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Education

- 2019-2025 Ph.D., Anthropology & [Certificate in Mind, Brain, and Culture](#), **Emory University**
- 2019-2022 M.A., Anthropology, **Emory University**
- 2016-2019 Master student, [The Asian Sphere: Trans Cultural Flows Special Program](#), **The Hebrew University of Jerusalem & University of Haifa**
- 2016-2019 M.A., Archaeology, **University of Haifa**
- 2013-2014 Exchange student, **Shandong University**
- 2012-2016 B.A., Archaeology, **Wuhan University**

Academic Appointments

- 2026 Guest Researcher, Department of Linguistic and Cultural Evolution, **Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology**
- 2025-pres. [Postdoctoral Fellow](#), UMR5199 PACEA, **Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique & Université de Bordeaux**
- 2024 Global Fellow, Senckenberg Centre for Human Evolution and Palaeoenvironment, **Eberhard Karls University of Tübingen & Leibniz Association**
- 2023 JSPS International Research Fellow, The University Museum, **University of Tokyo**

Fellowships, Grants, & Awards

External Sources

- 2025 Travel fund, European Cooperation in Science and Technology, €934
- 2025 [William S. Pollitzer Student Travel Award](#), American Association of Biological Anthropologists
- 2024 [IEEE CIS Conference Participation and Travel Grant](#), IEEE Computational Intelligence Society
- 2024 [Global Fellowship](#), Senckenberg Society for Nature Research
- 2023 [H. Russell Bernard Graduate Student Paper Prize](#), Society for Anthropological Sciences
- 2023 [Student Diversity Travel Grant](#), Archaeology Division of the American Anthropological Association
- 2023 [Andrew Sherratt Fund](#), University of Sheffield
- 2023-2024 [Owen Aldis Award](#), International Society for Human Ethology
- 2023 [International Fellowship for Research in Japan \(Short-term\)](#), Japan Society for the Promotion of Science
- 2022-2023 [Research Grant](#), The Leakey Foundation
- 2022 [HRAF Summer Institute Fellowship](#), National Science Foundation
- 2021 [Diverse Intelligence Summer Institute Fellowship](#), Templeton World Charity Foundation
- 2017 Chinese Student Scholarship, Israel-China Friendship Society

Internal Sources

- 2024-2025 [SIRE Fellowship for Graduate Students in the Humanities and Social Sciences](#), Emory University
- 2024 [LGS Outstanding Scholarly Research Award](#), Emory University

2024	Pedagogy Mini-grant , Emory University
2023-2024	Graduate Community of Digital Scholars Fellowship , Emory University
2023	Laney Graduate Student Council Travel Grant, Emory University
2022-2025	CMBC Graduate Certificate Program Grants , Emory University
2022-2024	Professional Development Support Funds , Emory University
2021	The Halle Institute Graduate Global Research Fellowship , Emory University
2019-2024	George W. Woodruff Fellowship , Emory University
2018	M.A. Scholarship for Excellence in Studies, University of Haifa
2018	M.A. Conference Participation Grant, University of Haifa
2016-2018	M.A. Scholarship, The Asian Sphere Program
2016-2019	Research Encouragement Scholarship, University of Haifa

