

[FRANCO D. ROSSI, Ph.D.](#)

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CURRENT APPOINTMENT

University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL August 2018-Present
Visiting Lecturer in Anthropology
Department of Anthropology

ADDITIONAL AFFILIATIONS

San Bartolo-Xultun Archaeological Project, Peten, Guatemala Sept. 2008-Present
Project Archaeologist | Epigrapher

EDUCATION

Boston University, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Boston, MA
Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Archaeology 2015
Dissertation: The Brothers Taaj: Civil-Religious Orders and Politics of Expertise in Late Maya Statecraft
Master of Arts (M.A.) in Archaeology 2011

American University, Kogod School of Business, Washington, DC 2005
Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Business Administration, *Magna cum laude*

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Archaeology of Latin America; Material Culture; Urbanism, Infrastructure and Ecology; Precolumbian Knowledge Systems; Education; Monuments and Memory; Archaeology of Science and Medicine; Settler Colonialism; Epigraphy and Iconography; Comparative Anthropology of the Americas; Archaeological Applications of GIS and LiDAR.

WORK HISTORY

Harvard University, Boston, MA Jan. 2018-May 2018
Lab Instructor in Dept. of Anthropology

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston, MA Jan. 2018-May 2018
Visiting Lecturer in Dept. of Material Science and Engineering

Brandeis University, Waltham, MA Aug. 2016-Aug. 2018
Lecturer in Dept. of Anthropology

Boston University, Boston, MA Aug. 2016-Aug. 2018
Lecturer in Dept. of Archaeology

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston, MA Jan. 2016-May 2016
Visiting Lecturer in Dept. of Material Science and Engineering

Boston University, Boston, MA Jun. 2008-May 2015
Teaching Fellow in School of Arts and Sciences and Study Abroad Program

Princeton University Art Museum , Princeton, NJ <i>McCrindle Intern/Assistant to Art of Americas Curator</i>	Sept. 2012-Jun. 2013
Mosul (Iraq) Arch. Project/U.S. Dept. of Education , Boston, MA <i>Lecturer and Curriculum Development Aide</i>	Nov. 2012-Jul. 2013
Museum of Fine Arts , Boston, MA <i>Research Associate and Epigrapher</i>	May 2011-Jan. 2012
Univ. of Pennsylvania Museum of Arch. & Anth. , Philadelphia, PA <i>Exhibition Development Aid, Researcher Associate and Docent</i>	Jun. 2006-2008

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Cora Du Bois Fellowship	Jun. 2018-Aug. 2018
John Carter Brown Long-Term Fellowship	(declined) Jun. 2018
Angela J. and James J. Rallis Memorial Award Fund	May 2014
Helen G. Allen Humanities Award	May 2014
Dumbarton Oaks Junior Fellowship	Sept. 2013-May 2014
Cora Du Bois Summer Fellowship	Jun. 2013-Aug. 2013
American Philosophical Society Library Fellowship	Jan. 2013
Boston University Presidential Fellowship	Sept. 2008-2013, 2015
Graduate Research Abroad Fellowship (Boston University)	Jun. 2012-Dec. 2012
UT-Austin Academic Residency at Casa Herrera	Jan. 2012-Feb. 2012
U.S. Dept. of Education Foreign Language and Area Studies	May-Jul. 2009
American University Leadership Academic Scholarship	Sept. 2001-May 2005

PUBLICATIONS

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

2018	"Pedagogy and State: An Archaeology of Educational Institutions in Pre-Columbian Mesoamerica." <i>Cambridge Archaeological Journal</i> 28(1): 85-102.
2017	"A Maya Curia Regis: Evidence for a Hierarchical Specialist Order at Xultun, Guatemala." <i>Ancient Mesoamerica</i> 28(2): 423-440. (With W. Saturno, D. Stuart and H. Hurst)
2015	Maya Codex Book Production and the Politics of Expertise: An Archaeology of a Classic Period Household at Xultun, Guatemala." <i>American Anthropologist</i> 117(1): 116-132. (With W. Saturno and H. Hurst)
2015	"To Set Before the King: Residential Mural Painting at Xultun, Guatemala." <i>Antiquity</i> 89(343): 122-136. (With W. Saturno, H. Hurst and D. Stuart)
2012	"Ancient Maya Astronomical Tables from Xultun, Guatemala." <i>Science</i> 336(6082): 714-717. (With W. Saturno, D. Stuart and A. Aveni)

