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EDUCATION

University of Connecticut Storrs, CT
Ph.D., Anthropology May, 2019

- Research Interests: pastoralism, human-environment interactions, migration, highland ecosystems, complex societies, origins of agriculture, behavioral ecology, zooarchaeology, stable isotopes, Neolithic, Chalcolithic, Bronze Age, Antiquity, Caucasus, Iran, Eastern Mediterranean
- Dissertation: *Herding in the Highlands: Pastoralism and the Making of the Kura-Araxes Cultural Tradition*

M.A., Anthropology December, 2012
University of Georgia Athens, GA
B.A. *magna cum laude*, Anthropology May, 2008

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

2019– Postdoctoral Fellow; Humanities Institute; University of Connecticut; Storrs, CT.
2010–2019 Graduate Assistant; University of Connecticut, Department of Anthropology; Storrs, CT.
2017 Adjunct Professor of Anthropology; Southern Connecticut State University, Department of Anthropology and Sociology; New Haven, CT.

GRANTS AND FUNDING

2017 University of Connecticut, Anthropology Department, Dissertation Fellowship; \$16,000
2016 University of Connecticut, Graduate School, Dissertation Writing Fellowship; \$1000
2015 National Science Foundation, Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant; \$17,060
2014 American Research Institute of the South Caucasus, Junior Research Fellowship; * alternate
2014 Norian Foundation, funds for field research; \$3290
2012 University of Connecticut, Summer Research Fellowship; \$3400
2011 University of Connecticut, Summer Research Fellowship; \$4480

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

2014 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Travel Award, University of Connecticut; \$850
2009 Center for Arabic Study Abroad, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University;
Summer Fellow at the American University in Cairo. * Unable to attend, because
Egyptian entry visa was denied.
2008 Most Outstanding Undergraduate Paper Award, Joint Meeting of the Georgia and Florida
Academies of Science; Jacksonville, FL; \$110
2007 Eugene Freeman Jr. Memorial Scholarship, University of Georgia, Athens, GA; \$1200
2005–2008 Helping Outstanding Pupils Educationally (HOPE) Scholarship; \$4,750 per year

PUBLICATIONS

- In press **Samei, S.**, and D. Olszewski. Zooarchaeological investigation of Late Pleistocene subsistence adaptations in the Zagros highlands. In *Pleistocene Archaeology of the Iranian Plateau, Iraq and the Caucasus*, eds. Biglari, F., S. Shidrang, and M. Mashkour. National Museum of Iran Paleolithic Studies Series No. 2, pp. 261–275.
- 2020 **Samei, S.**, and K. Alizadeh. The spatial organization of craft production at the Kura-Araxes settlement of Köhne Shahar in northwestern Iran: a zooarchaeological approach. *PLOS ONE*.
- 2019 **Samei, S.**, Alizadeh, K., and N. Munro. Herd management and provisioning strategies at the Kura-Araxes settlement of Köhne Shahar, northwestern Iran. *Journal of Anthropological Archaeology* 55: 1–24.
- 2018 Alizadeh, K., **Samei, S.**, Mohammadkhani, K., and R. Tykot. Craft production and political power at Köhne Shahar, a Kura-Araxes settlement in the Iranian Azerbaijan. *Journal of Anthropological Archaeology* 51: 127–143.
- 2016 **Samei, S.**, Munro, N., al-Nahar, M., and D. Olszewski. Differential bone preservation and human foraging at the Early Epipaleolithic site of Tor at-Tareeq (WHS1065) in the western highlands of Jordan. *Quaternary International* 396: 52–61.
- 2016 Munro, N.D., Kennerty, M., Meier, J.S., **Samei, S.**, al-Nahar, M., and D.I. Olszewski. Human hunting and site occupation intensity in the Early Epipaleolithic of the Jordanian western highlands. *Quaternary International* 396: 31–39.
- 2014 Alizadeh, K., Eghbal, H., and **S. Samei**. Approaches to social complexity in Kura-Araxes Culture: a view from Köhne Shahar (Ravaz) in Chaldran, Iranian Azerbaijan. *Paléorient* 41(1): 37–54.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER PREPARATION

