

Stephen DeCasien

Ph.D. Student in Nautical Archaeology, Department of Anthropology, Texas A&M University
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EDUCATION

2019-Present: Texas A&M University, College of Liberal Arts, College Station, Texas

Doctor of Philosophy in Anthropology, (expected 5/24)

Major: Nautical Archaeology

Dissertation Title: *The Naval Ram: History, Production, and Symbolism in Greek and Roman Cultures*

Chair: Dr. Deborah Carlson

2022: American Academy in Rome, Rome, Italy

Classical Summer School, 2022 (non-degree awarding institution)

2017-19: University of South Florida, College of Arts and Sciences, Tampa, Florida

Master of Arts in History, 5/19

Major: Ancient History

2018: American School of Classical Studies at Athens, Athens, Greece

Summer Session, 2018 (non-degree awarding institution)

2013-16: Stockton University, Arts and Humanities College, Galloway, New Jersey

Bachelor of Arts, 5/16

Major: Historical Studies

Minor: Ancient Greek

Thesis Title: *Tracing the Cultural Origins of Government and Religion in Ptolemaic Egypt*

2012-13: Rowan University, Humanities and Social Sciences College, Glassboro, New Jersey

Attended pre-transfer (no degree awarded), 9/12 – 5/13

Major: History

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Greek and Roman Maritime History and Archaeology; Ancient Naval Warfare, Warships, and Naval Rams; Ship Construction; Ancient Seafaring; Sex and Gender in Antiquity

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles:

DeCasien, S. "Ancient Roman Naval Rams as Objects of Phallic Power." *Journal of Ancient History* 9, no. 1 (2021): 123-146.

Book Reviews:

Review of T. Vijgen, *The Cultural Parameters of the Graeco-Roman War Discourse* (Brepols Publishers, 2020) in *The Journal of Military History* 85, no. 2 (April 2021): 491-492.

Review of R. Nolan, *Julius Caesar's Invasion of Britain: Solving A 2,000-Year-Old Mystery*. (Frontline Books, 2018) in *The Journal of Military History* 84, no. 4 (October 2020): 1194-1196.

Review of J.P. Delgado, *War at Sea: A Shipwrecked History from Antiquity to the Twentieth Century* (Oxford University Press, 2019) in *Res Militares* 20, no. 1 (April 2020): 6-7.

Popular Articles:

DeCasien, S. "Knowing the Ropes: A Roman Passenger at Sea," *Ancient History Magazine* 31, December 2020. 36-39.

DeCasien, S. "Besieging Rhodes by Sea - Naval Siege Machinery in Action," *Ancient Warfare Magazine* 14, no. 3, December 2020. 26-33.

Database Collections and Entries:

DeCasien, S. "Naval Ram Collection." *The Nautical Archaeology Digital Library*. Last Updated December 2020.

<https://shiplib.org/index.php/rams-2/>

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

American Academy in Rome: Classical Summer School, Imperatrix SPQR Helen Aurora Gulamerian Scholarship	Summer 2022
Texas A&M University: Anthropology Department, Pilot Research Grant	Summer 2022
Texas A&M University: Anthropology Department, Professional Development Grant	Summer 2022
Texas A&M University: Anthropology Department, Dissertation Support Fellowship	Summer 2021
Texas A&M University: Graduate Fellow, Marian M. Cook Fellow in Nautical Archaeology	1/20 – 5/21
Texas A&M University: Anthropology Department, Professional Development Grant	Summer 2020
University of South Florida: Grants Committee, Conference Presentation Grant	Spring 2019
University of South Florida: Grants Committee, Conference Presentation Grant	Spring 2019
University of South Florida: Ancient Studies Center, Turman Scholarship in Ancient Studies	Summer 2018
American School of Classical Studies at Athens: Summer Session, Lawler Fellowship	Summer 2018

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record

Texas A&M University: Peoples and Cultures of the World	Spring 2023
Texas A&M University: Peoples and Cultures of the World	Fall 2021

Teaching Assistant

Texas A&M University: Cultural Diversity and Ethics	Fall 2022
Texas A&M University: Naval Warfare & Warships in Ancient Greece & Rome	Spring 2022
Texas A&M University: Nautical Archaeology	Spring 2022
Texas A&M University: Introduction to Archaeology	Fall 2019
University of South Florida: Greek Warfare	Fall 2018
University of South Florida: Classical Greece	Spring 2018
University of South Florida: Greek Warfare	Fall 2017

Guest Lectures

“Hellenistic Fleets and the First Punic War,” Texas A&M University: Classical Seafaring	Fall 2022
“Ancient Lost-Wax Casting,” Texas A&M University: Biblical Archaeology	Spring 2022
“Ancient Navies and Shipwrecks,” Texas A&M University: Introduction to Anthropology	Fall 2021

Graduate Coursework

Texas A&M University: Teaching Anthropology	Spring 2020
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK

“Publishing the Warship Rams from the Last Battle of the First Punic War” Project, Sicily Project Advisor: Dr. William M. Murray	Summer 2022
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RESEARCH PROJECTS

American Academy in Rome

Classical Summer School 2022 Site Report: The Roman Rostra and Roman Sea Power Project Advisor: Dr. Sanjaya Thakur	Summer 2022
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Texas A&M University, Department of Anthropology

Ancient Naval Ram Casting Project Project Advisor: Stephen DeCasien, Dr. Christopher Dostal, and Glenn Grieco	Fall 2021 – present
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Ramming Description and Translation Project Project Advisor: Stephen DeCasien	Fall 2020
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American School of Classical Studies at Athens

