Chelsea Fisher

Curriculum vitae

Address: Department of Anthropology

University of South Carolina

817 Henderson Street Columbia, SC 29208

Email: <u>CF84@mailbox.sc.edu</u>
Website: <u>www.chelsearfisher.com</u>

Research interests

Anthropological archaeology; environmental justice; traditional ecological knowledge; food and agriculture; community-engaged research; environmental humanities

Professional appointments

2023- Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of South

Carolina.

2019-2023 Assistant Professor, Environmental Studies Program, Washington and Lee

University.

Education

2019 Ph.D., Anthropology, University of Michigan

Dissertation: Maya Farming Communities and the Long View of Sustainability

at Tzacauil

2014 M.A., Anthropology, University of Michigan
2011 B.A., Archaeology, The College of Wooster

Publications

Book

2023 Rooting in a Useless Land: Ancient Farmers, Celebrity Chefs, and

Environmental Justice in Yucatán. University of California Press, Oakland.

Refereed journal articles

2024 Fisher, Chelsea. Patron saints of meat and tallow: Sacralizing extractivism in

the colonial cattle industry of Yucatán, Mexico. In "Special Issue: Religion in

Extractive Zones", edited by Terra Schwerin Rowe, Lisa Sideris, and

Christiana Zenner. Religions 15(11): 1291.

2023 Fisher, Chelsea and Clara Albacete. Ancient greenwashing: On food justice

and civilizations in the supermarket. Gastronomica 23(3): 46-64.

2023 Fisher, Chelsea. Monumentality as traditional ecological knowledge in the

northern Maya lowlands. Antiquity, 1-17.

2022	Fisher, Chelsea. Walking rural in Tzacauil, Yucatán, Mexico. Ancient
	Mesoamerica 33(1): 148-161.
2020	Fisher, Chelsea. Archaeology for sustainable agriculture. Journal of Archaeological Research 28: 393-441.
2020	Fisher, Chelsea and Traci Ardren. Partaking in culinary heritage at Yaxunah, Yucatán during the 2017 Noma Mexico pop-up. Maya Anthropological Archaeology, special issue of Heritage, edited by C. Fisher and A.F. Chase. 3(2): 474-492.
2020	Fisher, Chelsea. Maize politics and Maya farmers' traditional ecological knowledge in Yucatán, 1450-1600. Human Ecology 48(1): 33-45.
2018	Fisher, Chelsea. Towards a dialogue of sustainable agriculture and end-times theology in the United States: Insights from the historical ecology of nineteenth century millennial communes. Agriculture and Human Values 35: 791-807.
2014	Fisher, Chelsea. The role of infield agriculture in Maya cities. Journal of Anthropological Archaeology 36: 196-210.
2013	Fauvelle, M., C. Fisher, and G.E. Braswell. Return to the Kingdom of the Eagle: Archaeological investigations at Nim li Punit, Belize. Research Reports in Belizean Archaeology 10: 241-251.
Book chapte	rs, editorials, and essays
2024	Fisher, Chelsea. "What ancient farmers can really teach us about adapting to climate change – and how political power influences success or failure." The Conversation, February 26, 2024.
2024	Alcantara, Keitlyn, Chelsea Fisher, Kirk French, Ian Kuijt, and Pedro Guillermo Ramón Celis. 2024. "Visual Storytelling and Community-Based Research in Archaeology." SAA Archaeological Record 24 (1): 36–43.
2022	Dine, Harper, Traci Ardren, and Chelsea Fisher. Vegetative agency and social memory in houselots of the ancient Maya. In Smith, M.L. (Ed.). <i>The Power of Nature: Agency and the Archaeology of Human-Environmental Dynamics</i> . Louisville, CO: University Press of Colorado.
2022	Fisher, Chelsea. <u>Traces of industry in the trees of Jefferson National Forest</u> . Edge Effects Unpure Imagination series, edited by Ben Iuliano, Kuhelika Ghosh, and Richelle Wilson.
2021	Fisher, Chelsea and Arlen F. Chase. <u>Leaving the quiet jungle path:</u>

Awards and honors

Louise Ann Williams Anthropology Distinguished Dissertation Award,
 Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan.
 Rackham Graduate School Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award.

Chelsea Fisher and Arlen F. Chase.