- **Samei, S.** *Our Pastoral Past: Modeling Diversity in Prehistoric Animal Economies in the Near Eastern Highlands*. (Book Manuscript).
- **Samei, S.**, and A. Gyonjyan. Prehistoric human-environment interactions in the southern Caucasus. *Quaternary Science Review*.
- **Samei, S.**, Hovhannisyanyan, N., and B. Gasparyan. Animal use and exploitation in the Chalcolithic occupation of Areni-1 Cave in Armenia. *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports*.
- **Samei, S.**, Alizadeh K., Munro, N., and G. Hartman. Stable oxygen ($\delta^{18}\text{O}$) and carbon ($\delta^{13}\text{C}$) isotope analysis of herd management strategies at the Kura-Araxes settlement of Köhne Shahar, nonwestern Iran. Targeted journal: *Journal of Anthropological Archaeology*.
- Sanders, A., and **S. Samei**. Kura-Araxes migration and pastoralism: a new assessment based on faunal data and settlement patterns. Targeted journal: *Current Anthropology*.
- Batiuk, S., Alizadeh, K., Badalyan, R., Rafael Greenberg, R., Hovsepyan, R., Lyonnet, B., Palumbi, G., Paz, S., Philip, G., Rothman, M., and **S. Samei**. New perspectives on the Kura-Araxes: results of the 2017 Toronto workshop. Targeted journal: *PLOS ONE*.

SESSIONS & COLLOQUIA ORGANIZED

- 2020 Co-organizer – Annual Meeting of the South Caucasus Colloquium. Columbia University.
- 2018 Organizer – *In the Service of the Greater Good: Broader Applications of Zooarchaeology in the Era of Interdisciplinary Research*. Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Washington, DC. Sponsor: the Zooarchaeology Interest Group.

INVITED WORKSHOPS PARTICIPATION

- 2017 *People of the Hills: Special Symposium on the Prehistoric Kura-Araxes Cultural Tradition*. The Archaeology Centre, University of Toronto, March 6–12, ON, Canada. Sponsor: the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada; organizers: Stephen Batiuk, Mitchell Rothman.

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2020 **Samei, S.**, Kandel, A., and B. Gasparyan. “Zooarchaeological Investigations of the Hellenistic Occupation of Aghitu-3 Cave, Armenia.” * Paper to be presented at the *Annual Meeting of the American Society for Oriental Research*, Boston, MA.
- 2019 **Samei, S.**, and A. Gyonyan. “Animal Economies of the South Caucasus from the Neolithic period to the end of the Early Bronze Age.” * Paper to be presented at the *Annual Meeting of the American Society for Oriental Research*, San Diego, CA.
- 2019 **Samei, S.**, Munro, N., and G. Hartman. “Zooarchaeological and Stable Oxygen ($\delta^{18}O$) Isotope Analyses of Herd Management Strategies at the Early Bronze Age Kura-Araxes Settlement of Köhne Shahar in Northwestern Iran.” * Paper to be presented at the *International Meeting of the Archaeozoology of Southwest Asia and Adjacent Areas*, Barcelona.
- 2017 **Samei, S.**, Olszewski, D., and N. Munro. “Zooarchaeological Investigation of Late Pleistocene Subsistence Adaptations in Iran.” Paper presented at the *Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology*, Vancouver, BC.
- 2016 **Samei, S.**, and K. Alizadeh. “Three Seasons of Excavations at the Kura-Araxes Early Bronze Age Site.” Tehran, Iran. Paper presented at the *Annual National Symposium on Iranian Archaeology*, Tehran, Iran, 2016. * Paper delivered in Persian.
- 2015 K. Alizadeh., and **S. Samei**. “Craft Production and Specialization in the Transcaucasian Early Bronze Age: A View from Köhne Shahar, NW Iran.” Paper presented at the *Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology*, San Francisco, CA.
- 2014 **Samei, S.**, Alizadeh, K., and H. Eqbal. “A Quantitative Zooarchaeological Approach to Exploring Craft Specialization at the Early Bronze Age Site of Köhne Shahar in Northwestern Iran.” Paper presented at the *Meeting of the International Council of Archaeozoology*, San Rafael, Argentina.
- 2014 Munro, N., Kennerty, M., Meier, J., and **S. Samei**. “Human Hunting and Landscape Use in the Jordanian Eastern Highlands during the Epipaleolithic.” Paper presented at the *Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology*, Austin, TX.
- 2014 **Samei, S.**, Munro, N., Kennerty, M., al-Nahar, Maysoon, and D. Olszewski. “Taphonomic and Zooarchaeological Analysis of the Early Epipaleolithic Site of Tor at Tareeq (WHS-1065), Jordan.” Paper presented at the *Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology* Austin, TX.
- 2013 **Samei, S.**, Alizadeh, K., and H. Eqbal. “Zooarchaeological Analyses from the Kura- Araxes Site of Köhne Shahar (Ravaz) in Northwestern Iran: A Preliminary Assessment of Social Complexity.” Poster presented at the *Annual Meeting of the American Society for Oriental Research*, Baltimore, MD.

