

# CURRICULUM VITAE: ALESSANDRO CECCARELLI

MA, PCIfA, PhD (candidate), President of Cambridge Graduate Union

## DETAILS



Languages: English, Spanish, Italian, and Hindi (rudimentary)

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Areas of interest: archaeology, archaeometry, material culture, ceramics, ethno-archaeology, learning theories, cultural transmission, museum collections and education, higher education policies, and academic affairs.



## EDUCATION

*Ph.D. (Candidate)* Oct 2016/ Present. **University of Cambridge, Magdalene College, UK**  
Thesis title: 'Ceramic Traditions and Ceramic Landscapes of the Indus Civilisation: Investigating the technologies and socio-economic complexity of rural pottery production in Bronze Age northwest India'.  
Supervisory Team: Dr C. A. Petrie, Prof C. A. French, and Dr P. S. Quinn.

*M.Phil. / Ph.D. (relinquished)* Sept 2015/ Sept 2016. **UCL, Institute of Archaeology, UK**  
Archaeology of South Asia and Ceramic Analysis. Supervisors: Dr Julia Shaw and Dr Patrick Quinn.

*M.A. (Intercollegiate)* Oct 2014/ Sept 2015. **UCL, Institute of Archaeology, UK**  
Modules: 'Cities, States and Religions of Ancient India'; 'Archaeology of Buddhism'.  
Supervisor: Dr Robert Harding.

Aug 2014/ Sept 2015. **SOAS, University of London, UK**  
Thesis title: 'From Harappa to Āryāvarta: the link between Proto-historic communities in NW India'.  
Supervisor: Dr Crispin Branfoot. Graduated with distinction.

*B.A.* Oct 2010/ July 2014. **University Sapienza of Rome, Italy**  
Thesis title: 'The gifts of the Indus river: exchanges between the Indus Valley and Mesopotamia in the 3rd Millennium BCE'. Archaeological Sciences. Graduated with distinction: *110/110 cum laude*.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

*University of Cambridge* July 2019/ Present. **President** of the **Cambridge University Graduate Union (GU)**, **Chair** of GU charity trustees, and **Trustee** of the **Cambridge University Council**, principal executive and policy-making body. Representative of postgrads on 30+ University committees on wide variety of issues. Line-manager of GU officers and members of staff, ensuring performance, development, and well-being. Work with 31 College charities to ensure representation.

*University of Cambridge* November 2018/ July 2019. **LGBTQ+ Officer** (Part Time), University of Cambridge, Graduate Union.

*The Evolution Institute, Florida, US.* December 2016/ February 2017. **Expert Consultant, Seshat, Global Historic Database**. Database of archaeological sites (e.g. Mehrgarh; Kili Gul Mouhammad; Nausharo; Anjira; Pirak), reassessing chronology and human behaviour within the Kachi Plain, Baluchistan.

<i>The British Museum, London, UK</i>	September 2016/ February 2017. <b>Consultant, South Asian Department.</b> for the renovation of the Asian Gallery, assisting the curatorial team assessing artefacts from the Amri-Nal, Indus, Akra and Protohistoric South Asian collections (3 <sup>rd</sup> to 1 <sup>st</sup> millennia BC).
<i>Victoria and Albert Museum, London</i>	November 2014/ September 2016. <b>Assistant Lecturer and Tutor, Learning Centre (OPA).</b> Museum education, teaching assistant, workshop assistant, workshop tutor.
<i>Border Archaeology, England and Wales, UK</i>	May 2015/ October 2016. <b>Specialist Digital Illustrator and Field Archaeologist (Full Time).</b> British commercial archaeology. <i>Main duties:</i> Digital photogrammetry; 3D modelling; digital illustrations. Softwares: ArcGIS, Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, Agisoft Photoscan, Faro PhoToPlan, AutoCAD.
<i>National Museum of Oriental Art, Rome, Italy</i>	May 2010/ July 2014. <b>Assistant of Head of the Department of Education (occasional).</b> <i>Main Duties:</i> Museum education, teaching assistant, workshop assistant, workshop tutor. Events and activities for children and adult at the MNAO 'Tucci', Rome.
<i>University Sapienza of Rome, Italy</i>	July-September 2012 and 2014. <b>Supervisor, Archaeological Documentation.</b> North-Eastern Slopes of the Palatine Hill, Rome, Italy. Main duty: Digital Illustrator; Field Archaeologist. Director: Prof. Clementina Panella.

