

**DR. PETER THOMAS SINELLI**

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**ACADEMIC POSITIONS**

- 2021 to present: Senior Lecturer, Department of Anthropology, University of Central Florida
- 2015 to 2021: Associate Lecturer, Department of Anthropology, University of Central Florida
- 2006 to 2015: Lecturer, Department of Anthropology, University of Central Florida
- 2005 to 2006: Adjunct Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Central Florida

**EDUCATION**

- 2010 Ph.D. in Anthropology, University of Florida. Dissertation: All Islands Great and Small: Indigenous Exploitation of Small Cay Environments in the Turks & Caicos Islands.  
Dr. William F. Keegan, Advisor.
- 2001 Master of Arts in Anthropology, University of Florida. Thesis: Archaeological Investigations of Two Prehistoric Sites Representing a Hispaniolan Colonization of Middle Caicos, Turks and Caicos Islands. Dr. William F. Keegan, Advisor.
- 1992 Bachelor of Science in Finance, Minor in Anthropology, Indiana University, Bloomington.

**UCF COURSES TAUGHT (F = Face to Face; M = Mixed Mode; W = Online)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| ANT 2000 General Anthropology (F, M)            | ANT 2511 Biological Anthropology (F, M, W)      |
| ANT 3106 Americas Before Columbus (M)           | ANT 3115 Archaeology Method and Theory (F)      |
| ANT 3154 Historical Archaeology (M, W)          | ANT 3157 First Peoples of the Caribbean (M)     |
| ANT 3160 Archaeology and Popular Culture (M)    | ANT 3173 Archaeology of Sex (F, M)              |
| ANT 3174 Battlefield Archaeology (M)            | ANT 3177 Archaeology of Caribbean Piracy (M, W) |
| ANT 3302 Sex, Gender and Culture (F, M, W)      | ANT 4190 Professional Archaeology (M)           |
| ANT 3943 Caribbean Archaeology Field School (F) | ANT 4932 Archaeology of Coastal Societies (M)   |

**EXTERNAL GRANTS**

- 2023 NSF Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Award: *Ecological Adaptation in a Long Term Context*.  
Awarded \$37,693 as Primary Investigator supervising the Doctoral research of Melissa Gomez.

## UCF TEACHING AWARDS

- 2026            Teaching Incentive Program Award
- 2025            AIM (Affordable Instructional Materials) High Impact Award, in recognition of exemplary efforts to reduce student book/instructional materials costs.
- 2024            Inclusive Design Professional Development Award. A \$2000 award which recognized my commitment to implement inclusive best practices in the classroom. Funds were used to purchase a high-resolution GNSS GPS system for undergraduate student field research projects during the 2025 Caribbean Archaeology field school, the Department of Anthropology's largest and longest-running undergraduate field research program.
- AIM (Affordable Instructional Materials) High Impact Award, in recognition of exemplary efforts to reduce student book/instructional materials costs.
- 2023            Outstanding Instruction Award, College of Sciences, in recognition of successful, high-impact instructional efforts through leading the annual Caribbean Archaeology field school.
- AIM (Affordable Instructional Materials) High Impact Award, in recognition of exemplary efforts to reduce student book/instructional materials costs.
- 2019            Teaching Incentive Program Award
- 2011            Teaching Incentive Program Award

## UCF TEACHING IMPACT COURSE DESIGNATIONS

- 2025            Learner-Centered Design Certification (formerly Inclusive Design) for ANT 2000, College of Sciences. Recognized for a commitment to expand inclusion, accommodate diverse student needs, foster a less stressful learning environment, and help students better understand and meet faculty expectations. Awarded to my Mixed-mode sections of ANT 2000, which is a General Education Program course.
- 2024            High-Impact Practice (HIP) Course Designation, Division of Student Learning and Academic Success. Earned the Research Intensive (RI) designation for ANT 4983 Research in Caribbean Archaeology to provide enhanced research opportunities to undergraduates participating in my annual Caribbean Archaeology field school offered through UCF Study Abroad.
- Learner-Centered Design Certification (formerly Inclusive Design) for ANT 2511, College of Sciences. Was the first COS faculty member to earn recognition for a commitment to expand inclusion, accommodate diverse student needs, foster a less stressful learning environment, and help students better understand and meet faculty expectations. Awarded to my Mixed-mode sections of ANT 2511 Biological Anthropology, which is a General Education Program course.
- 2020            Quality Online Course Designation: ANT 3177 *Archaeology of Caribbean Piracy*

## TEACHING AND LEARNING CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2024 *Helping Faculty Create Assignments to Advance Students' Critical Thinking about AI: A Case Study from Anthropology.* Presentation delivered to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Teaching and Learning with AI Conference, Orlando, Florida.

