

Sarah Kurnick

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– Updated June 2026 –

Education

- 2013 Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania, Department of Anthropology
Dissertation: *Negotiating the Contradictions of Political Authority: An Archaeological Case Study from Callar Creek, Belize*
- 2006 B.A., Haverford College, Department of Anthropology
Thesis: *The Dead are Fed with Fragrance: A Study of Maya Censers from the Guatemala Highlands*

Professional Appointments

- 2024 – Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of Colorado Boulder,
Department of Anthropology
- 2017–24 Assistant Professor of Anthropology, University of Colorado Boulder,
Department of Anthropology
- 2015–17 Chancellor’s Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Colorado Boulder, Department of
Anthropology
- 2015 Postdoctoral Research Scholar, Gerda Henkel Foundation
- 2014 – Consulting Scholar, University of Pennsylvania, Penn Cultural Heritage Center
- 2014–15 Adjunct Professor, Lehigh University, Department of Sociology & Anthropology
- 2013 Lecturer, University of Pennsylvania, Department of Anthropology

RESEARCH

Peer Reviewed Publications

Edited Books

Kurnick, Sarah and Joanne Baron, eds.

2016. *Political Strategies in Pre-Columbian Mesoamerica*. Boulder: University Press of Colorado.

Journal Articles and Book Chapters

Sarah Kurnick and Samantha Fladd.

2026. Beyond Leaky Pipelines: Feminist Inequity Critiques in Archaeology. *Advances in Archaeological Practice* 14(1): 1-14. <https://doi.org/10.1017/aap.2025.10136>.

Bishop, Katelyn J., Samantha Fladd, Sarah Kurnick, Lydia Evans, Isabella Garcia, and Sarah Simeonoff.

2026. Gender Inclusion and Representation in the Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology. *Advances in Archaeological Practice* 14(1): 33-49. <https://doi.org/10.1017/aap.2025.10129>.

Oas, Sarah E, Kelsey Hoppes, Samantha Fladd, and Sarah Kurnick

2026. The Names We Know: The Complexities of Coauthorship and Gender in Archaeology Peer-Reviewed Journal Publications. *Advances in Archaeological Practice* 14(1): 83-111. <https://doi.org/10.1017/aap.2025.10141>.

Fladd, Samantha, Sarah Kurnick, Laura Heath-Stout, et al.

2026. From Leaky Pipelines to Watering Cans: Feminist Recommendations for Change. *Advances in Archaeological Practice* 14(1): 133-151. <https://doi.org/10.1017/aap.2025.10137>.

Kurnick, Sarah

2025. Postclassic Maya Manipulation of Dimensions: Miniature Stelae at Punta Laguna, Yucatan Mexico. *Latin American Antiquity*, 1-17. <https://doi.org/10.1017/laq.2025.10106>.

Nicholas Puente and Sarah Kurnick

2025. Bundled Time: An Intra-Site Sac-Be at Punta Laguna, Yucatan, Mexico. Submitted as part of the *Latin American Antiquity* Special Section “The Vibrancy of Ruins: Ruination Studies in Ancient Mesoamerica.” Roberto Rosado-Ramirez and Arthur Joyce, eds. Pg. 1-13. <https://doi.org/10.1017/laq.2025.10121>

Kurnick, Sarah, David Rogoff, and Iliana Ancona Aragón

2024. A Preliminary Revised Life History of Punta Laguna, Yucatan, Mexico: A Persistent Place. *Ancient Mesoamerica* 35(1):278-303. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0956536123000093>.

Kurnick, Sarah, David Rogoff, Iliana Ancona Aragón, and Nicholas Puente

2023. Variable Precipitation and Maya Persistence at Punta Laguna, Yucatan, Mexico. *Mexicon* 45(3): 59-65.

Kurnick, Sarah

2022. Photographic Insights from Engaged Archaeology: Yucatan and Beyond. *Cambridge Archaeological Journal* 33(1): 39-53. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0959774322000166>

Davis, Kaitlyn, Pascale Meehan, Carla Klehm, Sarah Kurnick, and Catherine Cameron
2021. Improving Field Safety and Wellbeing on Student-Directed Archaeological Field Projects: Recommendations for Graduate Students, Advisors, and Departments.
Advances in Archaeological Practice 9(1): 74-80. <https://doi.org/10.1017/aap.2020.46>

