

GORDON AMBROSINO

curriculum vitae

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Plains Indian Museum
Buffalo Bill Center of the West
Cody, WY 82414
gordona@centerofthewest.org
Office: (370) 578-4002

EDUCATION

- 2017 Ph.D.
Department of Anthropology, La Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia
Ph.D. Committee: Alexander Herrera (Chair), George Lau, Luis Gonzalo Jaramillo Echeverri
Dissertation title: *Rock Art, Ancestors and Water: The Semiotic Construction of Landscapes in the Central Andes*
- 2000 B.A.
College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Department of Anthropology, Northern Arizona University

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Landscape Archaeology, NAGPRA, Rock Art, Cultural Heritage Management, Museum Anthropology, Resource Conservation, Photogrammetry, GIS

POSITIONS HELD

- 9/22- Present *Curator*, Plains Indian Museum, Buffalo Bill Center of the West, Cody, WY
- 7/22- Present *Adjunct Assistant Professor*, Anthropology Department, University of New Mexico
- 11/21-9/22 *NAGPRA Coordinator*, Maxwell Museum of Anthropology, University of New Mexico
- 1/21-10/21 *Adjunct Professor*, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work, Auburn University
- 8/20-10/21 *NAGPRA Coordinator*, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work, Auburn University
- 12/19-6/20 *LACMA Postdoctoral Curatorial Fellow*, Art of the Ancient Americas Department, Los Angeles County Museum of Art

- 11/17-11/19 *Mellon Postdoctoral Curatorial Fellow*, Art of the Ancient Americas Department, Los Angeles County Museum of Art
- 1/12-12/16 *Graduate Assistant*, Department of Anthropology, La Universidad de los Andes
- 2/11-11/11 *Archaeological and Curatorial Consultant*, Equipo Colombiano de Investigaciones Antropológico Forenses, Bogotá, Colombia
- 1/06-11/10 *Collections Manager II / Repatriation Specialist*, Department of Anthropology, Field Museum
- 4/04-12/05 *Regenstein Collections Assistant of Pacific Anthropology*, Department of Anthropology, Field Museum,
- 2/03-3/04 *High-School Math and English Instructor*, The Princeton Review
- 1/01-1/03 *Chimpanzee Behavioral Research Assistant*, Wildlife Waystation, Sylmar, CA.

PUBLICATIONS

- Forthcoming **Ambrosino, Gordon** and Antonio Curet, The Rock Art of Tibes: “New Insights on the Development of the Earliest Known Ceremonial Center in the Greater Antilles”. In *Tibes: Memory, Society and Sacred Space*. Eds. Antonio Curet and Lisa Stringer, University of Alabama Press, Tuscaloosa.
- In Preparation Thatcher Rodgers, Alex Kurota, and **Gordon Ambrosino**, “Eight Previously Unstudied and Rare Chihuahuan Polychrome Vessels from the Los Angeles County Museum of Art” (working title). Article to be submitted for review to *Southwest Pottery*.
- 2022 **Ambrosino, Gordon**, “Marking the Crown: Chimú territorial expansion and the appropriation of ancestral water resources in the highland Andes (A.D. 1000 – 1476). *WIREs Water*, Wiley Online Library.
- 2020 **Ambrosino, Gordon**, *Rock Art, Water, and Ancestors: The Semiotic Construction of a Sacred Landscape in the Central Andes (1800 BCE – CE 1820)*, British Archaeological Reports, Prehistoric Art Series. Oxford, U.K.
- 2019 **Ambrosino, Gordon**, “Inscription, Place and Memory: palimpsest rock art and the evolution of Andean social landscapes in the Formative Period (1500-200 B.C.)”. *H-ART: Revista de historia, teoría y crítica de arte*. No. 35. La Universidad de Los Andes, Bogotá.
- 2018 **Ambrosino, Gordon**, “Painted Origins: inscribed landscape histories in the Fortaleza pictograph style during the Andean, late pre-Hispanic period”. *World Archaeology*, Vol. 50.5.