UPCOMING ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECTS

Armenia; Aghitu-3 Cave, Upper Paleolithic, Iron Age, Hellenistic (projected start date: summer 2020)

Tasks: faunal specialist; recoding and analysis of the Hellenistic faunal remains from tombs, pits, and domestic contexts. Site directors: Boris Gasparyan (National Academy of Sciences, Armenia); Andrew Kandel (University of Tübingen, Germany).

Iran; Tepe Hasanlu, Neolithic–Late Bronze Age (projected start date: 2021)

Tasks: co-faunal specialist; recoding and of faunal remains from the Neolithic period (Level X) to the Late Bronze Age (Level V); the collection is being curated at the Penn Museum, Philadelphia.

Collaborator: Pam Crabtree (Institute for the Study of the Ancient Worlds; New York University).

PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECTS

Iran; Köhne Shabar, Early Bronze Age fortification (2011–2018)

Tasks: excavation supervisor and faunal specialist; recording and analysis of faunal remains from all occupations; collection and processing of tooth and bone specimens for stable carbon and isotope analyses; modern environmental sampling to establish isotopic baseline. Site director: Karim Alizadeh (Grand Valley State University, USA).

Armenia; Areni-1, Neolithic–Medieval cave (2013–2018)

Tasks: faunal specialist; recording and analysis of faunal remains from all occupations. Site directors: Boris Gasparyan (National Academy of Sciences, Armenia); Gregory Areshian (American University of Armenia); Ron Pinhasi (University College Dublin, Ireland).

Jordan; Western Highlands Early Epipaleolithic Project (2011–2016)

Tasks: excavation supervisor and junior faunal specialist; data collection from three Epipaleolithic and Upper Paleolithic sites in Petra and Wadi Hasa; analysis of fauna from Epipaleolithic WHS-1065. Site directors: Deborah Olszewski (University of Pennsylvania, USA); Maysoun al-Nahar (University of Jordan, Amman).

United States, South Carolina; Stono Rice Plantation, Antebellum Period (2007–2009)

Task: junior faunal specialist; recording and analysis of faunal remains from slave habitation quarters; comparison of data with other rice, cotton, and tobacco plantations in the South. Site directors: Martha Zierden (Charleston Museum, USA); Ron Anthony (College of Charleston, USA).

TEACHING AND MENTORSHIP

- Teaching Assistant (2010–2014, 2018)
ANTH 1006, *Introduction to Anthropology* (including Honors); University of Connecticut
ANTH 1500, *Great Discoveries in Archaeology*; University of Connecticut
ANTH 3002, *Culture, Language, and Thought*; University of Connecticut
- Primary Instructor (2013–2019)
ANTH 1000W, *Introduction to Cultural Anthropology* (writing intensive); University of Connecticut
Former course title: *Other People's Worlds*
ANTH 1000, *Introduction to Cultural Anthropology*; University of Connecticut
ANT 102, *Introduction to Biological Anthropology*; Southern Connecticut State University
- Student Evaluations of Teaching as Primary Instructor at the University of Connecticut (2013–2019):
Instructor Median: 4.9/5.0; Anthropology Department: Median 4.4/5.0; University Median: 4.2/5.0
- Recognition of Excellence; Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, University of Connecticut (2016)
- Trained two undergraduate students at the University of Connecticut as research assistants in the collection and processing of bone and tooth samples for stable isotope analysis:
Alexander Lozano (2016–2017)
Preston Senderoff (2019)
- Invited lecturer; undergraduate *Introduction to Zooarchaeology* course, University of Connecticut (Fall 2017)
- Invited lecturer; undergraduate *Introduction to Archaeology* course, University of Connecticut (Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2017)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

- Co-Chair, Zooarchaeology Interest Group, Society for American Archaeology (2017–2018)
- Student Association for Archaeological Sciences; University of Georgia, Athens, GA (2006–2007)
- Student member, Center for Archaeological Sciences Executive Board; University of Georgia, Athens, GA (2006–2007)

UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICES

- *University of Connecticut, Anthropology*
Anthropology Department website administrator (2017–2018)
Annual Experimental Archaeology Animal Roast, founder and organizer (2012–2016)

SKILLS

- Proficient in: ArcGIS, Adobe Creative Cloud, HTML, Microsoft Office
- Languages: Persian (native), English (fluent), French and Arabic (conversation and reading)

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIP

American Research Institute of the South Caucasus (ARISC), American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR), International Council of Archaeozoology (ICAZ), Society for American Archaeology (SAA), Society for Iranian Archaeology (SIA)

SELECTED GRADUATE COURSE WORK

Advanced GIS for Remote Sensing and Geoscience Applications, Behavioral Ecology, Paleoclimate Reconstruction, Analytical Methods in Archaeology, Archaeobotany, Archaeological Theory, Human Evolutionary Theory, Human Osteology, Lithics, Site Formation Processes, Stable Isotopes