Kurnick, Sarah and David Rogoff.
2020. Maya Cartographies: Two Maps of Punta Laguna, Yucatan, Mexico. *Journal of Social Archaeology* 20(2): 119-143. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1469605320914105>

Kurnick, Sarah
2020. The Contradictions of Engaged Archaeology at Punta Laguna, Yucatan, Mexico.
Heritage 3(3): 682-698. <https://doi.org/10.3390/heritage3030039>

Kurnick, Sarah
2019. Creating Nature in the Yucatan Peninsula: Social Inequality and the Production of Eco-Archaeological Parks. *American Anthropologist* 121(2): 376-389.
<https://doi.org/10.1111/aman.13234>

Kurnick, Sarah
2019. Navigating the Past in the Aftermath of Dramatic Social Transformations: Postclassic Engagement with the Classic Period Past in the Northeast Yucatan Peninsula. *Journal of Anthropological Archaeology* 53: 51-65.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jaa.2018.11.003>

Kurnick, Sarah
2016. Competition and Conflict in the Upper Belize River Valley: Insights from the Ancient Maya Minor Center of Callar Creek, Belize. *Journal of Field Archaeology* 41(3): 297-311. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00934690.2016.1171604>

Kurnick, Sarah
2016. Paradoxical Politics: Negotiating the Contradictions of Political Authority. In *Political Strategies in Pre-Columbian Mesoamerica*. Sarah Kurnick and Joanne Baron, eds., Pg. 3-36. Boulder: University Press of Colorado.

Kurnick, Sarah
2015. The Origins of Extreme Economic Inequality: An Archaeologist's Take on a Contemporary Controversy. *Archaeologies: Journal of the World Archaeological Congress* 11(3): 400-416. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11759-015-9282-y>

Kurnick, Sarah
2013. The Importance of the Past to the Ancient Maya Political Present: Recent Investigations at Callar Creek, Belize. *Research Reports in Belizean Archaeology* 10: 105-114.

Yaeger, Jason, Sarah Kurnick, Christina Dykstra, and Meaghan Peuramaki-Brown
2012. Charting the Histories of Hinterland Settlements around Buenavista del Cayo.
Research Reports in Belizean Archaeology 9: 15-28.

Yaeger, Jason, Meaghan Peuramaki-Brown, Christina L. Dykstra, Sarah Kurnick, and
Sebastian Salgado-Flores
2011. Political Dynamics in the Mopan River Valley: Recent Research in the Buenavista
del Cayo Hinterlands. *Research Reports in Belizean Archaeology* 8: 31-44.

Kurnick, Sarah
2009. Crossing Boundaries: Maya Censers from the Guatemala Highlands. *Expedition:
The Magazine of the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and
Anthropology* 51(1): 25-32.

Book Reviews

Kurnick, Sarah
2017. *Review of Classic Maya Polities of the Southern Lowlands: Integration,
Interaction, Dissolution*, by Damien B. Marken and James L. Fitzsimmons, eds.
American Anthropologist 119(14): 771-772.

Kurnick, Sarah
2012. *Review of Natives, Europeans, and Africans in Colonial Campeche: History and
Archaeology*, by Vera Tiesler, Pilar Zabala, and Andrea Cucina, eds. *Hispanic American
Historical Review* 92(1): 178-179.

Kurnick, Sarah
2012. Bringing Maya Sculpture to Life: *Review of The Copan Sculpture Museum:
Ancient Maya Artistry in Stucco & Stone*, by Barbara W. Fash. *Expedition: The
Magazine of the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology*
54(1): 52.