- 2017 **Ambrosino, Gordon**, *Rock Art, Ancestors and Water: The Semiotic Construction of Landscapes in the Central Andes*, Ph.D. Dissertation, Department of Anthropology, La Universidad de Los Andes, Bogotá.
- 2017 **Ambrosino, Gordon** and Alexander Herrera, *The Upper Fortaleza Rock Art Project: Final Report for the 2016 Field Season*. El Laboratorio de Arte y Arqueología Andina, Departments of Anthropology and Art History. La Universidad de Los Andes, Bogotá.
- 2017 Alexander Herrera and **Gordon Ambrosino**, *El Proyecto de Investigación Arqueológico del Arte Rupestre del Alto Fortaleza (PIA ARAF) Informe Final de la Temporada de 2016*. 2017. Ministry of Culture, Lima, Peru.
- 2017 **Ambrosino, Gordon**, *Rock Art Documentation and Community Consultation at the Headwaters of the Orinoco River, Meta, Colombia Final Report for the 2016 Field Season*. Laboratorio de Arte y Arqueología Andina, Departments of Anthropology and Art History. La Universidad de Los Andes, Bogotá.
- 2015 **Ambrosino, Gordon**, *The Upper Fortaleza Rock Art Project: GIS mapping and Photogrammetric Modeling of the Rock Art of the Fortaleza Ignimbrite. Final Report for the 2014 Field Season*. Department of Anthropology. La Universidad de Los Andes, Bogotá.
- 2015 **Ambrosino, Gordon**, Antonio Curet and Jill Segard, “The Rock Art of the Civic Ceremonial Center of Tibes”. In: *Informe del Proyecto Arqueológico del Centro Indígena de Tibes, Ponce, Puerto Rico, 2008-2011*. Eds. Antonio Curet and Lisa Stringer. Municipality of Ponce, Puerto Rico.
- 2010 Robbins, Helen and **Gordon Ambrosino**. *Consultation with the Nome and Wales Eskimo Communities of The Bering Straits Native Corporation, NAGPRA Grant # 17-07-GP-454. Final Report*. National Park Service, Washington D.C.
- 2009 Robbins, Helen and **Gordon Ambrosino**. *Consultation with the Navajo Tribe of Utah, New Mexico, and Arizona. NAGPRA, Grant # 17-04-GP-370, Final Report*. National Park Service, Washington D.C.
- 2009 Robbins, Helen and **Gordon Ambrosino**. *Consultation with the Navajo Tribe of Utah, New Mexico, and Arizona. NAGPRA, Grant # 17-06-GP-417, Final Report*. National Park Service, Washington D.C.
- 2009 Robbins, Helen and **Gordon Ambrosino**. *Consultation with the Zuni Tribe of New Mexico and Arizona. NAGPRA, Grant # 17-04-GP-370. Final Report*. National Park Service, Washington D.C.
- 2007 Robbins, Helen and **Gordon Ambrosino**. *Consultation with the Crow Tribe of Montana. NAGPRA, Grant # 17-03-GP-338, Final Report*. National Park Service, Washington D.C.

MUSEUM EXHIBITIONS

Ambrosino, Gordon. Curator, (2025), *Bears Ears: Living Land*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art and The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, Los Angeles, CA.

Ambrosino, Gordon. Curator, (February 10 – July 24, 2018), *Ancient Bodies: Transformation, Performance and Power in Mesoamerica*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA.

Herrera, Alexander and **Gordon Ambrosino**, Co-Curator, (June 1, 2012 – March 14, 2013), *The Archaeology of Huandoy: A Tropical Glacier in the Northern Peruvian Sierra*, La Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia.

Haas, Jonathan. Content Consultant, (2007), *The Ancient Americas*, Field Museum, Chicago, IL.

FUNDING, HONORS, AND AWARDS

2022 Consultation / Documentation Grant (\$99,345) *Consultation and Documentation of the Maxwell Museum's Chaco Canyon Collections*, U.S. National Park Service.

