatly enhance your understanding of the material covered. **Further readings are provided via the online-reading list** for you to get a sense of the range of current work on a given topic and for you to draw upon for your assessments.

Online reading list:

<https://rl.talis.com/3/ucl/lists/C01044FD-68AA-89BB-146A-BC33CBE5B29B.html?lang=en&login=1>

This is a really quick and useful way of accessing reading for the module and each of the essays

Recommended basic texts and online resources

(* especially recommended)

*Parker Pearson, M. 1999. *The Archaeology of Death and Burial*. Stroud: Sutton. **ISSUE DESK IoA PAR 8, INST ARCH AH PAR**

*Metcalf, P. and Huntington, R. 1991. *Celebrations of Death: the anthropology of mortuary ritual*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. **ANTHROPOLOGY D 155 HUN & Online**

Knüsel, C. and Gowland, R. (eds) 2006. *Social Archaeology of Funerary Remains*. Oxford: Oxbow. **INST ARCH JF Qto GOW & Online**

Knüsel, C.J. and Schotsmans, E.M.J. (eds) 2022. *Routledge Handbook of Archaeoethnology: bioarchaeology of mortuary behavior*. London: Routledge. **Online**

Laqueur, T. 2018. *The Work of the Dead: a cultural history of mortal remains*. New Haven: Princeton University Press. **INST ARCH AH LAQ & Online**

Moreman, C. (ed.) 2017. *Routledge Companion to Death and Dying*. New York: Routledge. **Online**

*Bradbury, J. and Scarre, C. (eds) 2017. *Engaging with the Dead: exploring changing human beliefs about death, mortality and the human body*. Oxford: Oxbow. **INST ARCH AH Qto BRA & Online**

Devlin, Z. and Graham, E.-J. 2015. *Death Embodied: archaeological approaches to the treatment of the corpse*. Oxford: Oxbow. **INST ARCH AH DEV & Online**

*Tarlow, S. and Nilsson Stutz, L. (eds) 2013. *The Oxford Handbook of the Archaeology of Death and Burial*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. **IoA ISSUE DESK TAR1 & Online**

4. SYLLABUS

General

The following is an outline for the module as a whole, and identifies essential and supplementary readings relevant to each session. Information is provided as to where in the UCL library system individual readings are available; their location and Teaching Collection (TC) number, and status (whether out on loan) can also be accessed on the eUCLid computer catalogue system. Readings marked with an * are considered essential to keep up with the topics covered in the module. Copies of individual articles and chapters identified as essential reading are in the Teaching Collection in the Institute Library (where permitted by copyright) or are available online.

Sessions

1. *Introduction to funerary archaeology*

This lecture introduces students to the main themes and directions of funerary archaeology, from methods of excavation and analysis to concepts and principles for investigating ritual and social dimensions of funerary practices in past societies. It is an opportunity to discuss the theoretical and empirical influences on the development of funerary archaeology.

Reading:

Duday, H. 2009. *The Archaeology of the Dead: lectures in archaeoethnology*. Oxford: Oxbow. **INST ARCH JF DUD & Online**

*Mays, S. 2002. Guidelines for producing assessments and reports on human remains from archaeological sites. English Heritage/BABAO: London.

http://www.babao.org.uk/index/cms-filesystem-action/eh_human_remains_mays2002.pdf

Mays, S. 2021. *The Archaeology of Human Bones*. 3rd edition. London: Routledge. **Online**

2. *Principles of analysis: ritual and remembrance*

How do archaeologists identify and characterize ritual, with regard to the treatment of human remains? What are the concepts of ritual, liminality, remembrance, and materiality? How do concepts of reversal, separation, transition, decay, fertility and sex have relevance for understanding mortuary rites and rituals? These are questions that will be addressed in this seminar.

Reading:

* Metcalf, P. and Huntington, R. 1991. *Celebrations of Death: the anthropology of mortuary ritual*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chapter 3. **INST ARCH FA INS, ANTHROPOLOGY D 155 HUN & Online**

Insoll, T. 2011. *The Oxford Handbook of the Archaeology of Ritual and Religion*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. 10-12, 65-100. **INST ARCH FA INS & Online**

Vanzetti, A., Vidale, M., Gallinaro, M., Frayer, D.W. and Bondioli, L. 2010. The iceman as a burial. *Antiquity* 84: 681-92. **Online**

3. *Ethnoarchaeology of death*

Archaeologists have drawn on ethnographic and ethnoarchaeological studies to develop a wide range of analogies for understanding the archaeology of mortuary practices. This

seminar examines different types of analogy and their relative uses and limitations for understanding the past.