Grants and Fellowships

- 2025 University of Colorado Boulder Center to Advance Research and Training in the
Social Sciences (CARTSS) Faculty Award: “Ancient Maya Subterranean
Ancestor Veneration and Political Authority at Punta Laguna, Yucatan, Mexico”
(\$4,000)
- 2022 University of Colorado Boulder Center to Advance Research and Training in the
Social Sciences (CARTSS) Faculty Award: “Postclassic Maya Political Authority
at Punta Laguna, Yucatan, Mexico” (\$4,000).
- 2017–22 National Science Foundation Senior Archaeological Research Grant: “Strategies
which Foster Long Term Social Stability” (\$111,921)

- 2015-16 National Geographic Society Committee for Research and Exploration Grant: “In the Aftermath of Collapse: Documenting the Postclassic Maya Site of Punta Laguna, Mexico” (\$11,450)
- 2015 American Philosophical Society Franklin Grant: “In the Aftermath of Collapse: Political Authority at the Postclassic Maya Site of Punta Laguna, Mexico” (\$6,000)
- 2014 Gerda Henkel Foundation Research Grant: “In the Wake of Collapse: Political Authority at the Postclassic Maya Site of Punta Laguna, Mexico” (\$5,500)
- 2012-13 National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant: “The Exercise of Political Authority at Callar Creek, Belize” (\$19,977)
- 2011 American Philosophical Society Lewis and Clark Field Scholar Grant: “Political Authority among the Ancient Maya: A Case Study from Callar Creek, Belize” (\$4,100)
- 2011-13 Dissertation Research Fellowship, School of Arts and Sciences, University of Pennsylvania (\$5,000)
- 2011-13 Junior Fellow, Louis J. Kolb Foundation (Tuition and Stipend)
- 2006-11 Benjamin Franklin and William Fontaine Fellowships, University of Pennsylvania (Tuition and Stipend)
- 2010 Dissertation Research Fellowship, School of Arts and Sciences, University of Pennsylvania (\$5,000)
- 2010 Summer Research Grant, Penn Museum (\$1,500)
- 2009 Departmental Field Funds, Department of Anthropology, University of Pennsylvania (\$2,500)
- 2009 Sorenson Student Fieldwork Fellowship, Penn Museum (\$2,250)
- 2008 Departmental Field Funds, Department of Anthropology, University of Pennsylvania (\$1,500)

Fieldwork

- 2014— Co-Director, Punta Laguna Archaeology Project, Yucatan, Mexico
- 2010-12 Excavation Director, Callar Creek Site Core, Mopan Valley Archaeology Project, Cayo District, Belize, directed by Jason Yaeger, University of Texas at San Antonio

- 2009 Survey Crew Director, Mopan Valley Archaeology Project, Cayo District, Belize, directed by Jason Yaeger, University of Texas at San Antonio
- 2008 Excavation Supervisor, La Blanca Archaeological Project, La Blanca, Guatemala, directed by Michael Love, California State University, Northridge
- 2007 Excavation Supervisor, Proyecto Arqueológico Xuenkal, Yucatan, Mexico, directed by Traci Ardren, University of Miami, and T. Kam Manahan, Kent State University
- 2006 Project Member, South Jersey Archaeological Field Project, Vineland, NJ, directed by Robert Schuyler, University of Pennsylvania
- 2004 Project Member, Alexandria Archaeology, Excavation of a Freedmen's Cemetery, Alexandria, VA

Community Archaeology Initiatives

- Los Antiguos Mayas y Punta Laguna: Un Libro de Colorear / The Ancient Maya and Punta Laguna: A Coloring Book – distributed, with colored pencils, to children in Punta Laguna.
- Museum Exhibit – a small, annually-updated archaeology exhibit in the Punta Laguna Community Museum that includes maps, timelines, photographs, and a sample of artifacts excavated from the site. At community members' request, the exhibit also includes information on how ancient Maya peoples depicted spider monkeys.
- <https://puntalagunamx.com/> -- a collaboratively designed, bilingual website that includes information for tourists visiting Punta Laguna as well as information about archaeological and other ongoing research at the site.
- Photographic Reports – Booklets with captioned photographs summarizing recent fieldwork and findings, distributed to members of the Punta Laguna community after field seasons.
- Brochures and Banners – collaboratively designed materials intended to promote the eco-tourist attraction at Punta Laguna and advertise the reserve to tourists.

