

Melissa Scott Murphy

Department of Anthropology
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Bryn Mawr College
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Educational background

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
Doctorate in Biological Anthropology
PhD qualifying exams, April 2000
May 2004, PhD degree conferred

Haverford College, Haverford, PA
Bachelor of Arts, Anthropology
Degree conferred May 1994

Dissertation: From Bare Bones to Mummified. Understanding health and disease in an Inca community

Current research interests: paleodemography, paleopathology, paleoradiography, biocultural impact of European contact, Inca and Early Colonial mortuary practices, Inca social organization, Inca warfare

Teaching experience

Lecturer/Lab coordinator, Bryn Mawr College, July 2004-present

Courses taught: Introduction to Prehistoric Archaeology and Human Evolution (Anthropology 101), Introduction to Biological Anthropology, Human Evolution (Anthropology 209), Human Origins and Race (Anthropology 210), Forensic Anthropology (Anthropology 234), Medical Anthropology, Nutritional Anthropology (Anthropology 232), Evolution (cross-listed; Anthropology 236); Supervised reading (Anthropology 409)

Instructor, University of Pennsylvania, Spring 2002, Fall 2000

Adjunct faculty instructor, Widener University, Spring 2002, Spring 2001

Instructor, Thomas Jefferson University, Fall 2000

Research/Teaching Assistant, University of Pennsylvania Spring 1999, 1998; Fall 1998, 1997

Courses taught: Introduction to Biological Anthropology, Introduction to Human Evolution, Human Origins and Race, Forensic Anthropology, Medical Anthropology

Research and professional experience

• ***Puruchucu-Huaquerones Bioarchaeological Project (PHBP)***, June 2005-December 2008

Principal investigator of paleodemographic, paleopathological and radiographic project to be undertaken with the human remains from the cemetery of Puruchuco-Huaquerones.

• ***Puruchuco-Huaquerones Project, Peru***, August 2000-present

Researching the question of health, disease, and paleodemography of a sample of the human remains from the Inca cemetery at Puruchuco-Huaquerones in Lima, Peru.

• ***2nd Annual Traumatized Bone Short Course, June 2005***

Attended workshop at Mercyhurst College in forensic anthropology addressing topics of traumatized bone interpretation and analysis

• ***Laboratory assistant, Moche Foodways Archaeological Project, Summer 2000***

Analyzed burials and human skeletal remains from residential sector of the site of El Brujo.

• ***Laboratory assistant, Huanchaco, Peru***, Summers 1999 and 2000

Analyzed human skeletal remains and mummies from Huaca de la Luna and El Brujo on the northern coast of Peru as part of ongoing study of Moche and Lambayeque health and Moche sacrifice victims.

• ***Pachacamac mummy imaging project***, 1999 to present

Museum of Anthropology and Archaeology, University of Pennsylvania

Assisting in X-ray and endoscopic imaging of mummy bundles and mummified heads from Pachacamac, Peru. Conducting radiographic assessment of age, sex, and health of individuals in textile bundles.

•**Collections management assistant**, Fall 1999 to Spring 2000

Museum of Anthropology and Archaeology, University of Pennsylvania

Assisted in the maintenance of museum artifacts and collections in the American section of the Museum

•**Co-chair, 2nd Annual Anthropology Graduate Student Symposium**, Fall 1999

University of Pennsylvania. Co-organized a symposium, entitled Human Variation: Past and present, which integrated the four-fields of anthropology, but focused on biological anthropology.

•**Field archaeologist, Hayonim Cave, Israel**, Summer 1997

Excavated archaeological material from the Middle Paleolithic levels in the cave. Other responsibilities included soil analysis and artifact inventory.

•**Field assistant, Qafzeh Cave, Israel**, Summer 1997

Excavated archaeological material from Upper Paleolithic and Middle Paleolithic aspects in the cave.

•**Field archaeologist, Hayonim Cave, Israel**, Summer 1994

Excavated archaeological material from the Middle Paleolithic levels in the cave. Other responsibilities included soil analysis and artifact inventory.

•**Field archaeologist, Eastern State Penitentiary**, Philadelphia, P.A. 1993-1994

Participated in the historic archaeological excavation of the prison.

•**Field archaeologist, Cagny Excavations**, France, Summer 1993

Excavated at Lower Paleolithic sites (Cagny la Garenne and Cagny l'Épinette) in Northern France.

Awards and Grants

• Curricular development fund award, Summer 2005, Bryn Mawr College (travel and tuition for Traumatized bone short course)

• Department of Anthropology Dissertation Writing Grant, University of Pennsylvania, 2002-2003

• Wenner-Gren Foundation Dissertation research grant, June-December 2001

• Summer Research Grant 2000, Department of Anthropology, U. of Pennsylvania

• Dorot Foundation Grant 1997, Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, U. of Pennsylvania

Selected Publications

Murphy, M.S.

(submitted) Coca leaf chewing during the Inca empire: Evidence from the mortuary community at Puruchuco-Huaquerones, Peru.

2004 From bare bones to mummified: Understanding health and disease in an Inca community. PhD dissertation, University of Pennsylvania, Department of Anthropology.

Professional presentations

Murphy, M.S.

2004 Coca leaf chewing at Puruchuco-Huaquerones, Peru. Paper presented at the Paleopathology Association meetings. Tampa, Florida, April

Gaither, C., M.S. Murphy, G. Cock, M. Lund Vallee

2004 Insights from a provincial Inca cemetery: Mortuary patterns, growth and health at Puruchuco-Huaquerones. Paper presented at the Society for American Archaeology meetings. Montreal, Canada, March 31-April 4.

Murphy, M.S.

2003 Coca leaf chewing and the Inca: Evidence from Puruchuco-Huaquerones. Paper presented to the Pre Columbian Society of Philadelphia. October 11, 2003.

Murphy, M.S., G. Cock, E. Goyacocha

2003 Preliminary report on the relationship between status and health at the Inca cemetery of Puruchuco-Huaquerones, Peru. Paper presented at the Institute for Andean Studies 43rd Annual Meeting. Berkeley, California, January 10-11, 2003.

Murphy, M.S.

2001 A bioarchaeological examination of human remains from the residential sector at El Brujo, Peru. Paper presented at the Society for American Archaeology meetings. New Orleans, Louisiana, April 18-22.

Campbell, K., M.S. Murphy

2000 An examination of an Early Horizon community from El Brujo, Peru. Paper presented at the Northeast Andean Archaeology and Ethnohistory Conference. Hanover, New Hampshire, November 4-5, 2000.

Profession memberships/affiliations

Society for American Archaeologists, Paleopathology Association, American Anthropological Association

Language proficiency

Spanish, French (reading only)