Reading:

Ucko, P.J. 1969. Ethnography and archaeological interpretation of funerary remains. *World Archaeology* 1: 262-80. **Online**

*David, N. and Kramer, C. 2001. *Ethnoarchaeology in Action*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chapter 13 (378-408). **ISSUE DESK IoA DAV8, INST ARCH AH DAV & Online**

Parker Pearson, M. 1982. Mortuary practices, society and ideology: an ethnoarchaeological case study. In I. Hodder (ed.) *Symbolic and Structural Archaeology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. 99-113. **ISSUE DESK IOA HOD 12 , INST ARCH AH HOD, ANTHROPOLOGY C 7 HOD & Online**

Parker Pearson, M. 2000. Eating money: a study in the ethnoarchaeology of food. *Archaeological Dialogues* 7: 217-32. **Online**

4. Reading the body, treating the corpse

Human remains may be exposed to lengthy post-mortem treatments: mummification, cannibalism, trophy-taking, cremation, excarnation and skull decoration amongst other activities. This seminar examines the material residues of different methods of post-mortem treatment to understand their social implications and significance.

Reading:

Armit, I. 2012. *Headhunting and the Body in Iron Age Europe*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. 45-68. **INST ARCH DA 160 ARM & Online**

Booth, T., Chamberlain, A. and Parker Pearson, M. 2015. Mummification in Bronze Age Britain. *Antiquity* 89: 1155-1173. **Online**

Devlin, Z.L. and Graham, E.-J. (eds) 2015. *Death Embodied: archaeological approaches to the treatment of the corpse*. Studies in Funerary Archaeology 9. Oxford: Oxbow. **INST ARCH AH DEV & Online**

Giles, M. 2020. *Bog Bodies: face to face with the past*. Manchester: Manchester University Press. Esp. chapter 6. **Online**

Rebay-Salisbury, K. 2010. Cremations: fragmented bodies in the Bronze and Iron Ages. In K. Rebay-Salisbury, M.-L. Stig Sørensen and J. Hughes (eds) 2010. *Body Parts and Bodies Whole: changing relations and meanings*. Oxford: Oxbow. 64-71. **INST ARCH DA 100 REB & Online**

Turner, C.G. 1993. Cannibalism in Chaco Canyon: the charnel pit excavated in 1926 at Small House Ruin by Frank H.H. Roberts, Jr. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* 91: 412-39. **Online**

Boulestin, B., Zeeb-Lanz, A., Jeunesse, C., Haack, F., Arbogast, R.-M. and Denaire, A. 2009. Mass cannibalism in the Linear Pottery Culture at Herxheim (Palatinate, Germany). *Antiquity* 83: 968-82. **Online**

*Parker Pearson, M. 2016. From corpse to skeleton: dealing with the dead in prehistory. *Bulletins et Mémoires de la Société d'Anthropologie de Paris* 28: 4-16. **Online**

Degusta, D. 2000. Fijian cannibalism and mortuary ritual: bioarchaeological evidence from Vunda. *International Journal of Osteoarchaeology* 10: 76-92. **Online**

5. Status, power and identity: the powerful dead

Archaeologists have long used burial rites to interpret social status of the deceased. With the understanding that the dead do not bury themselves, more sophisticated approaches to social ranking have emerged. This seminar examines the different approaches to interpreting social status, including the political and ideological impact on those holding funerals and those being commemorated.

Reading:

Peebles, C. and Kus, S. 1977. Some archaeological correlates of ranked societies. *American Antiquity* 42: 421-48. **Online**.

