

M.S. GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT POSITION

DIET, FOOD PROCESSING, AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF ARCTIC AQUATIC ADAPTATIONS

Dr. Shelby Anderson at Portland State University (PSU) is seeking applicants for an MS Graduate Research Assistant Position as part of ongoing research on early Alaskan ceramic technology. There is the strong possibility of funding (2-yr tuition remission and stipend) for the position.

The student will work with Dr. Anderson (PSU) and Dr. Buonasera (U.C. Davis) on an experimental pottery manufacturing and processing project that will inform residue and ceramic petrographic analysis. A thesis project will emerge from this work.

Our interest is in studying the role of processing of animal products (bone, fat, and oil for food and fuel) in the development and expansion of Arctic maritime traditions over the last 4500 years. Aquatic resources are central to modern Iñupiaq culture. The importance of these resources extends far beyond food and consumption, providing social, spiritual, and community connection and sustenance. When, why, and how this complex human-animal interaction and way of life developed remains one of the most enduring questions in Arctic archaeology. We will apply new methods, lipid and isotopic analysis of ceramic residues and sediments, to the question of: what types of foods were processed over the last 4500 years in Arctic Alaska? See papers listed below for more context on the project.

Qualifications:

- BA/BS in anthropology with a focus or specialization in archaeology
- Interests in archaeological science, ceramic analysis, and in arctic archaeology
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Please get in touch with Shelby Anderson as soon as possible (ashelby@pdx.edu). The submission deadline is March 1, 2018. See the PSU anthropology website for submission details (<http://www.pdx.edu/anthropology/graduate-admission>).

Relevant Papers:

Anderson, Shelby L., Shannon Tushingham, and Tammy Y. Buonasera. 2017. "Aquatic Adaptations and the Adoption of Arctic Pottery Technology: Results of Residue Analysis." *American Antiquity*, May, 1–28. doi:10.1017/aaq.2017.8.

Buonasera, Tammy Y, Andrew H. Tremayne, Christyann M. Darwent, Jelmer W Eerkens, and Owen K. Mason. 2015. "Lipid Biomarkers and Compound Specific $\delta^{13}C$ Analysis Indicate Early Development of a Dual-Economic System for the Arctic Small Tool Tradition in Northern Alaska." *Journal of Archaeological Science* 61: 129–38. doi:<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jas.2015.05.011>.