## TEACHING AND LEARNING GRANTS FOR CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

- 2024 UCF Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning Summer conference. Received \$800 to develop and submit a successful application to designate ANT 4983 Research in Caribbean Archaeology as a Research Intensive, High-Impact Practice course.
- 2023 UCF General Education Program Award. Received \$1000 to attend the 2023 American Association of Colleges & Universities National Conference on General Education, Pedagogy, and Assessment in New Orleans.

## HIGH-IMPACT LEARNING MENTORSHIP (2021-present)

- 2025 Honors Undergraduate Thesis advisor for Ms. Jordan Richardson on her thesis *From Pots to Posts: An Exploration of Taino Spirituality Culture Through Ceramic Analysis and Digital Archives*
- Directed Research Advisor for Camden Stryjewski on his project *Applications of GNSS and Photogrammetry in Archeological Preservation and Analysis Case Study: Palmetto Junction, Turks & Caicos* for presentation at the 2026 UCF Student Scholar Symposium.
- 2024-2025 Directed Research Advisor for Richard Shoemaker on his project *Mapping Palmetto Junction: Utilizing CAD and GIS Software for Archaeological Perspective and Methodology* presented at the 2025 UCF Student Scholar Symposium.
- 2024 Honors Undergraduate Thesis advisor for Ms. Hailey Boyd.
- 2023-present Directed Research Advisor. Mentored and supervised six additional UCF undergraduates in individualized archaeological laboratory research projects involving the artifact assemblage collected through the Caribbean Archaeology field school.
- 2021-2023 Independent Study Advisor. Mentored and supervised two UCF graduate students and four undergraduates in customized archaeological research projects involving the artifact assemblage collected through the Caribbean Archaeology field school.

## UCF SERVICE (2021-present)

- 2025-2026 University Service:  
Faculty Senate Representative, Department of Anthropology  
Chair, UCF Faculty Senate Budget & Administrative Committee  
UCF Faculty Senate Parking and Transportation Committee
- College Committee Service:  
Department of Sociology Instructor/Lecturer Promotion Committee

Department Committee Service:

Chair, Trevor Colburn Anthropology Endowment Fund Committee  
Workload Equity Committee

2024-2025

University Service:

Faculty Senate Representative, Department of Anthropology  
Vice Chair, UCF Faculty Senate Budget & Administrative Committee  
UCF Faculty Senate Parking and Transportation Committee  
Judge, UCF Student Scholar Symposium

Department Committee Service:

Chair, Trevor Colburn Anthropology Endowment Fund Committee  
AESP / Workload Equity Committee

2023-2024

University Service:

Judge, UCF Student Scholar Symposium

College Committee Service:

Anthropology Chair's Five Year Review Committee (John Schultz)

Department Committee Service:

Chair, Trevor Colburn Anthropology Endowment Fund Committee  
Chair, Department Instructor/Lecturer Promotion Committee (Lana Williams)  
AESP / Workload Equity Committee

2022-2023

College Committee Service

Department of Biology Instructor/Lecturer Promotion Committee

Department Committee Service:

Chair, Trevor Colburn Anthropology Endowment Fund Committee  
Department Instructor/Lecturer Hiring Committee  
Department Instructor/Lecturer Promotion Committee (Sandra Wheeler)  
AESP / Workload Equity Committee

Service to the Discipline:

Invited Journal Reviewer: Archaeology of the Abaco Islands (The Bahamas) and possible pre-Columbian contacts with Florida by William Keegan et al. *Journal of Field Archaeology*.

2021-2022

Department Committee Service:

AESP / Workload Equity Committee  
Trevor Colburn Anthropology Endowment Fund Committee

## PUBLICATIONS

### Journal Articles (peer reviewed):

2020 Ciofalo, Andrew J., Peter T. Sinelli and Corinne L. Hofman. Starchy shells: Residue analysis of precolonial northern Caribbean culinary practices. *Archaeometry* 62:2

- 2019 Ciofalo, Andrew J., Peter T. Sinelli and Corinne L. Hofman. Late Precolonial Culinary Practices: Starch Analysis on Griddles from the Northern Caribbean. *Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory* 26:1632–1664.
- 2008 Keegan, William F., Scott M. Fitzpatrick, Kathleen Sullivan Sealey, Michelle LeFebvre, and Peter T. Sinelli. The Role of Small Islands in Marine Subsistence Strategies: Case Studies from the Caribbean. *Human Ecology* 36:635-654.

