

Christopher Nicosia

Department of Geography and Anthropology
1741 Brightside Drive, Apt A5, Baton Rouge, LA 70820
Phone: 914-471-3566 – E-Mail: cnicos2@lsu.edu
LinkedIn: [linkedin.com/in/christopherenicosia](https://www.linkedin.com/in/christopherenicosia)

Education

Ph.D.	Anthropology (GPA 3.9/4.0) – Louisiana State University (LSU), Baton Rouge, LA	2018 – Present
M.S.	Anthropology (GPA 3.9/4.0) – Illinois State University (ISU), Normal, IL <i>Thesis:</i> Social Identities of Subadults Based on Mortuary Treatments: A Study of West–Central Tennessee Archaic Period Sites	2017
B.A.	Anthropology (GPA 3.3/4.0) State University of New York (SUNY) College at Oneonta, NY <i>Minor:</i> Geographic Information Systems (GIS)	2015
A.A.	Liberal Arts Social Science – Westchester Community College (WCC), Valhalla, NY	2013

Research Interests

- Bioarchaeology
- Skeletal Biology/Osteology
- Sociocultural Landscapes – Social Identities, Gender, Personhood, Ancestralization, etc.
- Paleopathology
- Diet
- Human Geography and Environments

Fellowships, Awards, and Honors

• <i>Graduate Teaching Assistantship</i> , Louisiana State University (LSU), Baton Rouge, LA	2022
• <i>Lambda Alpha (National Anthropology Honor Society)</i> , Louisiana State University (LSU), Baton Rouge, LA	2019
• <i>Student Technology Fee (STF) Grant</i> , Louisiana State University (LSU), Baton Rouge, LA – (\$11,440)	2019
• <i>Robert C. West and R.J. Russell Field Research Award</i> , Louisiana State University (LSU), Baton Rouge, LA – (\$1,000)	2019
• <i>Huel D. Perkins Diversity Fellowship</i> , Louisiana State University (LSU), Baton Rouge, LA – (\$20,000 x 4 years)	2018
• <i>Scott Elliot Endowment Award – Conference Presentation (x2)</i> , Illinois State University, Normal, IL	2016
• <i>Graduate Research Assistantship</i> , Illinois State University, Normal, IL	2015-2017
• <i>Margaret Mead Award (Departmental Service Award)</i> , SUNY Oneonta, Oneonta, NY	2015
• <i>The Caroline' 67 And David D'Anotnio Award</i> , SUNY Oneonta, Oneonta, NY – (\$450)	2014
• <i>Student Travel for Excellence Program (STEP)</i> , SUNY Oneonta, Oneonta, NY – (\$1,000)	2014

Research Experience

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| • <i>Cerro San Isidro Archaeological Project, Moro, Peru – Bioarchaeologist</i> , Louisiana State University (LSU), Baton Rouge, LA | June 2019 – Present |
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- Excavated a compound structure and test pits in designated zones to uncover any potential evidences of human activity, cultural materials, and/or burials
 - Mapped and compiled paperwork of architectural/cultural material elements uncovered during excavations
 - Co-mapped with a GPS unit ~600 lithics along the site's surface to identify areas of material processing
 - Carried out lab work entailing human skeletal analyses, cleaning of artifacts, and drawing of ceramic sherds
 - Screened to uncover any missed artifact materials during excavations
 - Took part in community outreach at Moro schools and festival to establish/build relationships with the local community
- *Bioarchaeological Professional Practice*, McClung Museum, Knoxville, TN June – July 2016
 - Conducted Master's thesis research focusing on Archaic period human skeletal material within the McClung Museum's collections
 - Collected skeletal data focusing on morphological measurements, pathology, trauma, age, and biological sex
 - Analyzed and examined associated Archaic period burial grave accompaniments, such as faunal remains, beads, minerals, and tools
 - Aided additional bioarchaeological projects on Mississippian period human skeletal remains involving gender, labor, and paleopathological studies
 - *Research Assistant*, Illinois State University, Normal, IL August 2015 – May 2017
 - Executed osteological and paleopathological inventory database work on the Illinois State Museum Woodland period Schroeder Mounds human skeletal collection
 - Proctored exams and aided class lectures and labs for the Introduction to Biological Anthropology and Paleopathology courses
 - Collaborated with professor with approx. 200 undergraduate students
 - Conducted and published research on the Schroeder Mounds Osteological Collection
 - Managed and organized Biological Anthropology lab materials to ensure student success and learning