### **PRIZES, AWARDS AND FUNDING**

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|-----------|---|
| 2018-2019 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>University of Cambridge, Outstanding Student Contribution to Education Award. CCTL, OSCEA 2019. Stepping up to demonstrate or advocate for particular inclusive teaching and learning practices.</li> <li>NTICVA Awards - Nehru Trust for the Indian Collection at the Victoria and Albert Museum, London. Project: short research project and professional collaboration in India (April 2018 – April 2019).</li> </ul> |
| 2017-2018 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fitch Laboratory Awards, British School at Athens, Greece. Project: Comparative study of Indus and Minoan social mechanisms for the adoption of new ceramic technologies.</li> <li>McDonald Institute Awards, Cambridge. Conference funding.</li> <li>Division of Archaeology Student-Staff Fund, Cambridge. Conference funding.</li> </ul>  |
| 2016-2017 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ERC- European Research Council, PhD Scholarship, Cambridge. Horizon 2020 - Two Rains Project: Climate Change, Resilience and the Indus Civilisation.</li> <li>McDonald Institute Awards, Cambridge. Conference funding.</li> <li>Division of Archaeology Award, Cambridge. Conference funding.</li> </ul>  |
| 2015-2016 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IoA Awards, UCL. Project: Indus and PGW Ceramic Analysis at BHU, Varanasi, India.</li> </ul>   |
| 2010-2011 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Erasmus Programme Scholarship, European Commission (EU). BA exchange (Italy, Rome - Spain, Madrid).</li> </ul>   |

### **PUBLICATIONS**

- Ceccarelli A.** (submitted). The British Museum collection of Bronze Age South Asian archaeology: the Indus Civilisation display. Submitted to *History: Journal of the Historical Association*. Oxford: John Wiley & Sons Ltd.
- Orijemie, E.A., **Ceccarelli, A.** and French, C.A.I. (submitted). Human interaction and ceramics in the Middle Benue Valley, north-central Nigeria, submitted to *African Archaeological Review*. Springer Science (US).
- Ceccarelli A.** and C. A. Petrie (accepted, in *Press*). Cultural Evolutionary Paradigms and Technological Transformations from the Neolithic up to the Indus Urban Period in South Asia. In Adam Hardy and Laxshmi Greaves (eds.), *South Asian Archaeology*. London.
- Singh R.N. et al. including **A. Ceccarelli** (accepted, in *Press*). Living in the hinterland II: survey and excavations at Masudpur 2018. *Puratattva: Bulletin of the Indian Archaeological Society*.
- Ceccarelli A.** and C. A. Petrie (2018). Ceramic analysis and the Indus Civilisation: a review. In Frenez, D., et al. (eds). *Walking*

*with the Unicorn. Social Organization and Material Culture in Ancient South Asia*. ArchaeoPress: Oxford.

Singh R.N. et al. including **A. Ceccarelli** (2018). Living in the hinterland I: survey and excavations at Lohari Ragho 2015-2017. *Puratattva: Bulletin of the Indian Archaeological Society*, Vol. 48. Delhi.

Turchin, P., et al. including **A. Ceccarelli**. (2018). Quantitative historical analysis uncovers a single dimension of complexity that structures global variation in human social organization. *PNAS (Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences)* 115(2), E144-E151.

Currie, T. E., Turchin, P., et al. including **A. Ceccarelli**. (2018). Reply to Tosh et al.: Quantitative analyses of cultural evolution require engagement with historical and archaeological research. *PNAS (Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences)*. June 14, 2018. <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1807312115>

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Oct 2018 – June 2019	<b>University of Cambridge</b> , Department of Archaeology, UK	<b>Teaching Assistant and Supervisor:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A2: Archaeology in Action, methods and materials.</li><li>• A31/ARC29: Ancient India I: the Indus civilization and beyond.</li></ul>
Dec 2017	<b>UIB</b> , Universitat de les Illes Balears, Mallorca, Spain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Artesanías y tecnologías en la era del Indo: un estudio de las producciones cerámicas en el noroeste de la India.</li><li>• La Edad del Bronce en Asia Meridional: desarrollo y colapso de la Civilización del Indo (2500-1900 a.C.).</li></ul>
Aug 2017	<b>BHU</b> , Varanasi, India, AIHC & Archaeology.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Scientific Analysis of Archaeological Ceramics: Theories and Techniques.</li></ul>
Nov 2016	<b>UCL</b> , IoA, MA in Archaeology and Heritage of Asia.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Twilight of Urban Civilisations: the Indus case.</li><li>• Indianisation, or not: early contacts between South Asia and Southeast Asia.</li><li>• Regional traditions of the origins of “civilisation” and “social complexity”.</li></ul>

