

Aidan R. Lee

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EDUCATION

In Progress

Ph.D. in Anthropology. University of California, Santa Barbara.
Accepted Winter 2025. Advisor: Dr. Amber VanDerwarker

2025

B.A. – Dartmouth College
Major: Anthropology, Archaeology Concentration, Graduated with High Honors.
Honors Thesis: *Investigating Differing Practices of Indigenous and Euro-American Plant Usage in the American Northeast*
Second Major: Music
Cumulative GPA: 3.85

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Archaeology; Paleoethnobotany; Human Environment Interactions; Agriculture; Foodways; Subsistence; North American Archaeology; Mesoamerican Archaeology; South American Archaeology

SKILLS

Paleoethnobotany (macrobotanical and phytolith); zooarchaeology (faunal analysis); archaeology field methods; GIS; CORONA; Emlid Reach

LANGUAGES

English (native); Spanish (full professional proficiency)

RELEVANT COURSEWORK

University of California, Santa Barbara: Department of Anthropology

2025 (Fall) ANTH 201A: Classical Archaeological Theory (Graduate Seminar)

Dartmouth College: Department of Anthropology

2022 (Spring) ANTH 005: Introduction to Archaeology

2022 (Fall) ANTH 006: Introduction to Biological Anthropology

2023 (Winter) ANTH 50.05: Environmental Archaeology; ANTH 50.32: Indigenous Religions of Colonial Americas

2023 (Summer) ANTH 003: Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

2023 (Fall) ANTH 50.50: Archaeology of Food; ANTH 50.03: Digital Archaeology; ANTH 011: Ancient Native Americans

2024 (Spring) ANTH 50.47: Archaeology Field Methods; ANTH 085: Reading Course (independent study supervised by Professor Jiajing Wang)

2024 (Fall) ANTH 077: Origins of Inequality; ANTH 008: The Rise and Fall of Prehistoric Civilizations

2025 (Winter) ANTH 088: Anthropology Honors; ANTH 50.37: Archaeologies of Religion

2025 (Spring) ANTH 50.62: Archaeology of Work

FIELDWORK AND RESEARCH

2025-Present Gulf Coast Agriculture: Processing and analyzing phytolith samples from raised fields at Tlalixcoyan, a Classic Period civic-ceremonial site in modern Veracruz. Supervised by Professor Amber VanDerwarker.

2025-Present *Morphological Differences and the Effects of Carbonization on Theobroma cacao seeds in Mesoamerica*: Comparative analysis of cacao macroremains to determine morphological variation in different varieties; conducting experimental carbonization to better understand taphonomy of cacao macroremains in archaeological contexts. With Venicia M. Slotten and Emily Johnson.

2025 (Winter) Honors Thesis: Continued research on macrobotanical samples from Susan Brown House and Harkdale Fort (comparative analysis) for honors thesis. Advised by Professor Jesse Casana and Dr. Grace Ward.

2024 (Summer) *New perspectives on Indigenous and Euro-American subsistence practices in New England*: finished processing flotation samples from Susan Brown House (2022 and 2024 excavations) and Harkdale Fort (2022 excavation). Also conducted analysis on macrobotanical and faunal remains.

2024 (Spring) Susan Brown House: part of second excavation of 18th-19th-century colonial residential site on Dartmouth College. Responsible for artifact recovery, artifact processing, and flotation (supervised by Professor Jesse Casana).

2024 (Winter) Harkdale Fort: analyzed phytolith samples from a pre-contact North American site (supervised by Professor Jiajing Wang).

2022 (Fall) Dartmouth Undergraduate Journal of Science: Collaborated with several undergraduate students to publish a Joint Print Article over animal responses to environmental changes

2022 (Summer) US CA Zooarchaeology Field School: analyzed faunal assemblages from the Channel Islands (supervised by Dr. Amy Gusick, Dr. Ariel Taivalkoski, and Los Angeles County Natural History Museum).

RESEARCH GRANTS

2025 (Winter) Undergraduate Advising and Research Fund Conference Grant, (to present at 2025 Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting, \$1,000)

2024 (Fall) Goodman Fund, Dartmouth College, Department of Anthropology. *Investigating Differing Practices of Indigenous and Euro-American Plant Usage in the American Northeast.* (supervised by Professor Jesse Casana and Dr. Grace Ward, \$1,345).

2024 (Spring) Undergraduate Advising and Research Fund, Dartmouth College, *New perspectives on Indigenous and Euro-American subsistence practices in New England,* (supervised by Professor Jesse Casana and Dr. Grace Ward, \$6,200)

PRESENTATIONS

2025 (Spring) *Investigating Differing Practices of Indigenous and Euro-American Plant Usage in the American Northeast.* Presidential Honors Thesis Showcase (poster presentation), Dartmouth College President's Office, Hanover, NH

2025 (Spring) Goodman Research Symposium, Dartmouth College Department of Anthropology, Hanover, NH

2025 (Spring) *Investigating Differing Practices of Indigenous and Euro-American Plant Usage in the American Northeast* (poster presentation), Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting, Denver, CO

2024 (Spring) Art on Campus Audit (presentation to museum board and faculty), Hood Museum of Art, Hanover, NH

AWARDS

2025 (Spring) The Deborah L. Nichols Prize for Anthropological Research, Hanover, NH (\$250).

2024 (Fall) Dartmouth College Anthropology Honors Program: Accepted
Fall 2024

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2025 (Fall) ANTH 3: Introductory Archaeology (Teaching Assistant).

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2023-2024 Hood Museum of Art – special projects intern under Dr. Ashley Offill: Responsible for planning, executing, and documenting a comprehensive audit of loaned museum objects around Dartmouth College. Member of museum's Provenance Working Group, aimed at expanding provenance knowledge of the collections.

2022 (Fall) Dartmouth Department of Spanish and Portuguese (drill instructor): Organized and conducted verbal communication sessions for students enrolled in Spanish courses at Dartmouth.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

2024-Present Society for American Archaeology: Member

2023-2025 Dartmouth Archaeology Working Group: Member