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## Aksel Casson

University of Washington  
Department of Anthropology  
Box 353100  
Seattle, WA 98195  
(206) 799-2871

Email: [casson@u.washington.edu](mailto:casson@u.washington.edu)

Webpage: <http://students.washington.edu/casson/>

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### **EDUCATION**

- 2009 **Ph.D.** (Expected), Anthropology, University of Washington, Seattle, WA  
Dissertation: *Black Sea Change: A Revision of the Sinop Ceramic Chronology Using Luminescence Dating*  
Committee Chairperson: Dr. James K. Feathers, Dept. of Anthropology, University of Washington  
Awards:
- Niles Dissertation Fellowship, UW Department of Anthropology, 2007-08
  - Yeager Award for Teaching Excellence in Archaeology, UW Department of Anthropology, 2007
  - Chester Fritz International Study Scholarship, Istanbul University, Turkey, 2002-03
  - Pre-Dissertation Research Fellowship, UW Department of Anthropology, 2002
  - FLAS Fellowship, Bogazici Universitesi, Istanbul, Turkey, 1999
- 2001 **M.A.**, Anthropology, University of Washington, Seattle, WA  
1999 **Certificate in Turkish Language and Culture**, Advanced Intermediate, Boğaziçi Üniversitesi, Istanbul, Turkey  
1996 **B.A.**, Double-major in Anthropology and Biology, Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA

### **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Archaeological chronology and luminescence dating; the establishment, use and abandonment of sites; excavation methods, research design and the management of archaeological datasets; the use of evolutionary theory in archaeology and anthropology; and the Neolithic of the Near East and Eastern Europe.

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE: ADJUNCT POSITIONS**

- 2009 **Anthropology 104: World Prehistory**, Edmonds Community College, WA  
2008 **Anthropology 100: Survey of Anthropology**, Edmonds Community College, WA  
2005 **Anthropology 205: Principles of Archaeology**, Shoreline Community College, WA  
2003 **Anthropology 107: General Anthropology**, Central Washington University, WA  
**Anthropology 320: Research/Laboratory in Archaeology**, Central Washington University, WA  
**Anthropology 321: Archaeological Methods**, Central Washington University, WA

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE: INSTRUCTORSHIPS**

- 2007 **Archaeology 205: Principles of Archaeology**, University of Washington  
2006 **Archaeology 303: Old World Archaeology**, University of Washington  
**Archaeology 205: Principles of Archaeology**, University of Washington  
**Archaeology 299: Independent Study**, University of Washington  
**Archaeology 299: Independent Study**, University of Washington

- 2004-05 **Center for Learning and Undergraduate Enrichment (CLUE), Anthropology Division**, University of Washington  
2004 **Archaeology 205: Principles of Archaeology**, University of Washington  
2003 **Archaeology 205: Principles of Archaeology**, University of Washington  
2002 **Archaeology 205: Principles of Archaeology**, University of Washington

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE: ADMINISTRATIVE AND COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT**

- 2004-07 **Department of Anthropology Lead TA**, University of Washington  
2003 **Summer Archaeology Collections Graduate Staff Assistant**, University of Washington

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE: ASSISTANTSHIPS (TA)**

- 2004 *Archaeology 560: Archaeological Dating Methods*, University of Washington  
*Anthropology 100: Introduction to Anthropology*, University of Washington.  
2001 *Anthropology 100: Introduction to Anthropology*, University of Washington.  
*Archaeological Field School, Kodiak, AK*, University of Washington.  
*Archaeology 105: World Prehistory*, University of Washington.  
2000 *Archaeology 205: Principles of Archaeology*, University of Washington.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE: CONVOCATION AND GUEST LECTURES**

- 2008 *Black Sea Change: A Revision of the Sinop Ceramic Chronology Using Luminescence Dating*. Niles Fellowship Lecture, University of Washington  
2007 *Chronometric Dating in Archaeology: A Near Eastern Perspective*. University of California at Northridge, ART 499C: Introduction to Field Archaeology in Anatolia  
*Rethinking the Chronology of Early Settlement along the Turkish Black Sea Coast*. Radford University, Department of Anthropology  
*The First Farming Community? The Transition to Agriculture in Southwest Asia*. Radford University, Department of Anthropology  
*Visiting the Swabian Alb Research Project*. University of Washington, Archaeological Lecture Series  
2006 *Dating Pottery from the Turkish Black Sea Coast*. University of Washington, Arch 561: Archaeological Dating Methods  
*The First Farming Community? The Transition to Agriculture in Southwest Asia*. University of Washington, Anth 100: Introduction to Anthropology.  
2005 *Rethinking the Chronology of Early Settlement along the Turkish Black Sea Coast*. University of Washington, Archaeological Lecture Series  
*Luminescence Dating in Archaeology*. University of Washington, Arch 205: Principles of Archaeology  
2004 *Luminescence Dating in Archaeology*. University of Washington, Arch 205: Principles of Archaeology  
*The PPNA and PPNB in the Jordan Valley: Or, Being an American Archaeologist in Jordan*. University of Washington, Archaeological Lecture Series  
2003 *New World Colonization: The Impact of Findings at Monte Verde*. University of Washington, Anth 100: Introduction to Anthropology

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EXPERIENCE**

- 2004-09 **Archaeologist and Dating Analyst**, Sinop Regional Archaeological Project (Turkey), a regional settlement survey.  
2008-09 **Trench Supervisor**, Mugello Valley Archaeological Project and Poggio Colla Fieldschool (Italy), an Etruscan temple complex.  
2007-08 **Archaeologist and Dating Consultant**, Swabian Alb Research Project (Germany), a Mesolithic and Neolithic survey and excavation.