Maya Anthropological Archaeology, special issue of Heritage, edited by

2016	University of Michigan Department of Anthropology Outstanding Graduate
	Student Instructor Award, Aztec, Maya, Inca Civilizations.
2015	University of Michigan Department of Anthropology Outstanding Graduate
	Student Instructor Award, Aztec, Maya, Inca Civilizations.
2013	University of Michigan Department of Anthropology Outstanding Graduate
	Student Instructor Award, Aztec, Maya, Inca Civilizations.
2011	The College of Wooster Campus Council Leadership Award.
2010	Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society.
2010	Lambda Alpha Anthropology Honor Society.

Grants and fellowships

External	g	rants and fellowship:	S

2016	National Science Foundation, Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Award.
2016	Wenner-Gren Foundation Dissertation Fieldwork Grant.
2016	U.S. Department of Education Fulbright-Hays Program Doctoral Dissertation
	Research Abroad Fellowship.
2011	National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship.

Internal grants and fellowships 2023 Faculty Research

2023	Faculty Research and Creative Scholarship Grant, College of Arts &
	Sciences, University of South Carolina.
2023	Conference Travel Grant, College of Arts & Sciences, University of South
	Carolina.
2022	Conference Travel Grant, Washington and Lee University.
2022	Lenfest Summer Research Grant, Washington and Lee University.
2021	Lenfest Summer Research Grant, Washington and Lee University.
2020	Leyburn Scholars Program in Anthropology, Washington and Lee University.
2020	Lenfest Summer Research Grant, Washington and Lee University.
2019	Rackham Dissertation Fellowship, University of Michigan.
2018	Richard I. Ford Award for Anthropological Research on Humans and the
	Environment, University of Michigan Museum of Anthropological
	Archaeology.
2018	Titiev Fellowship, Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan.
2016	Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant, University of Michigan.
2015	Rackham International Research Award, University of Michigan.
2015	James B. Griffin Scholarship, University of Michigan Museum of
	Anthropological Archaeology.
2014	Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant, University of Michigan.
2013	Tinker Foundation Field Research Grant, University of Michigan Center for
	Latin American and Caribbean Studies.
2013	Summer Research Grant, Department of Anthropology, University of
	Michigan.
2011	Rackham Merit Fellowship, University of Michigan.
2011	Copeland Funding for Independent Study, College of Wooster.

2009 Kendall-Rives Latin American Research Grant, College of Wooster.

Invited talks

2024 Applying the archaeology of Maya agricultural sustainability to modern environmental justice conflicts in Yucatán, Mexico. University of Wyoming Department of Anthropology Seminar Series, Laramie, Wyoming. October 25, 2024. 2024 What can we learn from the archaeology of sustainable agriculture? Linda S. Cordell Lecture, SAR Humanities Festival: Food for Thought. School For Advanced Research, Santa Fe, New Mexico. Sep. 25, 2024. Learning from ancient farmers. Western Carolina Department of 2024 Anthropology, Cullowhee, North Carolina. Sep. 13, 2024. 2023 Cattle and the deep history of Maya ecological knowledge in Yaxunah, Yucatán, Mexico. Asheville Sister Cities and Boundary End Research Center's Special Program on Mesoamerican History and Culture. Boundary End Archaeological Research Center, Barnardsville, North Carolina. Sep. 9, 2023. 2021 Food justice, celebrity chefs, and the archaeology of farming communities in the Yaxunah ejido, Yucatán. 15th Annual Maya at the Playa Conference (virtual). September 24, 2021. 2020 Maya food justice and the memory of meals. 17th Annual Tulane Maya Symposium, Understanding Maya Fare: Beyond Tamales and Cacao. Middle American Research Institute, New Orleans, Louisiana. March 8, 2020.

Conference activity

Organized symposia

Advancing Public Perceptions of Sustainability Through Archaeology. Chair and organizer. Electronic symposium at the 84th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
 #MeToo in Archaeology. Co-chair and co-organizer with Jason De León. Latebreaking roundtable session at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, San Jose, California.
 Integrating and Disintegrating in Central Yucatán: Archaeological Approaches to Social Change at Multiple Scales. Co-chair and co-organizer with Ryan Collins. Session at the 82nd Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Vancouver, British Columbia.

Conference presentations (*invited)

Environmental justice legacies of colonial cattle ranching in Yucatán, Mexico.
 Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological
 Association, Toronto, Ontario.
 Visual storytelling and community-based research in archaeology.

