

## **The Mortuary Rites of Preclassic and Classic Period Kaminaljuyú**

**Speaker:** Barry Brillantes, Doctoral Student in Anthropology, University of Michigan

**Host Department:** Museum of Anthropological Archaeology

**Date:** 02/26/2015

**Time:** 12:00 pm

**Location:** Room 2009 Ruthven Museums Building

### **Description:**

Over a century of archaeological explorations at Kaminaljuyú, located in modern-day Guatemala City has expanded our knowledge of social and political developments in Guatemala and abroad. The degree of research, however, has been unfortunately skewed towards issues of Teotihuacan colonization and related external pressures. In concordance with recent excavations and analysis that have turned towards local issues, I will explore one avenue of neglected research – mortuary rites – and the problem of differentiation in mortuary treatment during the site's occupancy. Using archaeological data I have gathered since 2013, I will present preliminary findings on how burial treatment and mortuary ritual can shed light on the complex relationship between the living and the dead at this important Mesoamerican site.