2021 Planning Grant (\$75,000), The National Endowment for the Humanities

2016 Dissertation Fieldwork Grant (\$20,000), The Wenner-Gren Foundation

2015 Project Results Dissemination Grant (\$1,500), La Universidad de Los Andes

2014 Tweedie Exploration Fellowship (\$1,700), Edinburgh University

2012 Ph.D. Scholarship (Full), La Universidad de Los Andes

2010 Professional Development Grant (\$600), Field Museum

2007 Consultation / Documentation Grant, (\$34,326) *Consultation with the Nome and Wales Eskimo Communities of The Bering Strait*, Native Corporation, U.S. National Park Service

2006 Consultation / Documentation Grant, (\$53,078) *Consultation with the Navajo Tribe of Arizona, Utah and New Mexico*, U.S. National Park Service

2005 Consultation / Documentation Grant, (\$43,320) *Consultation with the Zuni Tribe of New Mexico and Arizona*, U.S. National Park Service

2000 Award for outstanding scholarship, Northern Arizona University

PRESENTED PAPERS

Ambrosino, Gordon. “The Bears Ears Project: consultation, collaborative exhibition curation, and community outreach” Presented at the University of New Mexico Department of Anthropology’s seminar series, 1/28/2022.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZvYybtZ4nTM>

Ambrosino, Gordon. “Collaborative Landscape Research and Exhibition Development with Native Communities in the U.S. Southwest”. Presented at the University of Southern California’s Anthropology Department’s running Spring Seminar Series, 4/14/2021.

Ambrosino, Gordon. “Painted Territories: Water Management and Landscape Inscription in the Highland Central Andes”. To be presented at Auburn University’s Water Resource Center’s Water Webinar, 4/19/2021

Ambrosino, Gordon. “El Arte Rupestre en las Tierras Altas de los Ríos Santa y Fortaleza:

Las Interrelaciones entre iconografía, espacio y tiempo”. Paper presented at the Cycle of Virtual Conferences, Asociación de Estudios de Arte Rupestre y Paisajes del Perú, 9/30/2020.

Ambrosino, Gordon. “Where the Ancestors Dwell: four thousand years of rock art production in the highland Andes” Presented at the Art Soundscapes Seminar Series, Universitat de Barcelona, 5/19/2020

Ambrosino, Gordon. “The Rock Art of La Serranía de la Macarena: Previously undocumented rock art at the headwaters of the Orinoco River (Meta, Colombia)”. To be presented at the *Society for American Archaeology 85th Annual Meeting*. Austin, TX, April 22-26, 2020. (Note: this paper will be given in 2021 due to the cancellation of the 2020 meeting)

Ambrosino, Gordon, “Four Millennia of Inscription at the Headwaters of the Fortaleza and Santa Rivers: New Perspectives for the for the Rock Art of the Central Andes” Paper to be presented at the at the *Society for American Archaeology 84th Annual Meeting*. Albuquerque, NM, April 10-14, 2019.

Ambrosino, Gordon and Alexander Herrera. “Arqueología del arte rupestre en el Alto Fortaleza: la metodología integrada del Proyecto de Investigación Arqueológico, Arte Rupestre del Alto Fortaleza (PIA ARAF)”. Paper presented at the *IV Congreso Nacional de Arqueología*, Lima, Peru, August 9, 2017.

Ambrosino, Gordon. “The Semiotics of Place: Four Thousand years of rock art production in the Central Andes”. Paper Presented at the *First annual Andean, Pre-Hispanic Art Conference*. La Universidad de Los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia, April 20, 2017.

Ambrosino, Gordon. “The Rock Art of the Civic Ceremonial Center of Tibes: New perspectives for understanding rock art in a built environment.” Paper presented at the *Society for American Archaeology 82nd Annual Meeting*. Orlando, FL, April 8, 2016.

Ambrosino, Gordon. “Rock Art, Water and Ancestors: The semiotic construction of landscapes in the pre-Hispanic Central Andes”. Paper presented at *Institute of Andean Studies 56th Annual Meeting*, Berkeley, CA, January 8, 2016.