Symposia Organized

- 2023 Sarah Kurnick and Samantha Fladd, organizers. "Beyond Leaky Pipelines: Exploring Gender Inequalities in Archaeological Practice." Session organized at the 88th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, March 31

- 2020 Sarah Kurnick and Chelsea Fisher, organizers. “Archaeologists Speak: Our Most Critical Insights.” Session was to be held at the 85th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology. *Canceled due to the COVID-19 Pandemic*
- 2016 Sarah Kurnick and David Rogoff, organizers. “Combating Inequality: Archaeology and the Production of Capital in the 21st Century.” Session organized at the 81st Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Orlando, April 7
- 2013 Sarah Kurnick, Joanne Baron, and Christa Cesario, organizers. 3rd Yucatan in Pennsylvania Roundtable, Penn Museum, Philadelphia, March 1
- 2012 Sarah Kurnick and Joanne Baron, organizers. “Political Strategies in Pre-Columbian Mesoamerica.” Session organized at the 77th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Memphis, April 19

Academic Presentations

- 2026 A Domestic Locus of Fishing Net Manufacture at Punta Laguna, Yucatan, Mexico. Presented at the 91st Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, San Francisco, May 2.
- 2026 Samantha Fladd and Sarah Kurnick. The Empire of Archaeology in Interpretations of the Past. Presented at the 91st Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, San Francisco, May 2.
- 2025 Recently Excavated Postclassic Anthropomorphic Effigy Censors from Punta Laguna, Yucatan, Mexico. Presented at the 90th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Denver, April 26.
- 2024 Stelae for Whom? Challenging Conventional Archaeological Classification. Presented at the 9th Annual Rocky Mountain Pre-Columbian Association Research Colloquium, Denver, September 20.
- 2024 When is an Upright Stone Slab a Stela? Presented at the North American Theoretical Archaeology Group (TAG) Meeting, Santa Fe, May 23.
- 2024 Nicholas Puente and Sarah Kurnick. Entangling Surface and Subsurface Worlds: The movement of speleothems and creation of space at Punta Laguna, Yucatan, Mexico. Presented at the North American Theoretical Archaeology Group (TAG) Meeting, Santa Fe, May 22.
- 2024 “Toda La Gente:” Advocating an Intersectional Approach to Heritage Production. Presented at the 89th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, New Orleans, April 20.
- 2024 Nicholas Puente, Sarah Kurnick, and Ethan Abbe. Entering Chahk’s Realm: Ancient Cave Use and Ritually Deposited Speleothems in Postclassic Architecture at Punta

- Laguna, Yucatan, Mexico. Presented at the 89th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, New Orleans, April 19.
- 2024 Samantha Fladd, Sarah Oas, Sarah Kurnick, and Kari Schleher. Collections Care as Care Work: Examining the Gendered Nature of Museum Work in Archaeology. Presented at the 89th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, New Orleans, April 20.
- 2024 Increasing Diversity is Not an End Goal: The Intellectual Value of Engaged Archaeology at Punta Laguna, Yucatan, Mexico. Presented at the Washington State University Anthropology Department Colloquium, April 4.
- 2023 Postclassic Maya Manipulation of Dimensions: Miniature Stelae at Punta Laguna, Yucatan, Mexico. Presented at the 8th Annual Rocky Mountain Pre-Columbian Association Research Colloquium, Denver, September 29.
- 2023 Nicholas Puente, Sarah Kurnick, and Ethan Abbe. Pursuing the Earth Monster's Fang: Initial Reconnaissance of Two Caves Utilized by the Ancient Maya Peoples at the Site of Punta Laguna, Yucatan, Mexico. Presented at the 8th Annual Rocky Mountain Pre-Columbian Association Research Colloquium, Denver, September 29.
- 2023 Sarah Kurnick and Samantha Fladd. Inequity Critiques: Fit, Prestige, and the Don Quixote Effect. Presented at the 88th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Portland, March 31.
- 2023 Kelsey Hoppes, Sarah Kurnick and Samantha Fladd: The Names We Know: Labor and Prestige in Archaeological Publishing. Presented at the 88th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Portland, March 31.
- 2023 Katelyn Bishop, Samantha Fladd, and Sarah Kurnick. Who Makes the List: An Examination of Inclusion and Representation in the Society for American Archaeology's Annual Meetings. Presented at the 88th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Portland, March 31.
- 2023 Samantha Fladd, Sarah Kurnick, and Katelyn Bishop. Where Have All the Women in Archaeology Gone: Gender (in)Equity in Tenure-Track/Tenured Academic Jobs. Presented at the 88th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Portland, March 31.
- 2023 Nicholas Puente and Sarah Kurnick. Bundled Time: An Analysis of an Intra-site Sac-Be Assemblage at Punta Laguna, Yucatan, Mexico. Presented at the 88th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Portland, April 2.
- 2022 Sarah Kurnick and David Rogoff. Community Archaeology Meets Settlement Pattern Studies: Reassessing the Relationship between Punta Laguna and Cobá. Presented at the 87th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Chicago, April 1.

