

Piecing Together the Puzzle: The Bioarchaeology of Early Complex Societies in Iberia

Speaker: Jess Beck, Doctoral Candidate in Anthropology, University of Michigan

Host Department: Museum of Anthropological Archaeology

Date: 10/01/2015

Time: 12:00 pm

Location: Room 2009 Ruthven Museums Building

Description:

This talk introduces current bioarchaeological research on a large-scale Copper Age (c. 4,000-5,000 BP) enclosure site in Jaén, Spain. The presentation will discuss the unique challenges presented by working with salvage-excavated collections, and describe the various methodological strategies (including fragmentation-zonation approaches, dental analysis and gray literature research) used to facilitate the collection and analysis of data from fragmentary and commingled human skeletal remains. Finally, initial results describing patterning in burial treatment, mobility, and diet will be presented as a means of reconstructing social organization at some of the earliest large-scale villages in Iberia.