BOOK CHAPTERS

- 2019 Forthc. **“Skin of Walls: Interconnections of Lime Plaster and Skin Painting.”** In *Painting the Skin: Studies on the Pigments Applied on Bodies and Codices in Pre-Columbian Mesoamerica*, E. Dupey-García and M. Vázquez de Ágredos (eds.). Revisions submitted to editors December 10, 2017.
- 2018 **“Nuevas Investigaciones en el Sitio Arqueológico Xultun, Peten, Guatemala.”** Article submitted for publication in *XXXI Simposio de Investigaciones Arqueológicas en Guatemala 2017*. Instituto de Antropología e Historia, Guatemala City. (with B. Beltrán, W. Saturno, and D. del Cide)
- 2018 **“Changing Stages: Royal Legitimacy and the Architectural Development of the Pinturas Complex at San Bartolo, Guatemala.”** In *Pathways to Complexity: A View from the Maya Lowlands*. K. Brown and G. Bey III (eds.). Gainesville, FL: University Press of Florida. (With W. Saturno and B. Beltrán)
- 2017 **“Time to Rule: Celestial Observation and Appropriation among the Early Maya.”** In *Maya E-Groups: Calendars, Astronomy, and Urbanism in the Early Lowlands*, D. Freidel, A. Chase, A. Dowd, and J. Murdock (eds.). Gainesville, FL: University Press of Florida. (With W. Saturno and B. Beltrán)
- 2016 **“Vida y Muerte en el Sitio Arqueológico de Xultun, Petén: Un Reporte Bioarqueológico de Los Entierros Recién Excavados.”** Article submitted for publication in *XXIX Simposio de Investigaciones Arqueológicas en Guatemala 2015*. Instituto de Antropología e Historia, Guatemala City. (With S. Suzuki)
- 2015 **“Una Exploración Epigráfica del Sitio Xultún.”** In *XXVIII Simposio de Investigaciones Arqueológicas en Guatemala 2014*. Instituto de Antropología e Historia, Guatemala City. (With D. Stuart and W. Saturno)
- 2013 **“El Grupo Taaj: Recientes Investigaciones y Nuevos Descubrimientos.”** In *XXVI Simposio de Investigaciones Arqueológicas en Guatemala 2012*, B. Arroyo, H. Escobedo and H. Mejía (eds.). Instituto de Antropología e Historia, Guatemala City.
- 2011 **“Del Preclásico Tardío al Clásico: Cambios, Continuidades, y Nuevos Hallazgos en la Región San Bartolo-Xultun.”** In *XXIV Simposio de Investigaciones Arqueológicas en Guatemala, 2010*, B. Arroyo, H. Escobedo and H. Mejía (eds.). Instituto de Antropología e Historia, Guatemala City. (With W. Saturno, et al.)

EDITORIALLY REVIEWED ARTICLES AND BOOK CONTRIBUTIONS

- 2016 **“El Taller de Los Sabios: La Producción de Murales y Códices en Xultún, Guatemala.”** *Arqueología Mexicana* 23(137): 68-75. (With H. Hurst and W. Saturno)
- 2013 Various catalog entries. In *Princeton University Art Museum Handbook of the Collections*, Princeton University Art Museum, Princeton, NJ.

CURRENT PROJECTS

- In prep. *Education in Mesoamerica: An Archaeohistorical Perspective* (book manuscript underway for submission to University of Texas Press, Fall 2019)
- In prep. *The Body Adorned: Mapping Ancient Maya Dress* (collaborative volume prepping for submission to Yale University Press, Winter 2018, contributor and co-editor w/ Stephen Houston and Nicholas Carter)