- 2022 Increasing Diversity is not an End Goal: The intellectual value of engaged archaeology at Punta Laguna, Yucatan, Mexico. Presented at the 2022 Admitted Graduate Student Open House and Research Symposium, Department of Anthropology, University of Colorado, Boulder, February 18.
- 2022 Nicholas Puente, Sarah Kurnick, and David Rogoff. The Vibrant Road: An Analysis of a Sacbe at Punta Laguna, Mexico. Presented at the 87th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Chicago, April 1.
- 2021 Photography, Archaeology, and Maya Peoples. Presented at the 6th Annual Rocky Mountain Pre-Columbian Association Research Colloquium: Current Research in the Ancient Americas, Denver, September 25.
- 2021 Nicholas Puente and Sarah Kurnick. The Rhizomatic Road to Social Relations: An analysis of a sacbe at the archaeological site of Punta Laguna. Presented at the 6th Annual Rocky Mountain Pre-Columbian Association Research Colloquium: Current Research in the Ancient Americas, Denver, September 25.
- 2021 Photographing the Ancient Maya. Presented at the 86th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Online, April 17.
- 2020 How Marginalized Voices are Rewriting History. Was to be presented at the 85th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Austin, April 23.
Canceled due to the COVID-19 Pandemic
- 2019 Malerized Maps and Cartographic Histories: Two Maps of Punta Laguna, Yucatan, Mexico. Presented at the 5th Annual Rocky Mountain Pre-Columbian Association Research Colloquium, Denver, October 26.
- 2019 Community Archaeology and the Production of Space at Punta Laguna, Yucatan, Mexico. Presented at the 84th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Albuquerque, April 14.
- 2018 Space, Inequality, and Community Archaeology: Defying Spatial Commodification at Punta Laguna, Yucatan, Mexico. Presented at the 4th Annual Rocky Mountain Pre-Columbian Association Research Colloquium, Denver, October 13.
- 2018 Political Authority and the Creation of Wilderness: American National Parks and Mexican Eco-Archaeological Parks. Presented at the 83rd Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Washington, D.C., April 12.
- 2017 Creating Wilderness: Yosemite National Park and Xcaret Eco-Archaeological Park. Presented at the 3rd Annual Rocky Mountain Pre-Columbian Association Research Colloquium, Denver, September 30.

- 2017 Navigating Social Memories and Reshaping Built Environments: An Analysis of Postclassic Reoccupation in the Eastern Yucatan Peninsula. Presented at the 82nd Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Vancouver, March 31.
- 2016 Patterns of Postclassic Reoccupation in the Eastern Yucatan Peninsula. Presented at the 2nd Annual Rocky Mountain Pre-Columbian Association Research Colloquium, Denver, September 24.
- 2016 Archaeology and the Mitigation of Inequality. Presented at the Theoretical Archaeology Group (TAG) Conference, Boulder, April 24.
- 2016 Archaeology and the Production of Capital in the 21st Century. Presented at the 81st Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Orlando, April 7
- 2015 Regeneration and Revitalization at Postclassic and Contemporary Punta Laguna, Mexico. Presented as part of the CU Boulder Archaeology Graduate Student Speaker Series, Boulder, November 13
- 2015 The Creation of Maya Political Landscapes in Postclassic Yucatan. Presented at the 1st Annual Rocky Mountain Pre-Columbian Association Research Colloquium, Denver, September 26
- 2015 Discordant Relationships: Household and Community at Callar Creek, Belize. Presented at the 80th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology as part of “From Households to Communities: Bridging Scales in Search of Conflict, Coalescence, and Communitas,” organized by Cameron Wesson and Adam King, San Francisco, April 18
- 2014 Contradictions, Inconsistencies, and Incongruities: The Paradoxes of Ancient Maya Political Authority. Presented at the 2014 University of Chicago Society of Fellows Weissbourd conference, Chicago, May 10
- 2014 The End of Political Authority at Callar Creek, Belize. Presented at the 79th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Austin, April 26
- 2013 A Different Vision of Ancient Maya Politics: A Look at Political Strategies at the “Minor Center” of Callar Creek, Belize. Presented at the 78th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Honolulu, April 5
- 2013 The Politicization of the Past: An Ancient Maya Case Study. Presented at the 3rd Yucatan in Pennsylvania Roundtable, Philadelphia, March 1
- 2012 The Importance of the Past to the Ancient Maya Political Present: Recent Investigations at Callar Creek, Belize. Presented at the 10th Annual Belize Archaeology Symposium, San Ignacio, Belize, June 27