Ambrosino, Gordon. “Systematic Regional Survey and 3-Dimensional Modeling of the Rock Art of the Fortaleza Ignimbrite: Preliminary Results from the 2014 Field Season”. Paper presented at Universidad Nacional Santiago Atunéz Mayolo (UNASAM) Huaraz, Ancash, Peru, November 6, 2014.

Ambrosino, Gordon. “Curating Human Remains After Excavation: Management, Conservation, Storage and Databasing”. Presented to Equipo Colombiano de Investigaciones Antropológico Forenses (ECIAF), Bogotá, Colombia, August 11-13, 2011.

Ambrosino, Gordon. “Community Consultation and Repatriation with the Nome and Wales Eskimo Communities of the Bering Strait”. Paper presented at Flinders University. Adelaide, South Australia, March 17, 2010.

COURSES AND SEMINARS TAUGHT

2021 *Introduction to Anthropology*, Auburn University

2020 *Writing and Collaboration in Museums*, Arizona State University.

- 2016-2017 *Introduction to Archaeology Seminar*, La Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia.
- 2016 *Heritage in 3-D: Photogrammetry Methods and Applications in the Museum and in the Field*, La Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia.
- 2016 *The Upper Fortaleza Rock Art Project: Rock Art Recording and Rock Shelter Excavation Field School*, La Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia.
- 2011 *Curating Human Remains: Conservation, Consultation and Management* Equipo Colombiano de Investigaciones Antropológico Forenses (ECIAF), Bogotá, Colombia.
- 2003 High School English and Math (Grades 9-12), The Princeton Review.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EXPERIENCE

- 2012-2017 Co-Principal Investigador, Proyecto de Investigación Arqueológico, Arte Rupestre del Alto Fortaleza (PIA ARAF)
- 2016-2018 Principal Investigador, La Serranía de La Macarena Rock Art Project
- 2012-2013 Crew Chief and Laboratory Manager, Proyecto de Investigación Arqueológico Huandoy
- 2011 Archaeology and Collections Curation Consultant, Equipo Colombiano de Investigaciones Antropológico Forenses (ECIAF), Proyecto Bicentenario, Cementerio Central, Bogotá, Colombia,
- 2010 Crew Chief, Proyecto Arqueológico del Centro Indígena de Tibes, Ponce, Puerto Rico
- 2009 Field and Laboratory Technician, Proyecto Arqueológico del Centro Indígena de Tibes, Ponce, Puerto Rico.

LANGUAGES

- Native English
- Fluent Spanish
- Beginner level Quechua

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- The Museum System (TMS)
- Agisoft Photoscan
- ArcMap 10.4
- Harris Matrix Composer
- Trimble GPS system
- AutoCad Civil 3D
- KE EMu and FileMaker Pro Database Softwares
- Microsoft Office
- Nikon DTM 322 Total Station
- Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop
- Sketch-Up graphic design program

ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS AND TRAINING

- 2015 Intern, Office of Contract Archaeology, University of New Mexico
(Extensive training in rock shelter archaeology, GIS, stratigraphic excavations and total station data acquisition)
- 2010 Certificate of Architecture, Chicago Center for Green Technology
- 2010 Certificate of Green Home and Garden, Chicago Center for Green Technology
- 2008 Certificate of National NAGPRA Training, U.S. National Park Service
- 2006 Cultures, Chemicals and Repatriation: National NAGPRA Training, U.S. National Park Service
- 2003 K-12 Teacher Certification, The State of Illinois
- 2001 First Aid and CPR Certification, U.S. Red Cross

SERVICE

- 2021 Peer Reviewer, *Ñawpa Pacha, Journal of Andean Archaeology*
- 2018 Peer Reviewer, *Latin American Antiquity*
- 2019 Peer Reviewer, *British Archaeological Reports*
- 2020 Peer Reviewer, *Cambridge University Press*