Summer Session 2018 Site Reports: Pella Site and Mosaics; Theater of Epidaurus Project Advisor: Dr. Daniel Levine	Summer 2018
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University of South Florida, Department of History

3D Actium Ram Socket Project in Geomagic Wrap Project Advisor: Dr. William M. Murray	Spring 2019
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Egadi Rams: Damage Report and Mapping Project Project Advisor: Dr. William M. Murray	Fall 2019
3D Actium Ram Metadata Project and Database Construction with USF Library Project Advisor: Dr. William M. Murray	Spring 2018
Stockton University, Department of History Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church: Archive Creation and Organization Project Advisor: Dr. Anastasios Papademetriou	Spring 2016
Library Exhibition on Iakovos Kambanellis Project Advisor: Dr. David Roessel	Spring 2015
Theater Workshop and Play Translation in Rhodes, Greece Project Advisor: Dr. David Roessel	Summer 2014

UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP

Texas A&M University

Association of Anthropology Graduate Students (AAGS), Member	9/19 – present
Association of Anthropology Graduate Students (AAGS), Nautical Subfield Representative	9/20 - 5/21
Graduate-Undergraduate Mentorship Program (GUMP), Mentor and Research Advisor	9/20 – 12/21
College of Liberal Arts Graduate Instruction Committee, Graduate Student Body Representative	9/19 - 5/20

University of South Florida

History Department Graduate Student Organization, President	1/19 - 5/19
Phi Alpha Theta Rho Nu Chapter, Secretary and 2 nd Financial Officer	1/18 - 5/19
Ancient Studies Center, Student Advisory Council	9/17 - 5/19

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

The Nautical Archaeology Digital Library (NADL), Texas A&M Team Member/Contributor	12/20 - present
Institute of Nautical Archaeology (INA), Graduate Research Assistant	1/20 – 5/21
Institute of Nautical Archaeology (INA), Summer Research Assistant	Summer 2020
RPM Nautical Foundation (RPMNF), Communications/Independent Consultant	12/19 - present
Chronika: IEMA Graduate Student Journal, External Peer-reviewer	10/19 - present

PUBLIC OUTREACH

Invited Lectures

“History and Development of the Naval Ram,” The Augustan Society (Virtual)	Spring 2021
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Interviews/Media Appearances

“Ancient Naval Rams,” The Study of Antiquity and the Middle Ages (YouTube)	Spring 2021
“Naval Rams and Ramming,” Ancient Warfare Magazine: The Podcast	Fall 2020
“Demetrius’ Siege of Rhodes,” The Ancients Podcast	Summer 2020
“Hellenistic Naval Warfare,” The Hellenistic Age Podcast	Summer 2020
“Naval Warfare and Rams,” The History of Ancient Greece Podcast	Summer 2020

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

The Women’s Classical Caucus, Member	2020 - present
Lambda Classical Caucus, Member	2020 - present
The Society for Military History, Member	2019 - present
Association of Ancient Historians, Member	2019 - present
The Society of Ancient Military Historians, Member	2019 - present
Institute of Nautical Archaeology, Member	2019 - present
American School of Classical Studies at Athens, Alumni Association Member	2018 - present
Phi Alpha Theta National History Honor Society, Member	2018 - present
Archaeological Institute of America, Member	2017 - present

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 88th Annual Meeting of the Society for Military History, Fort Worth, Texas Spring 2022
Session: Issues of Governance, War, and Identity from Rome to Vietnam
Paper Title: *The Syracusan Trireme 413 BCE: Reinterpretation, Technology, and Tactics*
- Texas A&M Anthropology Department Conference, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas Spring 2021
Session: Greeks, Romans, & Egyptians...Oh My!
Paper Title: *The Athenian Trireme: A Hermaphroditic Role*
- Texas A&M History Conference, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas Spring 2020
Session: Reconstructing Ancient Sicilian Society
Paper Title: *Possibilities and Limitations of Reconstructing the Battle of the Egadi Islands and Other Ancient Naval Battles*
Award: Best Original Research Paper in the Doctoral Category
- Florida Conference of Historians, New College of Florida, Sarasota, Florida Spring 2019
Session: Sources of Historical Knowledge
Paper Title: *Egadi Rams: Practical Methods for Inscribing a Naval Ram and Epigraphic Categorization*
- Phi Alpha Theta Regional Conference, University of North Florida, Jacksonville, Florida Spring 2019
Session: Ancient Rome
Paper Title: *Greek Paideia vs. Roman Virtus: Plutarch's Subversion and Re-Definition of Masculinity in the Lives of Marius and Pyrrhus*

CERTIFICATES AND SKILLS

Certificates

Conservation of Archaeological Materials Certificate (Texas A&M University – Department of Anthropology):

The Conservation of Archaeological Materials Certificate provides a thorough knowledge of the latest artifact conservation methods and their application. Artifacts recovered from underwater sites are unstable when recovered and immediate conservation is necessary to ensure that the artifact does not deteriorate once out of the water. The certificate consists of formal courses in artifact conservation and practical application of that knowledge. Traditional approaches to artifact conservation are covered in detail as well as methods recently developed.

Skills

Ship Line Drafting/Drawing, 3D Printing (LulzBot TAZ Workhorse), 3D Laser Scanning (Artec Leo, FaroArm), Photogrammetry, Artifact Sketching, Artifact Photography, Artifact Casting Replication and Creation (Epoxy, Silicone, Lost wax), Diving (*Padi in progress*)

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

Ancient Greek	Proficient
Latin	Beginner
German	Reading Comprehension
Italian	Reading Comprehension

REFERENCES

Available upon request