

**NICHOLAS G. BLACKWELL**

Department of Classical Studies, Morrison Hall 323  
Indiana University, 1165 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Bloomington, IN 47405  
[nblackw@indiana.edu](mailto:nblackw@indiana.edu)  
Office: Morrison Hall 329; Office phone: 812-855-7337

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**PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

*Indiana University, Bloomington*

Assistant Professor, Department of Classical Studies, 2019–  
Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Art History, 2019–  
Schrader Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Classical Studies, 2017–2019

*North Carolina State University*

Postdoctoral Teaching Scholar, Department of History, 2015–2017

*American School of Classical Studies at Athens (Greece)*

Assistant Director, 2012–2015

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**RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Archaeology and material culture of ancient Greece; the Aegean Bronze Age; Ancient technology and craftsmanship (e.g., stone working, metallurgy, sculpture, and masonry); Cross-cultural interactions across Greece, the Eastern Mediterranean, and Anatolia; Memory and perception of the Bronze Age; Cypriot archaeology; Field archaeology; Experimental archaeology.

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**EDUCATION**

Ph.D. 2011     Bryn Mawr College, Department of Classical and Near Eastern Archaeology  
Dissertation: *Middle and Late Bronze Age Metal Tools from the Aegean, Eastern Mediterranean, and Anatolia: Implications for Cultural/Regional Interaction and Craftsmanship*. Chair: James C. Wright

2006–07     Regular Member at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens

M.A. 2004     Bryn Mawr College, Department of Classical and Near Eastern Archaeology

B.A. 2002     Davidson College, Department of Classics (Honors)

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**PUBLICATIONS**

Peer-reviewed Journal Articles:

*Forthcoming*. “Ahhiyawa, Hatti, and Diplomacy: Implications of the Hittite Misperception of the Mycenaean World,” *Hesperia*.

2018. "Contextualizing Mycenaean Hoards: Metal Control on the Greek Mainland at the End of the Bronze Age," *American Journal of Archaeology* 122.4, 509–539.
2018. "Experimental Stone-Cutting with the Mycenaean Pendulum Saw," *Antiquity* 92.361: 217–232.
2017. Vitale, S., T. Marketou, C. McNamee, E. Ballan, **N.G. Blackwell**, I. Iliopoulos, C. Mantello, J.E. Morrison, K. Moulo, I. Moutafi, K.-S. Passa, and E. Vika. "The Serraglio, Eleona, and Langada Archaeological Project (SELAP): Report on the Results of the 2011-2015 Study Seasons," *L'Annuario della Scuola Archeologica di Atene e delle Missioni Italiane in Oriente XCIV*, serie III, 16 (2016), 225–285.
2014. "Making the Lion Gate Relief at Mycenae: Tool Marks and Foreign Influence," *American Journal of Archaeology* 118.3, 451–488.
2010. "Mortuary Variability at Salamis (Cyprus): Relationships between and within the Royal Necropolis and the Cellarka Cemetery," *Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology* 23.2, 143–167.

Book chapters/articles in edited volumes

*In Press*. "Exploring Late Bronze Age stone-working connections through metal tools: Evidence from Crete, Mainland Greece, and Cyprus" in *ASHLAR: Exploring the materiality of cut stone masonry in the eastern Mediterranean Bronze Age. International workshop organized by AegIS (UCLouvain-INCAL-CEMA) and the ARC'A World in Crisis. Louvain-la-Neuve 8-9 March 2018*, edited by M. Devolder, I. Kreimerman & J. Driessen (Aegis 13), Louvain-la-Neuve: Presses universitaires de Louvain.

*In Press*. "Tools" in *A Companion to the Archaeology of Early Greece and the Mediterranean. Blackwell Companions to the Ancient World*, edited by I.S. Lemos and A. Kotsonas, 523–537. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell.

2017. Vitale, S., **N.G. Blackwell**, and C. McNamee. "Kos, Italy, and Europe during the Mycenaean Period: evidence for a special connection," in M. Fotiadis, R. Laffineur, Y. Lolos, and A. Vlachopoulos (eds), *ΕΣΕΡΟΣ/HESPEROS. The Aegean Seen from the West. Proceedings of the 16<sup>th</sup> International Aegean Conference, University of Ioannina, Department of History and Archaeology, Unit of Archaeology and Art History, 18-21 May 2016. Aegaeum 41*, 243–252. Liège and Austin.
2011. **Blackwell, N.G.** and J.A. Johnson. "Exploring Sacred Space: GIS Applications for Analyzing the Athienou-Malloura Sanctuary," in *Crossroads and Boundaries: The Archaeology of the Past and Present in the Malloura Valley, Cyprus*, edited by M. K. Toumazou, P. N. Kardulias, and D. B. Counts, 291–302. Boston, MA: American Schools of Oriental Research.