Teaching Experience

- *Instructor*- Louisiana State University (LSU), Baton Rouge, LA August 2022-May 2023
 - Lecturing on the Human Geography of Asia and Africa course
 - Facilitating course content to promote understanding and knowledge of Asia and Africa's physical and human geographies
 - Creating interactive classroom activities to increase student engagement with course materials
 - Assigning lessons and coursework to encourage student participation outside of classroom lectures
 - Consistently communicating with students regarding course questions and assistance
- *Graduate Teaching* - Louisiana State University (LSU), Baton Rouge, LA January – May 2021

- Educated undergraduate students on World Archaeology and Archaeological inquiry
- Gave comprehensive lectures on the development and evolution of ancient cultural systems and human societies from the origins of our species to the rise of world civilizations
- Detailed lesson plans based on course goals were created about the cultural history of past human societies
- Promoted student engagement in each class as well as online through Moodle
- Available at any time to students who needed assistance with course materials
- *Adjunct Anthropology Faculty - Westchester Community College (WCC), Valhalla, NY* January – May 2018
 - Taught the Native Peoples of North America course to undergraduate students
 - Provided informative presentations regarding historic and cultural backgrounds of Indigenous peoples ensuring that all students fully comprehended all aspects of the course
 - Prepared detailed lesson plans based on course objectives
 - Encouraged student participation in each class and online through Blackboard
- *Undergraduate Teaching Assistant - Human Biology and Culture Change, SUNY Oneonta, Oneonta, NY* January – May 2015
 - Assisted in-class discussions covering various course topics
 - Held review sessions prior to exams for students
 - Documented students' participation towards their course grade
 - Kept track of "Hot Topic" class presentation assignments each week
 - Motivated and aided students with course materials

Professional Experience

- *Forensic Anthropology and Computer Enhancement Services (FACES) – Lab Volunteer, Louisiana State University (LSU), Baton Rouge, LA* September 2019 – December 2022
 - Supported forensic investigations and laboratory work
 - Participated in forensic anthropological studies
 - Improved osteological analysis skills on a regular basis
 - Operated in a group atmosphere
- *Museum of Natural Science - Archaeology Volunteer, Louisiana State University (LSU), Baton Rouge, LA* September 2018 – May 2019
 - Supported museum's NAGPRA project by improving human skeletal databases through site data reassessments and recalculations of MNIs of associated osteological collections
 - Handled carefully various types of ceramics (e.g., rims and sherds) and human skeletal elements for several cataloging/documentation projects
 - Drew ceramics needed for the museum's ceramic inventory
 - Labeled ceramic materials from several collections for cataloging
- *Archaeological Field Technician, Panamerican Consultants Inc., Buffalo, NY* August – December 2017
 - Carried out phase one archaeological work on the Constitution Island project at West Point University, West Point, NY

- Surveyed and performed shovel tests throughout various locations on the island and other designated project areas on university-owned property
 - Screened and evaluated various artifact materials found, such as flakes and iron nuggets, unearthed throughout the project
 - Filled and compiled shovel test and survey paperwork
 - Operated in a group atmosphere
- *American Museum of Natural History North American Archeology - Lab Intern*, AMNH, New York, NY June – August 2016
 - Worked with artifact and skeletal (mostly fragmented) material from the St. Catherine's Island project in a group environment
 - Aided the archival office with various tasks, including scanning articles and citing sources for future reference
 - Conducted bead analyses
 - Labeled and refitted ceramics
 - Fine-fraction sorted through excavated bag samples to identify artifacts, such as for ceramic-types, flakes, and bone for the lab
 - Cataloged artifacts into the lab's Microsoft Access database
 - *National Museum of Natural History - Online GIS Intern*, Smithsonian, Washington D.C. April – May 2015
 - Supported the Ol Pejeta, Kenya Biodiversity Project directed by Paleoanthropologist Briana Pobiner
 - Arranged and organized data on the relationships between the area's vegetation and animal species occupation utilizing Excel and ArcMap
 - Coordinated data regarding the number of death occurrences of animal species
 - Created maps illustrating the Ol Pejeta area's biodiversity using ArcMap 10.3
 - *Field School – Vitor, Peru*, Institute of Field Research (IFR), Los Angeles, CA June – July 2014
 - Excavated Ramadas culture burial tombs at a archaeological cemetery site
 - Conducted ethnographic fieldwork with Vitor population focusing on human demography in which was applied toward bioarchaeological investigations
 - Participated in community outreach at a local school in the town of Vitor to highlight the project and the practice of archaeology to students
 - Carried out various archaeological and conservation tasks on skeletal, textile, and ceramic archaeological materials
 - Surveyed and mapped a project-associated Inca site for any identifiable material culture
 - *Field School – Clarksdale, Mississippi*, University of Mississippi, Oxford, MS June – July 2013
 - Excavated mounds along the Mississippian Mound Trail for any potential Mississippian cultural artifacts
 - Surveyed agricultural fields around mounds for archaeological surface materials
 - Operated GIS and Total Station equipment to map mound features and areas surrounding the mounds
 - Created soil maps illustrating mound soil stratigraphy to understand the human occupations
 - Worked with and processed human remains and artifacts such as ceramics and lithics during Carson Mound project excavations