- 2012 How Rulers Rule: Negotiating the Contradictions of Political Authority. Presented at the 77th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Memphis, April 19
- 2011 Political Authority among the Ancient Maya: 2010 Excavations at Callar Creek, Belize. Presented at the Penn Museum Scholars Lecture Series, Philadelphia, April 6
- 2011 Political Authority among Ancient Maya Mid-Level Elites: 2010 Excavations at Callar Creek, Belize. Presented at the 76th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Sacramento, March 31
- 2011 Power and Authority among the Ancient Maya: A View from the Middle. Presented at the 2nd Yucatan in Pennsylvania Roundtable, State College, February 24
- 2010 Women in Stone: Understanding the Classic Period Maya Female Ajaws. Presented at the 75th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, St. Louis, April 15
- 2010 Women in Stone: A Consideration of Female Rulership among the Classic Period Maya. Presented at the Penn Museum's 28th Annual Maya Weekend, Philadelphia, April 10
- 2009 Centering the Universe: A Triadic Stone Sphere Cache from La Blanca, Guatemala. Presented at the 74th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Atlanta, April 23
- 2009 Nourishing the Dead and the Divine: A Look at the UPM Burkitt Censers. Presented at the Penn Museum's 27th Annual Maya Weekend, Philadelphia, April 4

Technical Reports

Kurnick, Sarah, David Rogoff, and Nicholas Puente

2026. Proyecto Arqueológico Punta Laguna: Informe Parcial de la Temporada 2024-2025 para el Consejo Nacional de Arqueología de México (235 pages)

Kurnick, Sarah, David Rogoff, and Nicholas Puente

2023. Proyecto Arqueológico Punta Laguna: Informe Parcial de la Temporada 2023 para el Consejo Nacional de Arqueología de México (165 pages)

Kurnick, Sarah, David Rogoff, and Nicholas Puente

2022. Proyecto Arqueológico Punta Laguna: Informe Parcial de la Temporada 2022 para el Consejo Nacional de Arqueología de México (175 pages)

Kurnick, Sarah and David Rogoff

2021. Proyecto Arqueológico Punta Laguna: Informe Parcial de la Temporada 2021 para el Consejo Nacional de Arqueología de México (161 pages)

Kurnick, Sarah and David Rogoff

2019. Proyecto Arqueológico Punta Laguna: Informe Parcial de la Temporada 2019 para el Consejo Nacional de Arqueología de México (123 pages)

Kurnick, Sarah and David Rogoff

2018. Proyecto Arqueológico Punta Laguna: Informe Parcial de la Temporada 2018 para el Consejo Nacional de Arqueología de México. (61 pages)

Kurnick, Sarah and David Rogoff

2017. Proyecto Arqueológico Punta Laguna: Informe Parcial de la Temporada 2017 para el Consejo Nacional de Arqueología de México.

Kurnick, Sarah and David Rogoff

2016. Final Report on the Punta Laguna Archaeology Project's 2015-2016 Fieldwork. Submitted to the National Geographic Society.

Kurnick, Sarah and David Rogoff

2014. Final Report on the 2014 Field Season of the Punta Laguna Archaeology Project. Submitted to the Gerda Henkel Foundation.

Kurnick, Sarah

2012. Laboratory Analysis of Artifacts from the Callar Creek Site Core. *In* The Mopan Valley Archaeology Project: Results of the 2012 Season. Jason Yaeger, ed. Submitted to the Belize Institute of Archaeology, National Institute of Culture and History, Belmopan, Belize.