#### **Book Reviews:**

- 2020 Sinelli, Peter T. Pre-Columbian Art of the Caribbean by Lawrence Waldron. *The Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology* 25:1

#### **Book Chapters (refereed):**

- 2013 Sinelli, Peter T. *Meillacoid and the Origins of Classic Taino Society*. In The Oxford Handbook of Caribbean Archaeology, Edited by William F. Keegan, Corinne L. Hofman, and Reniel Rodriquez Ramos. Oxford University Press, New York

#### **Popular Media:**

- 2012 *The People Who Discovered Columbus Version 2.0*. Article published in Times of the Islands, the leading popular magazine in the Turks and Caicos Islands. Summer 2012, No. 96, pp. 18-24.
- 2011 *The People Who Discovered Columbus Version 1.0*. Article published in Times of the Islands, the leading popular magazine in the Turks and Caicos Islands. Fall 2011, No. 96, pp. 16-22.
- 2005 *Archaeology in the Turks and Caicos Islands: New Approaches, New Discoveries*. Article published in Times of the Islands, the leading popular magazine in the Turks and Caicos Islands. Winter 2004-2005, No. 69, pp. 47-51.

#### **Technical Reports:**

- 2013 *Seasonal Report of 2012 Archaeological Investigations in Cape Eleuthera, Bahamas and Northwest Point, Great Inagua, Bahamas*. Submitted to the Antiquities, Monuments, and Museums Corporation, Nassau, Bahamas.
- 2012 *Seasonal Report of Archaeological Investigations in Cape Eleuthera, Bahamas*. Submitted to the Antiquities, Monuments, and Museums Corporation, Nassau, Bahamas.

### **PUBLIC LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS**

#### **Scholarly Presentations to Professional Associations:**

- 2019 *Ceramic Production at Palmetto Junction*. Presentation delivered at the 84<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Albuquerque, NM.
- 2015 *Migrating Meillacoid: Or, how I learned to quit worrying and love the Bahamas*. Presentation delivered at the 26<sup>th</sup> International Conference for Caribbean Archaeology, Sint Maarten.
- 2012 *Lucayan Exploitation of Small Cay Environments in Rock Sound, Eleuthera*. Presentation delivered at the 77<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Memphis, TN

- 2011 *Meillacoid Origins of Classic Taino Society*. Presentation delivered at the 24<sup>h</sup> International Conference for Caribbean Archaeology, Martinique.
- 2008 *Indigenous Exploitation of Small Cay Environments in the Turks & Caicos Islands*. Presentation delivered at the 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Vancouver, British Columbia.
- 2003 *New Data Concerning the Colonization of the Bahama Archipelago*. Presentation delivered at the 19<sup>th</sup> International Conference for Caribbean Archaeology, Aruba.

#### **Invited Public Lectures:**

- 2022 *Indy vs. Reality*. Public lecture at the “Night at the Museum” event hosted by the Osceola County History Center.
- 2021 *Charles Darwin: How a Theology Major Discovered Natural Selection*. Public lecture at the University Unitarian Universalist Society.
- 2020 “Ask a Science Expert” interactive interview and Q&A with the Mad Cow Theatre, Orlando Florida.
- 2019 *Island Colonization and the Lucayans of the Bahamas*. Public lecture at the Florida Historical Society Archaeological Institute.
- 2014 *Salt: The Only Rock We Eat*. Presentation delivered at the East End Market in conjunction with the Orlando Science Center’s public lecture series.
- Preliminary Report of the Archaeology of the Palmetto Junction Site*. Presentation delivered at the Department of Environment and Maritime Affairs headquarters, Providenciales, Turks & Caicos Islands
- 2013 *Taino vs. Spaniard: The First Act of European ‘Discovery’ in the Americas*. Presentation delivered at the Orlando Museum of Art as part of their “Uncovering the Secrets of Ancient America” series.
- 2013 *The Archaeology of Sex*. Presentation delivered at the Orlando Science Center as part of their “Science Night Live” series.
- 2012 *New Insights into the Colonization and Settlement of the Bahama Archipelago*. Presentation delivered at the Florida Historical Society as part of their “In the Dirt” series.
- The Lucayans*. Presentation delivered to the Central Florida Anthropological Society.