University Service

- *Vice President – Geography and Anthropology Society (GAS)*, Louisiana State University (LSU), Baton Rouge, LA January 2019 – September 2022
 - Ensured graduate student voices were heard regarding concerns for departmental improvements and ideas for departmental activities
 - Organized fundraising events for the organization, such as sport stadium cleanups
 - Assisted in planning and execution of departmental events such as the Louisiana State National Geographic Geography Bee and campus-wide events for departmental promotions to the campus community
 - Raised departmental funds utilized to enhance lab and class spaces
 - Drafted ideas for departmental events and trips during GAS meetings
- *Volunteer – Gender Sexuality Resource Center (GSRC)*, SUNY Oneonta, Oneonta, NY January – May 2015
 - Hosted student drop-in groups: students either attended to discuss any issues concerning their sexuality, gender, or interested in learning more about sexuality and gender topics
 - Managed the office's social media sites: Twitter, Facebook, Tumblr
 - Advertised GSRC events to the campus community
 - Answered phones to assist callers' questions and took down messages
 - Assisted office projects and events, such as Transgender Awareness month

Publications/Presentations

- Nicosia, Christopher E., "Red Ochre: A Closer Look at Its Mortuary Uses in West-Central Tennessee" *Tennessee Archaeology – In Revision* 2022
- Nicosia, Christopher E., "Preliminary Results of the Spatial Analysis of Nonspecific Stress in Ancient North America" *Society of American Archaeology (SAA)*, Chicago, IL – *Poster Presentation* 2022
- Nicosia, Christopher E., "Social Identities of Subadults Based on Mortuary Treatments: A Study of West-Central Tennessee Archaic Sites," American Association of Biological Anthropology (AABA) – *Speaker/Presenter* 2021
- Nicosia, Christopher E., "Raising the Veil: New Clues into Unique Burial Practices" – *American Anthropological Association (AAA) Book Forum - Book Review* 2021
- Nicosia, Christopher E., "A Closer Look at The Livelihoods of Children in The Past" – *American Anthropological Association (AAA) Book Forum - Book Review* 2020
- Smith, Maria O., Nicosia, Christopher E., "A Rare Probable Chondroblastoma of the Calcaneus in a pre-Columbian Subadult from Illinois" – *International Journal of Paleopathology (IJPP)*, pg. 14-21 2017
- Nicosia, Christopher E., Dorz, Jessie, and Smith, Maria O., "Subadult Growth Stunting at Schroeder Mounds (11He177): A Late Woodland Sample from Illinois." – *Field Notes*, pg. 104-120 2016
- Nicosia, Christopher E., and Smith, Maria O., "Unicameral Bone Cyst in a Late Archaic Period Subadult." *Anthropology Student Union (ASU)*, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM), WI – *Poster Presentation* 2016

- Nicosia, Christopher E., “Red Ochre: A Closer Look at Its Mortuary Uses Across Archaic Sites in West-Central Tennessee”, Midwest Bioarchaeology and Forensic Anthropology Association Conference (BARFAA), Loyola University, Chicago, IL – *Podium Presentation* 2016

Languages

- English, *Fluent*
- Spanish, *Advanced*