Discussant in forum held at the 88th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Portland, Oregon.



2016	Landscape and Formative households at Tzacauil and Yaxuná, Yucatán. Paper presented at the 81 st Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Orlando, Florida.
2015	Water management and city founding at Yaxuná, Yucatán. Poster presented at the 80 th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, San Francisco, California.
2014	"The poorness of the soil takes away hope": Resolving ethnohistoric and archaeological evidence for food security in the northern Maya lowlands. Paper presented at the 79 th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Austin, Texas.
2012	Return to the Kingdom of the Eagle: Archaeological investigations at Nim li Punit, Belize. Paper presented at the Belize Archaeology & Anthropology Symposium: Time and the Maya, San Ignacio Cayo, Belize (M. Fauvelle, C. Fisher, and G.E. Braswell).
2012	Discordance as data: Calling the bluff on Mesoamerican texts. Paper presented at the University of Michigan Collaborative Archaeology Workgroup Conference, Ann Arbor, Michigan (C. Fisher and L. Carpenter).
2011	Landscapes of ambition: Understanding Classic Maya ceremonial centers as political history. Poster presented at the 76 th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Sacramento, California.
2010*	Resorting to the resort: A museum's relationship with the archaeology of Roatán Island, Honduras. Poster presented in the session <i>The Use, Abuse, and Lack of Archaeology in Heritage Tourism and Development in the Bay Islands of Honduras</i> at the 75 th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Saint Louis, Missouri.

Campus talks, invited class lectures, and public engagement

2024	Book discussion for <i>Rooting in a Useless Land</i> . Guest class in Latin American
	Cultures course, University of South Carolina. November 19, 2024.
2024	The changing landscape of celebrity chefs, sustainable food, and hyper-local
	cuisine. Guest class in Environmental Anthropology course, University of
	Wyoming. October 25, 2024.
2024	Book discussion for <i>Rooting in a Useless Land</i> . Guest class in Anthropology
	of Latin America course, Western Carolina University.
2024	Learning from ancient farmers: Insights for sustainable agriculture from
	archaeology. Vista Night Rotary Club, Columbia, SC. August 27, 2024.
2024	USC Humanities Faculty Book Launch, All Good Books, Columbia, SC. April
	12, 2024.
2023	Heritage Radio Network. "Chelsea Fisher and Clara Albacete on superfoods
	and green capitalism." Gastronomica Podcast, Episode 34, Oct. 22, 2023.
2022	Practicing land acknowledgement at W&L. Workshop co-facilitated by
	Chelsea Fisher, Kelly Fujiwara, Andrea LePage, and Jessica Wager. Fall
	Academy, Washington and Lee University.

2022	Sustainable agriculture in the long view. Sustainability: Challenges, Technology, and Strategies Webinar Series. Office of Lifelong Learning, Weshington and Los University
2021	Washington and Lee University. The traditional ecological knowledge of Maya agriculture. Guest class in Department of Anthropology, Appalachian State University.
2021	Archaeology and agricultural sustainability. Guest class in Department of Anthropology, Northern Illinois University.
2021	New insights into history. Beyond the Classroom: New Frontiers of Faculty Research Lecture Series. Office of Lifelong Learning, Washington and Lee University.
2021	Climate migration and environmental justice in rural Mexico. Hostile Terrain 94 Lecture Series, Washington and Lee University.
2021	Cyrus McCormick and the roots of globalized industrial food systems. Lenfest Faculty Research Colloquium, Washington and Lee University.
2019	Food for thought and action. Panel discussion, Washington and Lee University.
2019	Sustainable food systems: A conversation with Samina Raja and Mahadev Bhat. Bates Memorial Lecture, Washington and Lee University.
2019	The future of the Amazon rainforest. Panel discussion, Washington and Lee University.
2018	Beyond the classroom: Transforming frustration into civic engagement. Presentation at the Engaged Pedagogy Initiative Symposium, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.
2016	Public outreach ("What happened in ancient backyards?") at <i>Time</i> Discovery Day, University of Michigan Museum of Natural History.
2015	Water and the Formative homesteaders of Yucatán. Brown Bag Lecture Series, University of Michigan Museum of Anthropological Archaeology.
2015	Investigación de las Viviendas Antiguas en Yaxuná. Public talk given in Yaxunah, Yucatán.
2014	The Relative Importance of Infield vs. Outfield Agriculture in Ancient Maya Cities. Meeting of the Michigan Archaeology Society, Huron Valley Chapter.
2013	Garden cities of the northern Maya lowlands. Four Field Graduate Talks, Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan.
2013	The Formative Maya downtown: Excavations at Yaxuná, Yucatán. Brown Bag Lecture Series, University of Michigan Museum of Anthropology.
2013	"Unruining" ruins: Consolidation of archaeological sites. Four Field Graduate Talks, Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan.
2012	Ancestor worship at Nim li Punit, Belize. Brown Bag Lecture Series, University of Michigan Museum of Anthropology.
2011	Portrait stelae and competition at two Classic Maya sites. Brown Bag Lecture Series, University of Michigan Museum of Anthropology.
2011	A survey of regional studies of Classic Maya sites in the Toledo District, Belize. Impacts of Research in a Diverse Society Research Symposium, Rackham Graduate School, University of Michigan.