Kurnick, Sarah and Alexander Hulse

2011. Continued Investigations in the Callar Creek Site Core. *In* The Mopan Valley Archaeology Project: Results of the 2011 Season. Jason Yaeger, ed. Submitted to the Belize Institute of Archaeology, National Institute of Culture and History, Belmopan, Belize.

Kurnick, Sarah

2010. Investigations in the Callar Creek Site Core. *In* The Mopan Valley Archaeology Project: Results of the 2010 Season. Jason Yaeger, ed. Submitted to the Belize Institute of Archaeology, National Institute of Culture and History, Belmopan, Belize.

Kurnick, Sarah

2009. Opportunistic Survey of the Area North of the Callar Creek Settlement Zone. *In* The Mopan Valley Archaeology Project: Results of the 2009 Season. Jason Yaeger, ed. Submitted to the Belize Institute of Archaeology, National Institute of Culture and History, Belmopan, Belize.

TEACHING

Awards

- University of Colorado Boulder Graduate School's 2023-2024 Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award

Courses Developed and Taught

Graduate Seminars

- Archaeological Theory: Fall 2026
- Space and Power: Spring 2026, Spring 2023, Spring 2022, Spring 2018
- Theoretical Issues in Community and Public Archaeology: Fall 2019

Upper-Level Undergraduate Courses

- The Archaeology of Inequality: Fall 2022, Spring 2021, Fall 2017, Spring 2016, Spring 2014
- Landscape Archaeology: Fall 2025, Fall 2023, Fall 2021, Spring 2019, Fall 2014
- The Development of Anthropological Theory: Fall 2013
- Mesoamerican Archaeology: Fall 2014

Introductory Level Undergraduate Courses

- Exploring a Non-Western Culture: The Maya: Fall 2025, Fall 2023, Fall 2022, Fall 2021, Fall 2020, Spring 2020, Fall 2017
- Ancient Aliens and Contemporary Archaeology: Spring 2024, Fall 2015, Spring 2014, Fall 2013
- Four Field Introduction to Anthropology: Fall 2015

Student Committees

PhD Committee Chair

2020 – 2026	Nicholas Puente, CU Boulder Anthropology
2023 -	Sarah Simeonoff, CU Boulder Anthropology
2024 -	Sasha Buckser, CU Boulder Anthropology
2025 -	Garrett Williams, CU Boulder Anthropology

PhD Committee Member

2022-	Kelsey Hoppes, CU Boulder Anthropology
2021-	Patrick Cruz, CU Boulder Anthropology
2017-2020	Pascale Meehan, CU Boulder Anthropology

MA Committee Member

2020-2021	Alexandra Kulenguski, CU Boulder Anthropology
2017-2021	Vanessa Monson, CU Boulder Anthropology
2017-2018	Samantha Linford CU Boulder Anthropology

BA Honors Thesis Committee Member

2026-2027	Zadie Knapp, CU Boulder Anthropology
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2023-2024	Rachael Nelson, CU Boulder Classics
2022-2023	Em Fox, CU Boulder Anthropology
2019-2020	Joana Lara Nuñez, CU Boulder Anthropology
2017-2018	Rachael Wedemeyer, CU Boulder Anthropology

SERVICE

Popular Publications

Kurnick, Sarah

2022. What does the past mean to people today? Futurum Careers (a free online resource and magazine aimed at encouraging 14-19-year-olds worldwide to pursue careers in STEM and SHAPE fields). <https://doi.org/10.33424/FUTURUM229>

Kurnick, Sarah

2020. Ancient cancel cultures: The defacement of statues in America replicates a tradition going back millennia. The Conversation. [10.64628/AAI.r5w4a33w3](https://doi.org/10.64628/AAI.r5w4a33w3)

Outreach Activities

2021 Panel Discussion. Going Public: Writing and Speaking for Public Audiences. Hosted by the Center for Ancient Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, April 10.

2021 CU and Fort Lewis College Partnership Graduate Student Recruitment Event, April 14 and September 29.

2020 Q&A with The Futures Club Schools. December 11.

Public Lectures

2026 Maya Peoples and Maya Pasts: Engaged Archaeology at Punta Laguna, Yucatan, Mexico. Presented as part of the Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) Boulder chapter lecture series, March 11.

2021 “Aliens built the pyramids” and other absurdities of pseudo-archaeology. TED talk featured TED.com. Published on February 22. (Over 1.9 million views).

