

Cameron A. Matheson (né Privette)

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Aug. 2026

EDUCATION

Western Carolina University , Cullowhee, NC Anthropology BS, Archaeological Practices Concentration and Mathematics Minor (3.87 GPA)	2021
Homeschooled , North Carolina Highschool (3.69 GPA)	2015

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

All in the wrist: Hands as a proxy for the lived experience of an individual from 17th century rural Transylvania Author of an abstract accepted for presentation at the 95th annual meeting of the American Association of Biological Anthropologists (AABA) Denver, Colorado, USA	2025
The Role of the Grave Digger: Evidence of Various Burial Practices in Transylvanian, Hungarian-Szekler Communities (AD 1050-1800) Author of a paper presented at the 30th Annual Meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists (EAA) Rome, Italy	2024
Working for the Dead: The Role of Gravediggers and Their Impact on Burial Practices as Evidence in Transylvanian, Hungarian-Szekler Communities (AD 105-1800) Co-author of a poster presented at the 89th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology (SAA) New Orleans, Louisiana, USA	2024

**Assessing Patterns of Moisture Content in
Decomposing, Desiccated, and Mummified Tissue
in the Southeastern United States** 2023

Research Assistant

Co-author of an abstract presented at the 75th Meeting of the
American Academy of Forensic Science (AAFS)
Orlando, Florida, USA

**Understanding the Use of Coins in Székely Burials,
12th to 17th Century** 2022

Author of a paper presented at the 28th annual
meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists (EAA)
Budapest, Hungary

LAB AND FIELD EXPERIENCE

Archaeological Field School July 2021
Western Carolina University

Cherokee County Sheriff's Office, Gaffney, SC May 2021
-Assisted law enforcement on a search and recovery scene

**WCU Forensic Osteology Research Station (FOREST)
and Western Carolina Human Identification Lab (WCHIL)** 2020-2021
Volunteer
-Documented decomposition and scavenger activity at FOREST
-Recovery and mapping of donated human skeletal remains
-Cleaning and processing of donated human remains in WCHIL

Western Carolina University Faunal Osteology Lab 2020-21
Volunteer
-Inventoried and curated donated faunal remains

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Archaeotek Canada June 2023-Present
Archaeological Field Staff
-Captured and organized official site photos, including
excavated burials, trench profiles and floors, artifacts and
features
-Produced photogrammetric models of excavation trenches,
burials, artifacts, and skeletal elements
-Maintained proper site documentation

-Assisted with all aspects of burial excavation, mapping, recovery, and analysis

Western Carolina University

Feb. 2022-Sept. 2022

Archaeological Field Technician

- Conducted Gradiometric surveys to identify historic homesteads
- Utilized OPUS and a Total Station to collect GPS data to reference artifact locations and subsurface survey imagery
- Conducted field surveys, including shovel test pits, 1x1 test units, artifact collection and documentation, and 360° photography along historic roadbeds
- Worked with ArcMap to map and display data, including photographs and documents, to create an interactive map for United States Forest Service (USFS) use
- Cleaned and inventoried artifacts for archival

Anthropology Club at Western Carolina University

May 2021-Dec. 2021

Archaeological Representative

- Organized guest lectures and events related to the subfield of Archaeology.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Archaeotek Canada

June 2023-Present

Field Staff

- Instructed field school students in archaeological field methods during a bioarchaeological excavation in Odorheiu Secuiesc, Romania.
- Taught students proper excavation techniques, mapping, and burial/excavation recording
- Gave lectures pertaining to archaeological methods and regional cultural history
- Oversaw cultural history field trips to familiarize students with the history of the region they were working in

Haáz Rezső Museum (Night of Museums)

2026

Demonstrator

- Assisted with the layout of two skeletons from archaeological sites
- Explained methods of skeletal analysis and the purpose of local archaeological projects
- Answered questions from members of the descendant community

Western Carolina University

2023

Guest Lecturer

Course: ANTH 344 "Forensic Archaeology"

- Explained methods of remote sensing used in archaeological contexts

- Discussed real-world applications and examples of metal-detecting, Gradiometry, and LiDaR

Western Carolina University Burn Course

May 2021

Teaching Assistant

Course: "Forensic Anthropology and Burned Remains"

- Assisted Anthropology faculty with explaining course materials to participants

Conference for Reconstruction and Experimental Archaeology (REARC)

2019

Demonstrator

- Provided a demonstration of research and methods to members of the public during an annual conference in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

PUBLICATIONS

Bailey, Christine A., Autumn N. Lennartz, Maggie M. Klemm, **Cameron A. Matheson**, Carter A. Unger, and Rebecca L. George. "Assessing Patterns of Moisture Content in Decomposing, Desiccated, and Mummified Tissue in Western North Carolina." *Forensic Sciences* 5, no. 4 (2025).
<https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.3390/forensicsci5040073>.

Privette, Cameron A.

Conference review: Reconstructive & Experimental Archaeology Conference REARC 2019. *EXARC*.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC

Dean's List

Semesters Earned: Fall 2021, Spring 2021, Fall 2020, Fall 2019, Spring 2019, Fall 2018

Chancellor's List

Semesters Earned: Fall 2021, Spring 2021, Fall 2020, Spring 2019, Fall 2018

MEMBERSHIPS

American Association of Biological Anthropologists, 2025-Present

Lambda Alpha Honors Society, 2021-Present

Tau Sigma Honors Society, 2019-Present