Publications

Note: *Correspondence, Student mentees

Peer-reviewed Articles

- 2026 [15] [Liu, C. A cross-cultural analysis of toolmaking skill acquisition in non-industrial societies. *Cross-Cultural Research*. doi: 10.1177/10693971251415454](#)
- 2025 [14] Stout, D., [Liu, C.](#), Muller, A., Rogers, M., & Semaw, S. [Imposed form in the Early Acheulean? Evidence from Gona, Afar, Ethiopia. *Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory*, 32\(4\): 60.](#)
- 2025 [13] Kilgore, M. B., [Liu, C.](#), & Stout, D. [What can lithics tell us about the evolution of learning and development?. *Archaeometry*. doi: 10.1111/arc.70002.](#)
- 2025 [12] [Liu, C.* Variation matters: Expanding the scope of experimental archaeology. *Advances in Archaeological Practice*, 12\(4\), 375-389.](#)
- 2024 [11] [Liu, C.*](#), Yan, X., Zhang, Z., Ding, C., Zhao, T., [Jannati, S.](#), [Martinez, C.](#), & Stout, D. [Human Stone Toolmaking Action Grammar \(HSTAG\): A Challenging Benchmark for Fine-grained Motor Behavior Recognition. 2024 IEEE 11th International Conference on Data Science and Advanced Analytics \(DSAA\), 473-480.](#)
- 2023 [10] [Liu, C.*](#), Kreisheh, N., Stout, D., & Pargeter, J. [Differential effects of knapping skill acquisition on the cultural reproduction of Late Acheulean handaxe morphology: Archaeological and experimental insights. *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports*, 49, 103974.](#)
- 2023 [9] Wilson, E., Stout, D., [Liu, C.](#), Kilgore, M. B., & Pargeter, J. [Skill and core uniformity: An experiment with Oldowan-like flaking systems. *Lithic Technology*, 48\(4\), 333-346.](#)
- 2022 [8] Pargeter, J., [Liu, C.](#), Kilgore, M. B., Majoe, A., & Stout, D. [Testing the effect of learning conditions and individual motor/cognitive differences on knapping skill acquisition. *Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory*, 30, 127-171.](#)
- 2022 [7] [Liu, C.*](#), & Stout, D. [Inferring cultural reproduction from lithic data: A critical review. *Evolutionary Anthropology: Issues, News, and Reviews*, 32, 83-99.](#)
- 2021 [6] [Liu, C.* A cathedral with disconnected chapels? Reassessing the cognitive capacities of Neanderthals in light of recent archaeological discoveries. *Journal of Cognition and Culture*, 21\(3-4\), 243-260.](#)
- 2020 [5] Rosenberg, D., Pinsky, S., Shoval, T., Tzin, B., Reshef, H., [Liu, C.](#), Ktalav, I., & Chasan, R. [Lost and found: 66B, a Late Chalcolithic site in the northern Negev, Israel and its material culture. *Mitekufat Haeven: Journal of the Israel Prehistoric Society*, 50, 104-137.](#)
- 2020 [4] [Liu, C.*](#), Shimelmitz, R., Friesem, D., Yeshurun, R., & Nadel, D. [Diachronic trends in occupation intensity of the Epipaleolithic site of Neve David \(Mount Carmel, Israel\): A lithic perspective. *Journal of Anthropological Archaeology*, 60, 101223.](#)

- 2020 [3] Groman-Yaroslavski, I., Chen, H., **Liu, C.**, Shimelmitz, R., Yeshurun, R., Liu, J., Yang, X., & Nadel, D. [Versatile use of microliths as a technological advantage in the miniaturization of Late Pleistocene toolkits: The case study of Neve David, Israel](#). *PLoS ONE*, 15(6), e0233340.
- 2019 [2] Shimelmitz, R., **Liu, C.**, Seymore, M., Gershtein, E. C., Gershtein, K. C., Katina, A., Shtober-Zisu, N., & Nadel, D. [Nahal Shelef: A Holocene quarry and workshop site in the Menashe Hills, Israel](#). *Mitekufat Haeven: Journal of the Israel Prehistoric Society*, 49, 137-151.
- 2015 [1] He, Y., Jin, G., Zhang, B., **Liu, C.**, Xu, S., Chen, S., Yi, H., & Jiang, F. [Investigation on the modern environment and resources at Bianbiandong site \(扁扁洞遗址现代环境与资源调查报告\)](#). *Eastern Archaeology (东方考古)*, 12, 361-368. (In Chinese with English abstract)

Editor-reviewed Articles

- 2025 [2] **Liu, C.**, & Stout, D. [Beyond the binary: Inferential challenges and solutions in cognitive archaeology](#). *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*. 48, e13.
- 2024 [1] Nishiaki, Y., & **Liu, C.** [An interview with Professor Yoshihiro Nishiaki \(西秋良宏教授访谈录\)](#). *Cultural Relics in Southern China (南方文物)*. 143, 34-43. (In Chinese with English abstract)

Translations

- 2015 [1] Erdmann, K. D. [Toward a global community of historians: The International Historical Congresses and the International Committee of Historical Sciences 1898-2000 \(国际历史科学大会百年历程: 1898-2000\)](#). Chapter 11, 16 translated by **Liu, C.**, pp. 201-223 & 334-348. Beijing: China Social Science Press. (In Chinese)

Theses

- 2025 [3] **Liu, C.** [Homo faber in the making: Towards an interdisciplinary understanding of human toolmaking skill acquisition](#). Ph.D. Thesis, Emory University, USA. Committee members: Dietrich Stout (Chair), Craig Hadley, John Patty, and Sileshi Semaw.
- 2019 [2] **Liu, C.** [From lithic production to settlement dynamics: The case study of Neve David, a Middle Epipaleolithic site at Mt. Carmel, Israel](#). M.A. Thesis, University of Haifa, Israel. Advisors: Dani Nadel and Ron Shimelmitz.
- 2016 [1] **Liu, C.** [A preliminary study on the mobility of hunter-gatherers in South China during the Pleistocene-Holocene transition](#). B.A. Thesis, Wuhan University, China. Advisor: Yinghua Li (In Chinese)