Book Reviews:

2018. *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*. Kiriati, E. and C. Knappett (eds.), *Human mobility and technological transfer in the prehistoric Mediterranean. British School at Athens studies in Greek antiquity*. (New York, 2016). <http://bmcr.brynmawr.edu/2018/2018-03-14.html>
2015. *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 74.1, 162–165. A.B. Knapp, *The Archaeology of Cyprus: From the Earliest Prehistory through the Bronze Age*. (Cambridge, 2013).
2014. *American Journal of Archaeology*. 118.2 (April 2014). V. Kassianidou and G. Pappasavvas (eds.),

*Eastern Mediterranean Metallurgy in the Second Millennium BC. A conference in honour of James D. Muhly, Nicosia, 10th-11th October 2009.* (Oxford, 2012).

2012. *American Journal of Archaeology* 116.4. P.C. Betancourt and S. C. Ferrence (eds.), *Metallurgy: Understanding How, Learning Why – Studies in Honor of James D. Muhly* (Philadelphia, 2011).

2009. *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2009.02.18, I. Tzachili (ed.), *Aegean Metallurgy in the Bronze Age: Proceedings of an International Symposium Held at the University of Crete, Rethymnon, Greece, on November 19-21, 2004* (Athens, 2008). <http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/bmcr/2009/2009-02-18.html>

Current works in progress:

Book: *Stone Working in the Mycenaean World: Regionalism, Craft Interaction, and Geopolitical Relations*

Journal article: “Metal consumption and production at Mitrou: distribution patterns and preliminary results from intensive survey and excavation” (with C. Belz, A. Iacobelli)

Research highlighted in magazines and newsletters

2018. Research highlighted in the April 28, 2018 issue of *Science News Magazine*: “Making the cut: Swinging blade slices into Bronze Age Mystery.” <https://www.sciencenews.org/article/how-backyard-pendulum-saw-sliced-bronze-age-mystery?tgt=nr>

2012/2013. “Metal Implements and Tool Marks from the Levantine Second Millennium BC,” *Albright News* 17 (October 2012), 8.

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## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2017- Indiana University, Bloomington
- *CLAS-C 205*: Classical Mythology
  - *CLAS-C 206*: Classical Art & Archaeology
  - *CLAS-C 211*: Ancient Athletics: Greeks, Romans, and Us
  - *CLAS-C 212*: Seven Wonders of the Ancient World
  - *CLAS-C 395/503*: Greek Sanctuaries: Archaeology of Religious Space
  - *CLAS-C 412*: Art & Archaeology of the Aegean Bronze Age
  - *CLAS-C 413*: Art & Archaeology of Greece (post-Bronze Age)
  - *CLAS-C 420/503*: Topography and Monuments of Athens
- 2015-2017 NC State University
- *History 207-001*: Ancient Mediterranean World
  - *History 400/500*: Civilizations of the Ancient Near East
  - *History 403/503*: Ancient Greek Civilization
- 2012-2015 Trip leader and/or lecturer for the ASCSA academic programs
- Co-leader of the ASCSA’s one week study-tour of Crete (2013-2015)
  - Leader and organizer of an eleven-day ASCSA study-tour of Cyprus (2014)
  - Guest speaker for ASCSA’s academic Regular Program (2012-2015)
  - Guest speaker for ASCSA’s Summer Sessions (2013, 2014)

2008 Field School Director for Mitrou Archaeological Project, College Year in Athens

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### ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD AND MUSEUM EXPERIENCE