PRESENTATIONS

INVITED LECTURES

- 2017 **"Murals, Graffiti and the Unprovenienced Pot: Dilemmas of Context and Looting in Northeastern Petén."** (Lecture for "Textdatenbank und Wörterbuch des Klassischen Maya" 3rd Annual Workshop, the NRW Akademie der Wissenschaften and KR Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn, Germany, December 2017)
- "The Role of Murals in Ancient Maya Education."** (Lecture for "Murals of the Americas" Seventeenth Annual Mayer Center Symposium, Denver Art Museum, Denver, CO, November 2017)
- "Finding History in Art, Artifacts and Looted Graves."** (Lecture for the Pre-Columbian Society of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA, March 2017)
- 2016 **"San Bartolo: Murals, Archaeology and Recounting the Founding of a City."** (Lecture for "Current Topics in Mesoamerican Archaeology" seminar, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, November 2016)
- "Bridging the Material, Ethnographic and Textual in Archaeology."** (Lecture for "Cities in the Jungles: Maya Archaeology" course, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, February 2016)
- "Pedagogy and Expertise in an Ancient Maya Scientific Institution."** (Lecture for "Introduction to Anthropology" course, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, February 2016)
- 2015 **"Pre-Columbian Pedagogy: An Archaeology of Educational Institutions in Classic Maya Statecraft."** ("Brown bag" lecture for Boston University Department of Archaeology, Boston, MA, November 2015)
- "The Archaeology of an Ancient Maya Institute."** (Lecture for "Astronomy in Culture" course, Colgate University, Hamilton, NY, November 2015)
- "Making Codices in Classic Maya Society."** (Lecture conducted via Skype for Pre-Columbian art seminar, Trinity University, San Antonio, TX, November 2015)
- 2014 **"The Brothers *Taaj*: Orders and the Politics of Expertise in the Late Maya Court."** (Research Report presented to Fellows and Staff of Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Museum, Washington, D.C., April 2014)
- "Obsidian and Paper: Inscriptions of Classic Maya Specialists and an Archaeology of their Residence at Xultun, Guatemala."** (Lecture for University Museum's "Penn Maya Weekend," Philadelphia, PA, March 2014)
- "The *Taaj* of 10K-2: Exploring a Religious Order at Xultun, Guatemala."** (Lecture for the Pre-Columbian Society of Washington, D.C., March 2014)
- 2013 **"New Archaeological Findings at Xultun, Guatemala."** (Lecture for the Pre-Columbian Society of Philadelphia, PA, February 2013)
- "Doing Archaeology in Petén, Guatemala."** (Archaeology lecture for University Museum monthly docent meeting, Philadelphia, PA, February 2013)

INVITED SESSIONS

- 2017 **"An Archaeology of Indigenous Arts and Sciences."** (Lecture for *Workshop on a Workshop: Viewing Maya Murals Murals through Interdisciplinary Eyes*, Institute for Cross-disciplinary Engagement, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, October 2017)
- "The Obsidian Order at Copan: A Discussion on Art, Education, and Institutions in Late Classic Statecraft."** (Paper presented in Symposium, *Copan I: The Late Classic Period*, at Society for American Archaeology (SAA) 82nd annual meeting, Vancouver, BC, Canada, March-April 2017)
- "Inequality and Gender in the Spaces of Artistic Production."** (Paper co-authored with M. Clarke presented in Symposium, *Spatial Approaches to Craft Production*, at Society for American Archaeology (SAA) 82nd annual meeting, Vancouver, BC, Canada, March-April 2017)
- 2016 **"Making and Keeping Secret Knowledge at Xultun, Guatemala."** (Paper presented in Symposium, *Mesoamerican Painting: Social Memory on Virtual Display*, at Society for American Archaeology (SAA) 81st annual meeting, Orlando, FL, April 2016)
- 2015 **"An Archaeology of Early Maya Writing."** (Paper presented at Rutgers Conference on First Writing Systems, New Brunswick, NJ, May 2015)
- "Sabios in Situ: Art-making and Representing Authority at Classic Period Xultun."** (Paper presented at Society for American Archaeology (SAA) 80th annual meeting, San Francisco, CA, April 2015)
- 2013 **"The Taaj: Political and Religious Associations at Classic Period Xultun."** (Paper presented to Program for Latin American Studies (PLAS) Graduate Colloquium at Princeton University, February 2013)

