

Department of Anthropology Colloquium

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Human Paleodemography of the Terminal Pleistocene and Holocene in the Western US: The Radiocarbon Record

Abstract: Since 2014 the NSF has funded a project at the University of Wyoming to develop a comprehensive archaeological radiocarbon database for the US. This project advances the theory and methods for using large radiocarbon datasets as paleodemographic proxies. In this presentation over 32,000 radiocarbon dates from eleven different states in the Western US will be analyzed in order to compare population growth/decline between different regions. A new method for projecting radiocarbon dates in space will be employed to propose hypotheses for human migration between different regions of the West throughout the Holocene.

Erick Robinson received his Ph.D. from the University of Sheffield. He has had postdoctoral research fellowships at Ghent University and the University of Wyoming. He specializes in geochronology, lithic analysis, paleodemography, and terminal Pleistocene and Holocene hunter-gatherers and early farmers in Northern Europe and the Western US. He has ongoing field research in Oregon, Utah, Wyoming, and Denmark.

Date: Thursday, March 23, 2017 | **Time:** 3:30-4:30 | **Location:** Hibben Room 105