Arnold, B. 2011. The illusion of power, the power of illusion: ideology and the concretization of social difference in Early-Iron Age Europe. In Bernbeck, R. and McGuire, R.H. (eds) *Ideologies in Archaeology*. Tucson: University of Arizona Press. 151-72. **INST ARCH AG BER & Online**

Morris, I. 1992. *Death-ritual and Social Structure in Classical Antiquity*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. 31-69. **ANCIENT HISTORY M 55 MOR & Online**

*Williams, H. 2004. Death warmed up: the agency of bodies and bones in early Anglo-Saxon cremation rites. *Journal of Material Culture* 9: 263-91. **Online**

6. Reading week

7. Death in the landscape

The dead are all around us, in monuments, mementos and memories as well as their physical remains. This seminar explores spatial, topographical and phenomenological approaches to placing the dead in the landscapes of past societies in order to understand how relationships were constructed and maintained between the living and the dead.

Reading:

Tilley, C. 2004. *The Materiality of Stone: explorations in landscape phenomenology*. London: Berg. 1-31. **ANTHROPOLOGY C 7 TIL, INST ARCH DA 100 TIL & Online**

*Fleming, A. 2006. Post-processual landscape archaeology: a critique. *Cambridge Archaeological Journal* 16: 267-80. **Online**

8. Death and the origins of human consciousness

In contrast with other primates, humans have an unusually developed sense of mortality, treating the remains of their species with a dazzling variety of post-mortem practices. How and why did this come about, and at what stages in our evolution? How did it develop in relation to other indices of self-awareness, and what were its long-term implications for human evolution and adaptation?

Reading:

*Parker Pearson, M. 1999. *The Archaeology of Death and Burial*. Stroud: Sutton. 142-56. **ISSUE DESK IoA PAR 8, INST ARCH AH PAR**

Pettitt, P. 2011. Religion and ritual in the Lower and Middle Palaeolithic. In T. Insoll (ed.) *The Oxford Handbook of the Archaeology of Ritual and Religion*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. 10-12, 65-100. **INST ARCH FA INS & Online**

Bahn, P. 2011. Religion and ritual in the Upper Palaeolithic. In T. Insoll (ed.) *The Oxford Handbook of the Archaeology of Ritual and Religion*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. 10-12, 65-100. **INST ARCH FA INS & Online**

9. The human experience of death

Archaeology can provide insights into the human awareness of death as it evolved over thousands of years from the earliest civilizations to the world religions and secular humanism of today. In that time, humans have sought to transcend their tragic limitation by seeking paths to immortality on both sides of the grave. This seminar examines the archaeological evidence for these attempts to transcend mortality over the last 10,000 years of social evolution from small-scale hunter-gatherers to urban states.

Reading:

Kuijt, I. 1996. Negotiating equality through ritual: a consideration of Late Natufian and Pre-Pottery Neolithic A period mortuary practices. *Journal of Anthropological Archaeology* 15: 313-36. **Online**

*Parker Pearson, M. 2017. Dead and (un)buried: reconstructing attitudes to death in long-term perspective. In J. Bradbury and C. Scarre (eds) *Engaging with the Dead: exploring changing human beliefs about death, mortality and the human body*. Oxford: Oxbow. 129-37. **INST ARCH AH Qto BRA & Online**

10. The politics of the dead

The dead have always been political, but today archaeologists and museums face challenges from ethnic and religious minorities for reburial and repatriation of human remains and associated materials. In addition, archaeologists are often involved in forensic investigations of genocide and other recent atrocities, bringing them into potential conflict with state authorities as well as local communities.

Reading:

Giesen, M. (ed.) 2013. *Curating Human Remains: caring for the dead in the United Kingdom*. Woodbridge: Boydell Press. **INST ARCH AG 23 GIE & Online**

*Parker Pearson, M., Moshenska, G. and Schadla-Hall, T. 2012. Resolving the human remains crisis in British archaeology. *PIA: Papers from the Institute of Archaeology* 21: 6-34.

Online

BABAO n.d. *Code of Ethics*. BABAO: London. http://www.babao.org.uk/index/cms-filessystem-action/code_of_ethics.pdf

Cassman, V., Odegaard, N. and Powell, J. (eds) 2007. *Human Remains: guide for museums and academic institutions*. Lanham, MD: AltaMira Press. **INST ARCH AG 23 CAS & Online**

11. Review session/ discussion forum

This is an opportunity to discuss your essay for Assessment 2 as well as a review of the course and discussion of key aspects.