Archaeological and other research experience

2024	Director, Proyecto Arqueológico de Haciendas y Tierras de Yaxunah.
2022-23	Field archaeologist, preliminary research on cattle haciendas in Yaxunah,
	Yucatán, Mexico.
2021	Faculty research supervisor, Ancient Greenwashing and Food Justice.
2020	Faculty research supervisor, Cyrus McCormick and the Roots of Globalized
	Industrial Food Systems
2015-17	Field archaeologist, doctoral fieldwork at Tzacauil, Yucatán, Mexico.
2015	Field archaeologist, Proyecto de Interacción Política del Centro de Yucatán,
	Yaxuná, Yucatán, Mexico.
2014	Field archaeologist, University of Michigan Project at El Mogote, Oaxaca.
2014	Field archaeologist, University of Michigan Pecica Santul Mare Project,
	Romania.
2014	Field archaeologist, Proyecto de Interacción Política del Centro de
	Yucatán, Yaxuná, Yucatán, Mexico.
2013	Field archaeologist, Proyecto de Interacción Política del Centro de Yucatán,
	Yaxuná, Yucatán, Mexico.
2013	Field archaeologist, Investigations at the Gault Site, Central Texas. 2012 Field
	archaeologist, Toledo Regional Interaction Project, Nim li Punit, Belize.
2012	Laboratory assistant, American Museum of Natural History San Martín
	Tilcajete Project, Oaxaca, Mexico.
2011	Field archaeologist, American Museum of Natural History San Martín
	Tilcajete Project, Oaxaca, Mexico.
2010	Field archaeologist, Vermilion Cliffs National Monument Archaeological Field
	School, Arizona.
2009	Field school student, Project Roatán Mesoamerican Archaeology Field
	School, Roatán Island, Honduras.
2009-11	Research assistant, College of Wooster Archaeology Laboratory.
2008	Research assistant, Arch2 Cultural Resource Management and The Thomas
	Edison Center at Menlo Park, Metuchen, New Jersey.
2008	Research assistant, College of Wooster English Department.

Archaeological reports

2024	Proyecto Arqueológico de Haciendas y Tierras de Yaxunah (PAHTY): Informe
	Técnico de la Primera Temporada. Prepared for the Consejo de Arqueología
	del Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia, Mexico.
2022	Investigaciones en el sitio arqueológico de Tzacauil (Xnooj Muul), Ejido de
	Yaxunah, Yucatán, 2015-2017. Report presented to the community of
	Yaxunah, Yucatán, Mexico.
2020	Excavaciones en Tzacauil. Proyecto de Interacción Política del Centro de
	Yucatán (PIPCY): Informe Técnico de la Novena Temporada (2017). Prepared
	for the Consejo de Arqueología del Instituto Nacional de Antropología e
	Historia, Mexico. Edited by Travis Stanton.