SUBMITTED PAPERS

- 2018 **"The Monuments that Weren't: Reckoning with Unmarked Histories of Violence."** (Paper presented in session, "Practicing Archaeology in the Contemporary Political Climate," at SAA 83rd annual meeting, Washington, DC, April 2018)
- "Nuevas Investigaciones en el Sitio Arqueológico Xultun, Peten, Guatemala."** (Paper co-authored with B. Beltrán, W. Saturno, and D. del Cide presented at XXXI *Simposio de Investigaciones Arqueológicas*, Guatemala City, July 2017)
- 2015 **"Vida y Muerte en el Sitio Arqueológico de Xultun."** (Paper co-authored with Shintaro Suzuki and presented at XXIX *Simposio de Investigaciones Arqueológicas*, Guatemala City, July 2015)
- "Ritual Implement, Ritual Title: Exploring the Taaj in Mesoamerican Politics and Late Maya Religion."** (Paper presented at University of Texas Meetings, Austin, TX, January 2015)
- 2014 **"An Archaeology of Pedagogy and Statecraft in the Americas."** (Paper presented at Annual Meeting for American Anthropological Association, Washington, D.C., November 2014)
- "Una Exploración Epigráfica del Sitio Xultún."** (Paper presented at XXVIII *Simposio de Investigaciones Arqueológicas*, Guatemala City, July 2014)

- 2013 **“The Taaj Group: Investigating the Home of a Xultun Specialist.”** (Paper presented at SAA 78th annual meeting, Honolulu, HI, April 2013)
- “Making Art: Defining Artistic Practice and Organization at Xultun, Guatemala.”** (Paper co-authored with Heather Hurst and presented at SAA 78th annual meeting, Honolulu, HI, April 2013)
- “The Smoking Mirrors: Obsidian, Divination, and Ritual in a Political Order.”** (Paper presented “Ephemeral Relics” conference at Univ. of Penn., March 2013)
- 2012 **“El Complejo de Los Murales 10K, Recientes Investigaciones y Nuevos Descubrimientos.”** (Paper presented at XXVI *Simposio de Investigaciones Arqueológicas*, Guatemala City, July 2012)
- 2011 **“Xultun and 10K2-Temporada 2011.”** (co-written and presented at XXV *Simposio de Investigaciones Arqueológicas*, Guatemala City, July 2011)
- 2010 **“Del Preclásico Tardío al Clásico: Cambios, Continuidades, y Nuevos Hallazgos en La Región San Bartolo-Xultún.”** (co-written and presented at XXIV *Simposio de Investigaciones Arqueológicas*, Guatemala City, July 2010)
- 2009 **“Gold Lust as a Window into Political Subjectivities During the Spanish Conquest.”** (Paper presented at “Strangers in a Strange Land” conference at the University of Pennsylvania, March 2010)

ORGANIZED SESSIONS AND SYMPOSIA

- 2018 **“Practicing Archaeology in the Contemporary Political Climate.”** (Co-chair with C. Novotny for SAA 83rd annual meeting, Washington, D.C., April 2018)
- 2013 **“Xultun: Recent Investigations at a Classic Maya Metropolis in the Northeast Petén.”** (Chair of session for SAA 78th annual meeting, Honolulu, HI, April 2013)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Introduction to Latin American Studies University of Illinois at Chicago <i>Visiting Lecturer</i>	Fall 2018
Ancient Maya Writing and Art University of Illinois at Chicago <i>Visiting Lecturer</i>	Fall 2018
Environment and Archaeology Brandeis University (cross-listed with Environmental Studies) <i>Lecturer</i>	Spring 2018
Introduction to Archaeological Method and Theory Boston University <i>Lecturer</i>	Spring 2018
Materials in Human Experience: Murals in Mesoamerica Massachusetts Institute of Technology <i>Lecturer</i>	Spring 2018
Eating and Drinking in Ancient Mexico Harvard University <i>Lab Instructor</i>	Spring 2018