2020 Aliens & Archaeology: Why Do We Get History Wrong on Purpose? Presented as part of the TEDx MileHigh event “Rise”, Denver, August 29.

2020 Maya Peoples and Maya Pasts. Presented as part of the Vail Symposium Speaker Series, Vail, September 24.

2020 Changing History at Punta Laguna, Yucatan, Mexico. Presented to the Denver Chapter of the Colorado Archaeological Society (CAS), Denver, September 14.

- 2019 Community Archaeology at Punta Laguna, Mexico. Presented as part of the Center for Native American and Indigenous Studies (CNAIS) Brown Bag Series, Boulder, April 5.
- 2019 Ancient Aliens and Contemporary Archaeology. Presented as part of CU on the Weekend programming, Boulder, March 16.
- 2019 History, Memories, and Social Change: Postclassic Maya Built Environments in the Northeast Yucatan Peninsula. Presented to the Indian Peaks Chapter of the Colorado Archaeological Society, Boulder, March 14.
- 2016 Assembling the Past and Altering the Future: Memory Construction and Collaborative Archaeology at Punta Laguna, Mexico. Presented as part of the Archaeological Institute of America Boulder Chapter Lecture Series, Boulder, April 13
- 2016 Archaeology for the People. Presented as part of the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) Faculty Meet and Greet. University of Colorado, Boulder, January 21
- 2014 Razing the Roof: Acts of Purposeful Destruction in the Belize River Valley. Presented at Voices of the Past: Maya Research Today, Philadelphia, March 15
- 2012 The Truth about the Ancient Maya. Presented as part of the “Maya 101” programming associated with the “Maya 2012: Lords of Time” exhibit at the Penn Museum, Philadelphia, April 14
- 2012 The Ancient Maya and Contemporary America. Lecture presented to the docents of the “Maya 2012: Lords of Time” exhibit as part of a training session at the Penn Museum, Philadelphia, March 21

Interviews

- 2026 A conversation between Beyond Leaky Pipelines guest editors Sarah Kurnick and Samantha Fladd with *Advances in Archaeological Practice* editor Allison Mickel and editorial board members Tiffany Fryer and Maureen Myers.
<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/advances-in-archaeological-practice/video-content/beyond-leaky-pipelines>
- 2024 James Montague. Gobekli Tepe. Delayed Gratification.
- 2024 Rachael Sauer. Taking Archaeology Beyond Big Discoveries and Bullwhips. Colorado Arts and Sciences Magazine.
- 2023 Lizzie Wade. Archaeologists Study What Ruins Meant to People in the Past. *Science* 379(6639): 1282-1283,

Professional Service

Department of Anthropology

2025-	Executive Committee Member
2025-2026	Primary Unit Evaluation Committee (PUEC) Member
2022-2024	Promotion and Tenure Documents Revision Committee Member
2019-2021	Curriculum Committee Chair
2017-2019	Curriculum Committee Member
2017-2019	Space Committee Member

School of Arts and Sciences

2022-2023	Award Committee Member, CU NCAIS (Newberry Consortium in American Indians Studies)
2022-2023	Steering Committee Member, University of Colorado Boulder Center to Advance Research and Teaching in the Social Sciences (CARTSS)
2022-2023	Award Committee Member, University of Colorado STUDIO undergraduate research lab
2018-2020	Steering Committee Member University of Colorado Boulder Center to Advance Research and Teaching in the Social Sciences (CARTSS)

Discipline of Anthropology

2024, 2025	Judge, Society for American Archaeology (SAA) Ethics Bowl.
2023-2024	Member, Task Force on Decolonization, Society for American Archaeology
2022	Award Committee Member, Alfred Vincent Kidder Award for Eminence in the Field of American Archaeology, American Anthropological Association
2020-	Grant Reviewer, National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)
2016-	Grant Reviewer, National Science Foundation (NSF)
2016-	Grant Reviewer, National Geographic Society (NGS)
2024-	Peer Reviewer, Latin American Antiquity
2023-	Peer Reviewer, Journal of Field Archaeology
2020-	Peer Reviewer, Heritage
2019-	Peer Reviewer, American Anthropologist
2016-	Peer Reviewer, Expedition Magazine