Anthropology Graduates


SPRING 2021: Justine Furr, Coleman Harrelson, Syenne Melton, Iesha Singleton, William Smock, Vivan Uche, Thomas Woodward

CONGRATULATIONS!
We are so proud of you!
Justine Furr

"The best memories I have from the Department of Anthropology is how approachable all of the professors are. They are understanding and supportive of any student they interact with. My favorite experience was the Forensic Anthropology field school with Dr. Corey Maggiano. We had the opportunity of having Dr. Walker helped us in the field with his Archaeology background. The day that Dr. Maggiano ambushed the bushes and weeds to give us access to a datum point was hilarious and engaging. Best experience ever!

My future plans are to focus on my family as I search for Archaeology or forensics related jobs. I plan to come back and attend a masters program for Criminology and later a doctoral program for Education. I wish to teach Anthropology and Criminology in the future."

Syenne Melton

"During my four years in the Anthropology department, I’ve had so many experiences and made so many memories that I’m not sure if I could even pick favorites as I’ve enjoyed every bit of my time here. If I truly had to pick a few memories I would say my first time meeting all the professors and other anthropology majors, learning to flintknap lithics and bones, and working at the Waring Lab would be those among my favorites.

Unfortunately the sad reality is that eventually I was going to have to graduate and leave the department. After graduating I plan to take a year off from school in order to work and gain more job experience, ideally in the anthropology field, as well as explore more hobbies. As for after my year off, I would eventually love to take the knowledge and experience from my time in Anthropology and obtain my Master’s degree abroad."
WARING SCHOLARSHIPS

Fall 2020/Spring 2021
Waring Merit Scholarship Recipients:
Jessica Dees
Paris Greene
Coleman Harrelson
Jamal Linear
Ashton Long
Carla Mateo
Syenne Melton
Alison Morgan
Robert Scarborough
Sierra Setter
Rodney Thomas
Kendall Ussery
Michaela Whitley

Summer 2021
Methods Course Scholarship Recipients:
Chrystal Danielle D'Alessandro
Jessica Dees
Ashton Long
Alex Mantuano
Alison Morgan
Sierra Setter
Rodney Thomas
Michaela Whitley

CONGRATS!
Congratulations to this year's Waring Research Scholarship Recipients

Ashton Long
Research Topic: "Grief in Humans and other Animals" (mentored by Dr. Marjorie Snipes)

Carla Mateo
“Perspectives on Life in a Nahuatl-speaking American Household” (mentored by Dr. Elizabeth Falconi)

Megan Ware
“Examining the Effects of Fertilizer on Bone, Stone, and Ceramics” (mentored by Dr. Nathan Lawres)
ANTHROPOLOGY AWARDS

John Walton Whatley Scholarship
John Walton Whatley Scholarship is awarded to students from Polk, Carroll, Haralson, and Troup counties, demonstrating exceptional academic achievement in Anthropology.

Recipients: Sierra Setter and Haleigh Villaba

Carole E. Hill Anthropology Award
This award is presented annually to the senior anthropology student who demonstrates the greatest potential for success in his or her pursuit of an advanced degree in anthropology following graduation from the University of West Georgia. This award honors the founder of the anthropology program at West Georgia, who was a pioneering figure in the fields of Applied and Medical Anthropology, in recognition of her dedication to undergraduate education and student mentoring.

Recipient: Rebekah Routledge

Thelma B. Larson
The Thelma B. Larson Memorial Award for Anthropological Research was established in Mrs. Larson's memory by friends and family. This award is to be presented annually for an original anthropological research undertaken by an outstanding major in Anthropology. Mrs. Larson was the mother of Dr. Lewis Larson, long term faculty member at West Georgia and pioneer in Southeastern Archaeology.

Recipient: Megan Ware

Herndon Award
These awards are presented annually to the outstanding students from academic disciplines in the Social Sciences. Recipients must have a declared major in the field of the award, superior academic achievement, demonstrated leadership ability, potential for development in the respective academic discipline and active involvement in extracurricular activities. The award was established in 1953 by friends and classmates in memory of the late Thomas A. Herndon, Jr. a graduate of the class of 1939.