Scholarly Presentations

Invited Talks

- 2025 [5] **Liu, C.** “How do people in non-industrial societies learn to make tools?”, Department of Linguistic and Cultural Evolution, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Germany, November 5.
- 2024 [4] **Liu, C.** “*Homo faber* in the making: Ethnographic and experimental insights into human toolmaking skill acquisition.” [Archaeological Science Forum No.40](#), Center for Archaeological Science, Sichuan University, China, December 3.
- 2024 [3] **Liu, C.** “How do people in non-industrial societies learn to make tools?” [Kolloquium Ältere Urgeschichte](#), Department of Early Prehistory and Quaternary Ecology, Eberhard Karls University of Tübingen, July 4.
- 2023 [2] **Liu, C.** “Investigating biases in the cultural reproduction of lithic technologies: From Oldowan to Acheulean.” The University Museum, University of Tokyo, May 10.
- 2023 [1] **Liu, C.** “Inferring cultural reproduction from stone artifacts: Theoretical reflections and experimental insights.” Nagoya University Museum, Nagoya University, April 27.

Conference Presentations

- 2026 [10] Correia, M. B. M., Fusco, M., Cox, C., **Liu, C.**, Katiyar, S., Hopkins, W. & Stout, D. [Rise of the Ape Knappers: Experimental Stone Flaking in Chimpanzees](#). *The 94th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Biological Anthropologists*, Denver, CO, USA. **(Scheduled)**

- 2025 [9] Stout, D., Fusco, M., Cox, C., Correia, M. B. M., **Liu, C.**, Katiyar, S., & Hopkins, W. [The knapping skills of captive chimpanzees](#). *The 27th Biennial Meeting of the Society of Africanist Archaeologists*, Faro, Portugal. (**Podium**)
- 2025 [8] **Liu, C.** [Towards a computational ethology of stone toolmaking: Preliminary insights from HSTAG](#). *The 94th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Biological Anthropologists*, Baltimore, MD, USA (**Poster**)
- 2024 [7] **Liu, C.**, Yan, X., Zhang, Z., Ding, C., Zhao, T., Jannati, S., Martinez, C., & Stout, D. [Human Stone Toolmaking Action Grammar \(HSTAG\): A Challenging Benchmark for Fine-grained Motor Behavior Recognition](#). *The 11th IEEE International Conference on Data Science and Advanced Analytics*, San Diego, CA, USA (**Podium**)
- 2023 [6] **Liu, C.** “A cross-cultural analysis of toolmaking skill acquisition in non-industrial societies.” *The 2023 AAA/CASCA Annual Meeting*, Toronto, Canada. (**Podium**)
- 2023 [5] **Liu, C.**, Kreisheh, N., Stout, D., & Pargeter, J. “Detecting skill level and mental template in Late Acheulean biface morphology: Archaeological and experimental insights.” *Society for American Archaeology 88th Annual Meeting*, Portland, OR, USA. (**Podium**)
- 2022 [4] **Liu, C.**, Rogers, M., & Semaw, S. “A first look at the LSA lithic assemblage of KLT-1 (Gona, Ethiopia).” *Paleoanthropology Society 2022 Annual Meeting*, Denver, CO, USA. (**Poster**)
- 2018 [3] **Liu, C.**, Shimelmitz, R., Yeshurun, R., & Nadel, D. “Reconstructing settlement dynamics in the Geometric Kebaran site of Neve David: A lithic perspective.” *Israel Prehistoric Society 2018 Annual Conference*, Jerusalem. (**Podium**)
- 2018 [2] **Liu, C.**, Shimelmitz, R., Yeshurun, R., & Nadel, D. “Diachronic trends in occupation intensity of the Epipaleolithic site of Neve David (Mount Carmel, Israel).” *XVIIIe Congrès de l’UISPP*, Paris, France. (**Poster**)
- 2018 [1] **Liu, C.** “No man is an island: Reconstructing the population dynamics and maritime connectivity of Cyprus during the Pleistocene-Holocene transition.” *CROSSDEM 2018: Cross-Disciplinary Approaches to Prehistoric Demography*, Tarragona, Spain. (**Podium**)