Archaeological Method and Theory Brandeis University <i>Lecturer</i>	Fall 2017
Death and the State: Archaeologies of Governance in the Ancient Americas Boston University <i>Lecturer</i>	Spring 2017
Archaeological Methods Brandeis University <i>Lecturer</i>	Fall 2016
Colliding Ecologies in Mesoamerica (graduate level) Boston University <i>Lecturer</i>	Fall 2016
Great Discoveries in Archaeology Boston University <i>Lecturer</i>	Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Summer 2017
Materials in Human Experience: Lime Plaster in Mesoamerican Civilization Massachusetts Institute of Technology <i>Lecturer</i>	Spring 2016
The Ancient Maya Boston University School of Arts and Sciences <i>Lecturer</i>	Summer 2015; Spring 2018
Art and Architecture of Mesoamerica (cross-listed with Art History) Boston University School of Arts and Sciences <i>Visiting Lecturer</i>	Fall 2014
Archaeological Field Methods: Survey and Excavation Boston University Program Abroad (Guatemala) <i>Teaching Fellow</i>	Spring 2010, 2012
Archaeological Field Program Abroad San Bartolo Project/Boston University <i>Field Instructor</i>	Spring 2010, 2012, 2016
Studies in Mesoamerican Archaeology Boston University / San Bartolo Project <i>Teaching Fellow</i>	Spring 2010, 2012
Introduction to Archaeology Boston University <i>Teaching Fellow</i>	Fall 2008-2011; Spring 2009

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK

San Bartolo-Xultun Regional Archaeological Project, Guatemala <i>Archaeologist and Epigrapher</i>	2008-present
University of California at Riverside Yalahau Project, Mexico <i>Archaeologist</i>	Jun. 2007
DeSoto National Park Project, Mississippi <i>Archaeological Assistant</i>	Oct. 2006

CONSULTANCIES AND SHORT-TERM FIELDWORK

Princeton, New Jersey São Paulo, Brazil Rio de Janeiro, Brazil <i>Brazil Global Fellows Program, Princeton University</i>	Apr. 2013
Cayo District, Belize <i>Translation Project Research Assistant</i>	Jan. 2010
Tamale, Ghana <i>Ethnographic Assistant</i>	Jun.-Aug. 2008, Jul.-Aug. 2009

SELECT TECHNICAL REPORTS (Principle Authored Only)

- 2016 **"Investigaciones en al Grupo 11K17."** Submitted as part of *Informe de Resultados de Investigaciones, Temporada de Campo, 2016, Proyecto Arqueológico San Bartolo* to Instituto de Antropología e Historia, Guatemala City.
- 2012 **"El Grupo Taaj: Los Murales y Las Excavaciones de Una Residencia."** Submitted as part of *Informe de Resultados de Investigaciones, Temporada de Campo, 2012, Proyecto Arqueológico San Bartolo* to Instituto de Antropología e Historia, Guatemala City.
- 2010 **"XUL 11J-2 Excavaciones Encima del Palacio, Xultun, Petén."** Submitted as part of *Informe Preliminar de La Novena Temporada de Campo, 2010, Proyecto Arqueológico San Bartolo* to Instituto de Antropología e Historia, Guatemala City.
- "XUL 12F19: Excavaciones y Túneles de la Acrópolis, Xultun, Petén."** Submitted as part of *Informe Preliminar de La Novena Temporada de Campo, 2010, Proyecto Arqueológico San Bartolo* to Instituto de Antropología e Historia, Guatemala City.
- "Documentación de Las Estelas Conocidas en Xultun, Petén."** Submitted as part of *Informe Preliminar de La Novena Temporada de Campo, 2010, Proyecto Arqueológico San Bartolo* to Instituto de Antropología e Historia, Guatemala City.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND ACADEMIC SERVICE

Member

Society for American Archaeology (SAA)	2013-present
American Anthropological Association (AAA)	2014-present

Peer Reviewer

Academic Press of the Instituto de Investigaciones Históricas de la Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), 2015

The Record, Annual Journal of the Princeton University Art Museum, 2016

Journal of Social Sciences, Science Publications, 2017

Committee Member, Department of Archaeology, Boston University
Qualifying Exams for Graduate Students: M. Codlin, V. Poston

Fall 2016

LANGUAGES

English (native), Spanish (near fluent), Italian (advanced), German (beginner); French (beginner); Yukatek Maya (reading knowledge), Classic Maya Hieroglyphics (advanced)