Recipient: Megan Ware
Engage Anthropology Award
This honor is awarded to a student who engages in the discipline of anthropology through critical thinking, creative vision, classroom participation, and academic risk-taking. The award recognizes outstanding engagement in scholarship, service, and/or anthropology-related extracurricular involvements.

Recipient: Ashton Long

Waring Distinguished Scholar Award
Awarded annually to the senior undergraduate student who has repeatedly earned distinction from the Antonio J. Waring, Jr. Scholarship Fund over the course of their studies as an Anthropology major at University of West Georgia. This student is well-rounded and has shown excellence in coursework, research, and scholarly presentation.

Recipient: Sarah Rogers

Karl T. Steinen Award
The Karl T. Steinen Award for Service to Anthropology was named in honor of Dr. Steinen who dedicated himself to preparing undergraduate students for careers in anthropology. This award is presented to an outstanding member of the community in recognition for service to the UWG Department of Anthropology and to the anthropology profession by promoting student-centered research, teaching, or programmatic initiatives.

Recipient: Sarah Pruvenok

Ray Crook Award
This award is awarded annually to the student who has gone above and beyond in fulfilling the Waring Lab's mission and goals during the previous year.

Recipient: Talaya Stokes

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2020/21 AWARD WINNERS!
Sarah Grace Rogers
BAFAL Student Assistant

“As a BAFAL Education Coordinator, I created an educational workshop that provided interested parties with hands-on experience in Physical Anthropology, specifically on the musculoskeletal system and its role in human health and mobility. My goal with this was to draw attention to the importance of understanding the musculoskeletal system throughout life to promote healthy activities that facilitate healthy bones and, thus, a higher quality of life. Working at BAFAL has enabled me to explore my interests in Physical Anthropology while working on something that future students and scholars may utilize to learn. I have thoroughly enjoyed the experience as an Education Coordinator because it has allowed me to be creative in how I share knowledge with the UWG community. I have grown in my field and am so excited to share what I have learned with others.”

Carla Mateo-Aguilar
BAFAL Student Assistant

“Being the BAFAL Lab and Field Coordinator has allowed me to create a hands-on learning workshop that will guide students in exploring different ways diseases may affect the skeleton and familiarize them to methods that will enable the identification of pathological lesions on human remains. It was important for me to create this workshop to be able to introduce paleopathology to students because learning about it will provide critical data on the development of diseases and the effects of their distribution in both past and present humans.

BAFAL has given me the opportunity to showcase my ability to create a fun and effective lab workshop where students can learn about paleopathology. It has also allowed me to further expand my interest and knowledge in Physical Anthropology and look forward to students being able to explore the labs I have created!”

Gwendolyn Taylor
Waring Lab Student Assistant

“The lab has greatly helped me with organization skills and has prepared me with work in a professional setting of which there are not many customers to deal with. It has shown me a calmer work environment and how it can still be challenging. Which has been a joy. I can easily say that the calm and lack of drama has been some of my favorite things about working here. The other major thing I love about working at the lab would be working on something I love. I am a simple soul with simple needs. Artifacts and quiet time to look after them.”
Joel Edmondson  
Waring Lab Student Assistant  
“Hi, my name is Joel Edmondson. I’m a freshman at UWG and my major is anthropology. I’ve been working at the Waring Laboratory since October of 2020. When I first started, I was working on curation and learning to work with preserving artifacts. Now I’m starting to work on developing an Interpretive Anthropology Garden for the campus. Working here, one of my favorite parts has been the people and the knowledge that I am obtaining just by being present. In doing all these activities I have learned many things such as the proper way to care for artifacts, along with, now, learning the different types of plants that were used by people all over the world. Knowing these things will help further my desire to be an anthropologist and work toward preserving cultures. Working here for these past few months has been such a wonderful experience and I look forward to working here for years to come!”

Monica El-Amin  
Waring Lab Student Assistant  
“Hello, my name is Monica El-Amin. I am a graduate research assistant at the Waring Archaeology Laboratory. Currently, I am working on the Sapelo Voices Project. This is a project dedicated to amplifying the voices of the Sapelo Gullah-Geechee on Sapelo Island. The overall goal is to allow the former residents’ stories to be heard as they tell the audience about the island’s past, and how they have managed to preserve their culture. My favorite thing about working at the Waring Lab, is the overall environment. I come to work with a smile on my face, eager to tackle any task that is given to me. I like the camaraderie and the ability to have my voice heard whenever I have ideas or questions. I’m happy to be working here, and have learned skills in curation, exhibition design, and research that will make me a well-rounded public historian.”