#### **Media Interviews:**

- 2019 *Archaeology of the Bahama Islands*. Radio interview on Florida Public Radio program “Florida Frontiers”.
- 2015 *Archaeology of Sex*. Radio interview on the Voicamerica.com program “Indiana Jones: Myth, Reality and 21st Century Archaeology”

## FIELD RESEARCH

- 2025 Caribbean Archaeology Field School, Turks & Caicos Islands, British West Indies. Designed and led a three-week archaeological field school through UCF Study Abroad and UCF Global for 1 Graduate student and 16 UCF undergraduates.
- 2024 Caribbean Archaeology Field School, Turks & Caicos Islands, British West Indies. Designed and led a three-week archaeological field school through UCF Study Abroad and UCF Global for 1 Graduate student, 2 returning undergraduate students / graduate student candidates and 14 UCF undergraduates.
- 2023 Caribbean Archaeology Field School, Turks & Caicos Islands, British West Indies. Designed and led a three-week archaeological field school through UCF Study Abroad and UCF Global for 1 Graduate student and 16 UCF undergraduates.
- 2022 Caribbean Archaeology Field School, Turks & Caicos Islands, British West Indies. Designed and led a three-week archaeological field school through UCF Study Abroad and UCF Global for 1 Graduate student and 16 UCF undergraduates.
- 2019 Caribbean Archaeology Field School, Turks & Caicos Islands, British West Indies. Designed and led a three-week archaeological field school through UCF Study Abroad and the Office of International Studies for 3 Graduate students and 18 UCF undergraduates.
- 2018 Caribbean Archaeology Field School, Turks & Caicos Islands, British West Indies. Designed and led a three-week archaeological field school through UCF Study Abroad and the Office of International Studies for 3 Graduate students and 10 UCF undergraduates.
- 2017 Underwater Archaeology at Tios (Filyos, Turkey). Assisted in underwater archaeology at Roman era shipwreck sites in Filyos Harbor as a member of a joint team of researchers from UCF and Bartin University.
- Archaeology of the Palmetto Junction site, Turks & Caicos Islands, British West Indies. Designed and led a ten day archaeological excavation in coordination with colleagues from Leiden University, Leiden, The Netherlands.
- 2016 Caribbean Archaeology Field School, Turks & Caicos Islands, British West Indies. Designed and led a three-week archaeological field school through UCF Study Abroad and the Office of International Studies for 3 Graduate students and 16 UCF undergraduates.
- 2015 Caribbean Archaeology Field School, Turks & Caicos Islands, British West Indies. Designed and led a three-week archaeological field school through UCF Study Abroad and the Office of International Studies for 3 Graduate students and 16 UCF undergraduates.
- 2014 Caribbean Archaeology Field School, Turks & Caicos Islands, British West Indies. Designed and led a three-week archaeological field school through UCF Study Abroad and the Office of International Studies for 15 UCF undergraduates.
- 2013 Caribbean Archaeology Field School, Eleuthera and Great Inagua, Bahamas. Designed and led a three-week archaeological field school through UCF Study Abroad and the Office of International Studies for 16 UCF undergraduates.

2012 Caribbean Archaeology Field School, Great Inagua, Bahamas. Designed and led a three-week archaeological field school through UCF Study Abroad and the Office of International Studies for 16 UCF undergraduates.

Caribbean Archaeology Field School, Eleuthera, Bahamas. Designed and led a three-week archaeological field school through UCF Study Abroad and the Office of International Studies for 16 UCF undergraduates.

2011 Caribbean Archaeology Field School, Eleuthera, Bahamas. Designed and led a four-week archaeological field school through UCF Study Abroad and the Office of International Studies for 16 UCF undergraduates.

2004 Caribbean Archaeology Field School, Turks and Caicos Islands, British West Indies. Coordinated and led a six week, six credit archaeological field school for University of Florida undergraduate anthropology students. Research related to pursuit of Ph.D. degree.

2001 Island Biogeography research, Middle Caicos, Turks & Caicos Islands, BWI. Assisted in excavations of faunal remains from pre-anthropogenic cave deposits in Conch Bar Cave, Middle Caicos to assess impact of human arrival on species extirpation and the local ecology.

2000 Independent research in the collections of the Turks and Caicos National Museum, Grand Turk, Turks and Caicos Islands, BWI. Analysis of ceramic collection conducted as part of M.A. thesis research.

“Before Columbus: Caonabo’s Homeland,” archaeological excavations at five prehistoric sites on Middle Caicos, Turks and Caicos Islands, BWI. Directed excavations and volunteers at two of the sites to build the foundation for M.A. thesis research.