- 2019– *Cape Gelidonya Metal Cargo Project* (Bodrum, Turkey) Director: Nicolle Hirschfeld  
Responsible for restudying and publishing the metal tools
- 2016–2018 Research consultant for the North Carolina Museum of Art’s collection of Cypriot and Cycladic objects (pottery, terracotta figurines, stone sculpture)
- 2015–present *Experimenting with Mycenaean Tools and Stone Cutting Techniques*  
Experimental archaeological project. I have cast several true tin-bronze saws and have started testing various Mycenaean stone-cutting methods.
- 2005–present *Mitrou Archaeological Project (Greece)*  
Staff member: responsible for studying and publishing the metal finds (2011-present)  
Director of the Basic Field School and assistant area supervisor (2008)  
Area Supervisor (2005, 2007)
- 2011–present *Serraglio, Eleona, and Langada Archaeological Project (Kos, Greece)*  
Expert on bronze tools: responsible for re-publishing the bronze tools from the Mycenaean finds at Serraglio, Eleona, and Langada on Kos (Oct. 2011, Nov. 2013)
- 2000–2011 *Athienou Archaeological Project (Cyprus)*  
Area supervisor (2002, 2004-2005, 2007, 2011)  
Study season participant; cataloged objects in the Larnaca Museum (2003)  
Undergraduate field school student (2001)  
Volunteer (2000)
- April 2007 *Corinth Excavations, ASCSA training session (Greece)*  
Area supervisor
- Summer 2006 National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Curatorial Internship at the Ella Riegel Memorial Museum, Bryn Mawr College.
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### PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

#### Invited lectures / presentations

“Using Experimental Archaeology and 3D Modeling to Investigate Monuments from Mycenae, Greece” Friends of Greek Art Lecture at the NC Museum of Art, Raleigh, N.C. October 13, 2019.

“Assessing Artisan Mobility versus Shared Technology in Mycenaean Stone Working: Regional Implications for the Use of the Pendulum Saw and its Modification”  
International workshop: “Craftspeople Mobility in the Archaeological, Historical and Ethnographic Record – A Comparative Perspective from the Aegean” at the British School at Athens, September 27-29, 2019.

“Tool Traditions and Ashlar Masonry in Late Bronze Age Cyprus and Mycenaean Greece”

- International Workshop: "Ashlar: Exploring the Materiality of Cut Stone Masonry in the Eastern Mediterranean Bronze Age" at UC Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium. March 9, 2018.
- "Displaying Power at Mycenae: New Analysis of the Treasury of Atreus"  
Conference in honor of James C. Wright. Bryn Mawr College. March 3, 2018.
- "Monumental Construction at Mycenae: Implications of Late Bronze Age Stone Working"  
Archaeological Institute of America public lecture; Milwaukee local AIA society hosted at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. February 11, 2018.
- "Understanding the Collapse: Reassessing the Role of Metallurgy, Trade, and the Economy at the End of the Mediterranean Bronze Age"  
Archaeological Institute of America public lecture; Central Indiana local AIA society, Purdue University. November 14, 2017.
- "Construction Methods and Political Statements at Mycenae: New Analysis of the Lion Gate Relief and Treasury of Atreus"  
Haines-Morris Distinguished Visiting Lectureship in Classics; University of Tennessee, Knoxville. January 19, 2017; & Tufts University; Department of Classics. March 9, 2017.
- "Agamemnon's Masons: Understanding Technological Links Across the Argolid, Boeotia, and Land of Hatti"  
Archaeological Institute of America public lecture; University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. February 11, 2016; & Classical Studies Colloquium, University of Pennsylvania. March 3, 2016.
- "The Lion Gate Relief at Mycenae and its Connection to the Hittites"  
Davidson College. Davidson, NC. November 17, 2015.
- "Regional Connectivity, Technological Exchange and Stone Working in Late Bronze Age Greece"  
University of Zagreb, Croatia. May 6, 2015
- "The Collection of Tools in Metal Hoards from the Aegean and Eastern Mediterranean Bronze Age"  
University of Zagreb, Croatia. May 7, 2015 (seminar)
- "Competitive and Emulative Mortuary Behavior on Early Iron Age Cyprus"  
The Canadian Institute in Greece (Athens). April 29, 2015
- "Hoarding Metal in the Aegean and Cypriot Late Bronze Age"  
The Norwegian Institute at Athens, Greece. April 30, 2014.
- "Artisan Mobility and Craft Exchange in the Aegean LBA: The Case of the Lion Gate Relief at Mycenae"  
Coe College. Cedar Rapids, IA. April 7, 2014.
- "The date of the Lion Gate relief at Mycenae and a possible reconstruction of its composition"  
Bryn Mawr College. Bryn Mawr, PA. April 5, 2014.
- "How the Mycenae Lion Gate Relief Was Made: New Evidence and Implications"  
American School of Classical Studies at Athens, Cotsen Hall Lecture Series. December 12, 2013.
- "Metallurgical Practices and Tool Traditions in the Levantine Middle and Late Bronze Age"  
University of the Holy Land, Jerusalem, Israel. March 21, 2012.