## **SELECTED CONFERENCE PAPERS**

2019, Jan	<b>Jomon Transitions in Comparative Context:</b> complexity, materiality, ritual and demography in prehistoric Japan, University of Cambridge, UK	Ceccarelli, A., Liliana Janik, Emilie Green (with Naoko Matsumoto, Ryuzaburo Takahashi and Masato Nishino ), 2019. Connecting the Landscape: Materiality of Substance in Jomon Japan
2018, Dec	<b>CPG</b> , Ceramic Petrology Group, Tübingen, Germany.	Ceccarelli, A., P. Quinn, R.N. Singh, and C. A. Petrie. 2018. Networks of craftspeople and ceramic traditions in NW India: an ethnoarchaeological study of the Kumhars in Haryana and western Uttar Pradesh.
2018, Dec	<b>Allchin Symposium</b> on the Archaeology of South Asia, University of Cambridge, UK	Ceccarelli, A., R.N. Singh and C. A. Petrie. 2018. Networks of craftspeople and ceramic traditions in NW India: an ethnoarchaeological study of the Kumhars in Haryana and western Uttar Pradesh.
2018, July	<b>EASAA</b> , European Association for South Asian Archaeology and Art, Naples, IT	Ceccarelli, A., P.S. Quinn, R.N. Singh, and C.A. Petrie, 2018. Pottery production and rural landscapes of the Indus Civilisation: a techno-compositional reassessment of Bronze Age ceramic traditions in NW India
2018, June	<b>BSA</b> , British School at Athens, Fitch laboratory, Greece	Ceccarelli, A., The potter’s wheel and the Indus Civilisation: a technological re-examination of Bronze Age Craft production
2018, May	<b>BSA</b> , British School at Athens, Fitch laboratory, Greece	Ceccarelli, A., Ceramics and castes of India: ethno-archaeology of pottery making in Haryana and Uttar Pradesh

2017, Nov	<b>IAS</b> , Golden Jubilee of the Indian Archaeological Society. Joint conference IAS, ISPQS, HCS, Varanasi, India	Ceccarelli, A., 2017. Questioning Collapse of Indus Craft Traditions: Petrographic Analysis of Ceramics from North-Western India.
2017, Sept	<b>EMAC</b> , European Meeting on Ancient Ceramics, Bordeaux, France	Ceccarelli A., Petrie C.A., Quinn P. S., 2017. Beyond the Eclipse of Urbanism: Clay, Crafts and Technologies of the Indus Age.
2017, Aug	<b>EAAA</b> , European Association for Asian Art and Archaeology, Zurich, Switzerland	Ceccarelli, A. 2017. Indus and Post-Indus Villages in NW India: Transformations and Innovations of Ceramic Industries in the Bronze Age of South Asia.
2017, May	<b>HA</b> , Historical Association Annual Conference, Manchester, UK	Ceccarelli, A., 2017. The Indus Civilisation: Recent Archaeological Discoveries and the British Museum Collection.
2016, Dec	<b>UCL CREDOC</b> : 'Could Modern Civilisation Collapse?', London, UK	Ceccarelli, A., 2016. A Tale of Rains, Fires and Lost Cities: Indus ceramic technology vis-à-vis urban decline.
2016, Dec	<b>Allchin Symposium</b> on the Archaeology of South Asia, University of Cambridge, UK	Ceccarelli, A., 2016. Memories of cities and rural technologies: social reproduction and transformations at the twilight of the Indus urbanism.
2016, Nov	<b>CPG</b> , Ceramic Petrology Group, Leiden University, Netherland.	Ceccarelli, A., Petrie, C.A., Quinn, P.S., and Singh, R.N., 2016. Urbanisation and De-urbanisation of the Indus Civilisation in NW India: A Technological and Compositional Study.
2016, July	<b>EASAA</b> - European Association for South Asian Archaeology and Art, Cardiff University, UK.	Ceccarelli, A., Petrie, C.A., and Singh, R.N., 2016. Indus Civilisation and the Protohistoric Ceramic Industries in North-Western India: a reassessment.

## **MEMBERSHIPS AND SOCIETIES**

- Accredited member of Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (PCIa, n. 8447), UK
- Research group coordinator, Asian Archaeology Group, University of Cambridge
- Editorial Team (Treasurer), ARC, Archaeology Review Cambridge journal
- Founder of the ACSG, Ancient Ceramics Studies Group, University of Cambridge, UK.
- Life membership of the Indian Society for Prehistoric and Quaternary Studies (ISPQS, n. L098)
- Life membership of the Indian Archaeological Society, New Delhi (IAS, L.M.80, no. 0072)
- Member of Ceramic Petrology Group (CPG), UK.
- Member of PCRG, Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group, UK.
- Member of Ceramic Technology Network, IoA UCL, UK.
- Member of the European Association for Asian Art and Archaeology (2017-2019).
- Accredited CSCS - Archaeologist Technician: Construction Skills Certification Scheme, license 05656071