- 2004-05 **Unit Director and Dating Consultant**, Dhra' Archaeological Project (Jordan), a Neolithic site in the Dead Sea Basin.
- 2004 **Archaeologist and Dating Consultant**, el-Hemmeh Archaeological Project (Jordan), a Neolithic site along the Wadi al-Hasa.
- 2002 **Visiting Archaeologist**, Istanbul University Collections (Turkey), evaluated archaeological collections for luminescence dating.
- 2001 **Teaching Assistant and Dating Consultant**, Archaeological Field School (Alaska), a 7000 YBP fishing site on Sitkalidik Island.

#### **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE: LABORATORY**

- 1999- **Research Assistant**, Luminescence Laboratory, University of Washington  
Ongoing research with thermoluminescence (TL) and optically stimulated luminescence (OSL) dating of archaeological materials.
- 1996 **Research Technician**, Evolutionary Biology Laboratory, Grinnell College, IA.  
Sample preparation, DNA extraction, primer design, sequence amplification (PCR), and systematic classification (SeqSpk) of the *Enallagma* phylogeny.

#### **SERVICE APPOINTMENTS**

- 2005 **Student Representative**, Development Committee, University of Washington
- 2004 **Student Representative**, Resources Committee, University of Washington
- 2003 **Student Representative**, Teaching Effectiveness Committee, University of Washington
- 2001 **Student Representative**, Curriculum Committee, University of Washington

#### **PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS**

- 2008 James K. Feathers, Aksel Casson, Amanda Henck, and Makaiko L. Chithambo. "Application of pulsed OSL to fine-grained samples." *LED 2008 Conference Publication* (in press)
- 2008 Owen Doonan, Aksel Casson, and Alex Gantos. "Sinop Province Archaeological Project: Report on the 2006 Field Season." *Arastirma Sonuclari Toplantisi* (in press).
- 2008 "Exploring Applications of Luminescence Dating: Case Studies from Europe, Asia, and the Near East." *University of Washington Graduate Student Symposium: Focus on the World*
- 2008 "Luminescence Dating of Varied Materials from Europe and Asia." *2008 Society for American Archaeology*, Vancouver, BC.
- 2008 Session Organizer, "Scientific Analyses in Old World Archaeology." *2008 Society for American Archaeology*, Vancouver, BC.
- 2007 "Luminescence Dating of Ceramics from Sinop, Turkey." *2007 Society for American Archaeology Meetings*, Austin, TX
- 2006 "Using OSL to Date Fine-Grained Ceramics," *New World Luminescence Meetings*, Denver CO
- 2006 Cheryl Makarewicz, Nathan Goodale, Phillip Rassmann, Chantel White, Holly Miller, Jihad Haroun, Eric Carlson, Alexis Pantos, Aksel Casson, Seiji Kadowaki, Benjamin Fabre, and Matthew Kroot. "El-Hemmeh: A Multi-Period Pre-Pottery Neolithic Site in the Wadi el-Hasa, Jordan." *Eurasian Prehistory* 4(1-2): 183-220.
- 2005 "Creating an Absolute Chronology for the Turkish Black Sea Coast, 2005 *Society for American Anthropology*, Salt Lake City, UT
- 2004 "Replacing Textbooks: Courseware Effectiveness in Multiple Classrooms." *Society for American Anthropology Bulletin* 5(1): 24-26.
- 2001 "The Application of Luminescence Dating to Cultural Resource Management," (First Author) *Society for American Archaeology*, New Orleans, LA

***FOREIGN LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY***

Advanced Intermediate Turkish (spoken and written)

***GRADUATE ADVISORS***

- Dr. James Feathers, PhD Committee Chair, Research Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology and Director of the Luminescence Laboratory, University of Washington
- Dr. Benjamin Fitzhugh, PhD Committee Member, Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, Adjunct Curator of Archaeology, The Burke Museum, and Adjunct Assistant Professor, Quaternary Research Center, University of Washington
- Dr. Marcos Llobera, PhD Committee Member, Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology and Director of the Digital Archaeological Research Lab, University of Washington
- Dr. Robert J. Wenke, PhD Committee Member, Professor Emeritus, Department of Anthropology, University of Washington
- Dr. Owen Doonan, Associate Professor, Department of Art History, California State University-Northridge