Investigaciones sobre vida doméstica y comunidad durante el Formativo en

	,
	Tzacauil. Proyecto de Interacción Política del Centro de Yucatán (PIPCY):
	Informe Técnico de la Octava Temporada (2016). Prepared for the Consejo de
	Arqueología del Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia, Mexico. Edited
	by Chelsea Fisher.
2016	Arqueología doméstica en Tzacauil y Yaxuná. Proyecto de Interacción Política
	del Centro de Yucatán (PIPCY): Informe Técnico de la Séptima Temporada
	(2015). Prepared for the Consejo de Arqueología del Instituto Nacional de
	Antropología e Historia, Mexico. Edited by Travis Stanton.
2014	Conítulo 2. Monos y regologojón do superficio en Veyunó. In Draycota de

- 2014 Capítulo 2: Mapeo y recolección de superficie en Yaxuná. In *Proyecto de Interacción Política del Centro de Yucatán (PIPCY): Informe Técnico de la Sexta Temporada (2014)*. Prepared for the Consejo de Arqueología del Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia, Mexico, pp. 7-29. Edited by Travis Stanton and Aline Magnoni.
- 2012 Excavations of Structure 7, South Group, Nim li Punit. In *Toledo Regional*Interaction Project Annual Report, University of California San Diego

 Mesoamerican Archaeology Laboratory Occasional Paper No. 6. Prepared for the Institute of Archaeology, National Institute of Culture and History, Belize, pp. 13-64. Edited by Geoffrey Braswell.

Teaching experience

2017

Courses taught at the University of South Carolina

- Primates, People, and Prehistory (ANTH 101; Introduction to Archaeology and Biological Anthropology) (Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024)
- o Principles of Archaeology (ANTH 319; Fall 2023)
- o Development of Anthropological Archaeology (ANTH 720; Fall 2024)

Courses taught at Washington and Lee University:

- o Environmental Archaeology (Spring 2021, Spring 2023)
- Environmental Humanities (Fall 2020, Winter 2020, Winter 2021, Winter 2022, Fall 2022, Winter 2023)
- Introduction to Environmental Studies (Fall 2020, Fall 2019, Winter 2021, Winter 2022, Fall 2023)
- Food and the Environment (Winter 2021, Winter 2023)
- o Capstone Seminar in Environmental Studies (AY 2020-21, AY 2019-20)
- Visualizing the Native American Landscape at W&L (Independent Directed Study, Winter 2022)
- o Food, Drink, and the Holocene (Fall 2019)

Courses taught at the University of Michigan:

- Cities Growing Food: The Archaeology of Urban Agriculture and Sustainability (Instructor of Record; Spring 2018)
- o Aztec, Maya, and Inca Civilizations (Graduate Student Instructor; Winter 2013-2016)

<u>Pedagogical</u>	development
2019-20	Shepherd Community-Engaged Teaching and Learning Cohort, Washington
	and Lee University.
2018	Engaged Pedagogy Initiative Fellow, University of Michigan.
2018	Implementing Inclusive Teaching Principles in Courses. Workshop at the
	Center for Research on Learning and Teaching, University of Michigan.
2018	Leading Discussions in the Social Sciences and Humanities. Workshop at

the Center for Research on Learning and Teaching, University of Michigan.

Workshops and trainings

2023	Bread Loaf Environmental Writers' Conference, Middlebury College,
	Middlebury, Vermont.
2022	Colby Summer Institute in Environmental Humanities, Colby College,
	Waterville, Maine.
2016	Urban Growers Boot Camp, Truly Living Well Center for Natural Urban
	Agriculture, Atlanta, Georgia.
2016	Science Communication Fellow, University of Michigan Museum of Natural
	History.

Selected service

2024-	Co-chair, Department of Anthropology Colloquium Committee, University of South Carolina.
2024	Ad hoc committee member, MA non-thesis option curriculum development, Department of Anthropology, University of South Carolina.
2022-23	Faculty Representative, University Sustainability Committee, Washington and Lee University.
2022-23	Harte Center for Teaching and Learning Advisory Committee, Washington and Lee University.
2021-23	Faculty Advisor, Native American Student Organization, Washington and Lee University.
2020-23	Native American and Indigenous Cohort member, Washington and Lee University.
2020-23	Historic Preservation and Archaeological Conservation Advisory Board, Washington and Lee University.
2018-19	Student representative, University of Michigan Museum of Anthropological Archaeology Curator of Asian Archaeology search committee.
2013-14	Assistant Chair, University of Michigan Collaborative Archaeology Workgroup.
2012-14	Co-Organizer, University of Michigan Museum of Anthropology Brown Bag Series.
2010-11	President, College of Wooster Archaeology Student Colloquium.

Contributed peer reviewer to academic journals including: *Human Ecology, Journal of Anthropological Archaeology, Geoderma, Agriculture and Human Values, Journal of*

Archaeological Research, Nature Scientific Reports.