Syenne Melton  
Waring Lab Student Assistant  
“My name is Syenne Melton, I’m a senior anthropology major and a student assistant at the Waring Archaeology Lab. Although I have only been here for a little over a year, I feel that I have learned many valuable skills, especially of the curation process, that will aid me in joining the field of archaeology post-graduation. I’ve worked on several collections during my time here, one of the largest being the NISI collection, and the project that I’m currently working on is the Tomochichi Courthouse. One of my favorite things about working here is that my coworkers, both physical and intangible, are very patient with me and pleasant to work with. I highly enjoy their company. I also enjoy the general acceptance, and enthusiasm of my outbursts of creativity, whether in the form of ideas or intriguing questions.”
**STUDENT ENGAGEMENT IN LABS**

**Julia Rivard**
*Waring Lab Student Assistant*

“My name is Julia Rivard. I am an interdisciplinary studies student, and I have worked at the lab in an intern, volunteer, and staff position. I have worked at the lab for a semester (or about five months). I have worked on several different projects, but my most recent ones were the Seven Small GDOT Collections, Bear/Brier Creek, and, my current, Tomochichi. The skills that I have developed include attention to detail and improved rudimentary skills in Microsoft Office. The lab also increased my knowledge of museum studies and anthropology. I did not know anything about either discipline before the internship. I received lots of hands-on experience by working at the lab in an intern position. Many of my colleagues at the lab are grad students and they will often discuss the things going on in their coursework. Should I decide to go to grad school, I will better understand what should be expected. My favorite things about working at the lab are the artifacts received and the people working there. The artifacts are like glimpses into the past and can help make conclusions about what the societies were like. The people are welcoming and made me feel at home on my first day. They were open to explaining everything until I understood the information taught to the point where I could teach it to my other colleagues.”

**Sarah Craig**
*Waring Lab Student Assistant*

“My name is Sarah Craig. I am a Graduate Research Assistant at the lab and enrolled in the public history graduate program. I have been at the lab for three years and have worked on many different projects. Some projects include the Ninety-Six National Historic Site project, the Big Indian Creek exhibit, and the Waring shelving project. I also serve as the Waring Environmental Assistant. The lab has helped me prepare for grad school and the professional sphere by teaching me time management and leadership skills. As well as group communication skills. My favorite thing about working at the lab would have to be getting to work so close with history.”

**Mickey Whitley**
*Waring Lab Student Assistant*

“Hi, my name is Mickey Whitley and I’m a first year senior, double majoring in anthropology and criminology. I am one of the senior curation assistants here at the Waring Lab, and have been working here since July 2019. As a curation assistant, my job is to handle incoming collections from different CRM firms and handle the process of getting these collections of artifacts catalogued and prepped for long-term storage. I have learned many new skills in this position and now have changed my career choice to focus on museum administration and collections management. My favorite thing about working at the lab is taking care of the artifacts so that future generations will have a chance to see them too. And, because of this, I’ll be attending grad school here at UWG for a master’s in public history.”

Thank you for your engagement!
PROGRAM UPDATES

• Fall 2021 is the launch of our new program concentration in "Cross-Cultural Health and Spirituality" (contact Dr. Marjorie Snipes for more info).

• New BIS (Bachelors of Interdisciplinary Studies) Pathways starting Fall 2021 at UWG: Anthropology is a participating discipline in both, a BIS in Religion (contact Dr. Marjorie Snipes for more info) and a BIS in Forensic Science and Investigation (contact Dr. Corey Maggiano or Dr. Isabel Maggiano for more info).

• UWG Anthropology continues to offer a Certificate in Cultural Heritage Management (contact Dr. Nathan Lawres for more info) and a Certificate in Forensic Sciences (contact Dr. Corey Maggiano for more info).

We hope you all have a great summer. Stay well, and see you soon!

The UWG Anthropology Faculty