“Late Bronze Age Stonecutting Techniques and the Making of the Mycenae Lion Gate Relief”  
Creighton University, Omaha, NE. Department of Fine and Performing Arts. The Annual McCormick Lecture in Art History. December 1, 2011.

“Metallurgy and Craftsmanship in the Bronze Age Mediterranean”  
Hillsdale College, Hillsdale, MI. Classics Department. March 12, 2010.

Conference papers (since 2011)

“Viewing the Lion Gate Relief at Mycenae: A 3D Model and New Compositional Observations” by **N. Blackwell** and M. Brennan (**POSTER**)  
Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) 120<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Poster Session, San Diego, CA. January 4, 2019. (Abstract published in *120th Annual Meeting Abstracts*. Vol. 42. AIA 2019)

“Remnants of Hittite & Mycenaean Diplomacy: the Lion Gate Relief and Tawagalawa Letter”  
*10<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Hittitology*, Oriental Institute, University of Chicago. August 28 – September 1, 2017.

“Metal Allotments from the Palace: Tool Sets in Mycenaean Hoards”  
Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) 118<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting. Toronto, Canada. January 8, 2017. (Abstract published in *118th Annual Meeting Abstracts*. Vol. 40. AIA 2017)

“Kos, Italy, and Europe during the Late Mycenaean Period: Evidence for a Special Connection and Its Possible Significance” by S. Vitale and **N. Blackwell**  
16<sup>th</sup> International Aegean Conference: Hesperos: The Aegean seen from the West. University of Ioannina, 18-21 May, 2016.

“The Mycenaean Pendulum Saw: Application, Adaptation, and Reconstruction”  
Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) 117<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting. San Francisco, CA. January 7, 2016. (Abstract published in *117th Annual Meeting Abstracts*. Vol. 39. AIA 2016)

“Metal Consumption and Production at Mitrou: Diachronic Trends from the Early Helladic through the Proto-Geometric Periods” [with Kerill O’Neill]  
Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) 115<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL. January 4, 2014. (Abstract published in *115th Annual Meeting Abstracts*. Vol. 37. AIA 2014)

“Tool Marks on the Lion Gate Relief at Mycenae”  
Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) 113<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, PA. January 7, 2012 (Abstract published in *113th Annual Meeting Abstracts*. Vol. 35. AIA 2012)

“Parallels between Mycenaean and Hittite Tools”  
Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) 112<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting. San Antonio, TX. January 8, 2011 (Abstract published in *112th Annual Meeting Abstracts*. Vol. 34. AIA 2011)

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## AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Runner-Up Poster Award at the 2019 Archaeological Institute of America Annual Meeting (with Matthew Brennan) (2019)

Research grant from the Institute for the Study of Aegean Prehistory (INSTAP); \$3000 grant to fund an experimental archaeological project titled *Experimenting with Mycenaean Tools and Stone Cutting Techniques* (2015)

Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) Junior Research Fellowship. W. F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research, Jerusalem (Spring 2012)

Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) Harriet and Leon Pomerance Fellowship (Fall 2011)

Mrs. Giles Whiting Dissertation Fellowship in the Humanities, Bryn Mawr College (2009-2011)

Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) Multi-Country Research Fellowship. Funding for dissertation research in Cyprus, Greece and Turkey (2008-2009)

The Danielle Parks Memorial Fellowship: Cyprus American Archaeological Research Institute (2008)

Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) Colburn Fellowship, *Declined* (2008-2009)

W. Kendrick Pritchett Award in Classics, Davidson College (2002)

Elected to Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK) National Leadership Honor Society (2002)

National Science Foundation (NSF-REU) Fellowship Award to participate on the Athienou Archaeological Project (AAP) field school (2001)

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## SERVICE

### ***Service at Indiana University (2017-)***

Undergraduate Committee (2017-)

Job Search Committee (2018-2019; 2019-2020)

Supervisor for CLAS-C209, Medical Terms from Greek & Latin (2019-)

### ***Other Professional Service***

Managing Committee member, American School of Classical Studies at Athens (representative for Indiana University) (2019-)

Vice President, Central Indiana Society of the Archaeological Institute of America (2019-)

Grant Reviewer for the National Science Center Poland (Spring 2019)

Manuscript referee for: *American Journal of Archaeology* (2016, 2017); *Bulletin of American Schools of Oriental Research* (2014)