Field/Research Experience

- 2025 **Shanggangang** (尚嘎岗), Middle-Upper Paleolithic, China (Excavation)
- 2023 **Sefunim**, Middle Paleolithic-Epipaleolithic, Israel (Lithic analysis)
- 2021 **Gona (KLT-1M)**, Later Stone Age, Ethiopia (Lithic analysis)
- 2017-2018 **Skhul Terrace**, Middle Paleolithic, Israel (Excavation)
- 2017 **Tel Tsaf**, Chalcolithic, Israel (Excavation)
- 2017 **Tabun Cave**, Lower-Middle Paleolithic, Israel (Excavation)
- 2017 **el-Wad Terrace**, Epipaleolithic, Israel (Excavation)
- 2017 **66B**, Chalcolithic, Israel (Lithic analysis)
- 2016-2018 **Neve David**, Epipaleolithic-Neolithic, Israel (Excavation; Lithic analysis)
- 2016-2017 **Nahal Shelef**, Neolithic-Chalcolithic, Israel (Survey; Lithic analysis)
- 2016 **Shibei Han Tombs** (狮北汉墓), 2nd century BC-3rd century AD, China (Artifact accessioning)
- 2015 **Wulanmulun Loc. 2** (乌兰木伦第二地点), Middle Paleolithic, China (Excavation)
- 2014-2015 **Taijiasi** (台家寺), Bronze Age, China (Excavation)
- 2014 **Nanchengzi** (南城孜), Neolithic, China (Artifact refitting and accessioning)
- 2014 **Bianbiandong** (扁扁洞), Early Neolithic, China (Ethnoarchaeological survey)
- 2014 **Zhoujiadian Lock** (周家店闸), 14th-20th centuries, China (Survey)
- 2013 **Weitouhe Kiln Site** (渭头河窑址), 19th-20th centuries, China (Survey)
- 2013 **Xujiacun** (徐家村), 18th-20th centuries, China (Survey)

2013 **Tuojiazhou** (庹家洲), Neolithic, China (Artifact accessioning)

Teaching Experience

Emory University

Spring 2025 IDS 220RW: What Does it Mean to be Human? Co-instructor of Record
Spring 2025 SIRE 299R: SIRE Research Partner Program, Instructor of Record
Fall 2024 SIRE 299R: SIRE Research Partner Program, Instructor of Record
Spring 2024 ANT 204: Introduction to Archaeology, Instructor of Record
Spring 2023 ANT 304W: Paleolithic Archaeology, Guest Lecturer
Fall 2021 ANT 204: Introduction to Archaeology, Guest Lecturer
Spring 2021 ANT 285: Concepts and Methods in Biological Anthropology, Teaching Assistant (Virtual)
Fall 2020 ANT 204: Introduction to Archaeology, Teaching Assistant (Virtual)
Spring 2020 ANT 385: Foraging to Food Production, Guest Lecturer
Spring 2020 ANT/BIOL 315: Ancient DNA and Human Evolution, Teaching Assistant

Institutional Service

Emory University

2023-2024 Honorary Degrees Committee, University Senate
2021-2022 Teaching Roundtable Committee, Department of Anthropology
2020-2021 Colloquium Committee, Department of Anthropology

Professional Service

Editorial Work

2025- Copyeditor, *Bulletin of the History of Archaeology*

Manuscript Referee

2021- *Mitekufat Haeven: Journal of the Israel Prehistoric Society* • *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences* • *Peer Community In Archaeology* • *Lithic Technology* (×2) • *Evolutionary Anthropology: Issues, News, and Reviews* (×2) • *American Antiquity* • *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*

Conference Organization

2023 Chair, Symposium “*Experiential learning, experimental archaeologies*”, SAA 2023, Portland, OR, USA

Professional Memberships

2024- International Society for Human Ethology
2024- American Association of Biological Anthropologists
2024- IEEE Computational Intelligence Society
2023- Society for Anthropological Sciences
2023- American Anthropological Association
2022- Society for American Archaeology
2022- Paleoanthropology Society
2018- International Union of Prehistoric and Protohistoric Sciences
2016- Israel Prehistoric Society

Additional Training

- 2025 [Computational Neuroscience Course](#), Neuromatch Academy (Virtual)
- 2022 [HRAF Summer Institute for Cross-Cultural Anthropological Research](#), Yale University
- 2021 [Applied Point Pattern Analysis in Archaeology Summer School](#), University of Kiel (Virtual)
- 2021 [Empowering Interdisciplinary Teaching and Scholarship Graduate Workshop](#), Emory University (Virtual)
- 2020 CommSciPaleo 2020 (Science Communication in Paleoanthropology), Perot Museum of Nature and Science
- 2019 [Certification for Human Subject Research \(Social/Behavioral Focus\)](#), Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative [Expiry date: 12/29/2025]
- 2018 [International Winter School of Agent-based Modeling of Social-ecological System](#), Arizona State University
- 2015 JLU-SFU Human Osteoarcheology Summer School, Jilin University/Simon Fraser University
- 2015 Archaeological ArcGIS Workshop, Gansu Provincial Institute of Archaeology/Harvard University

Public Outreach

- 2020 Tabletop outreach, Perot Museum of Nature and Science, Dallas, TX, USA
- 2012-2013 Museum docent, Changsha Jiandu Museum, Changsha, China

Media Coverage

- 2020 [How did ancient people in the Carmel cut their steaks 20,000 years ago?](#) The Jerusalem Post

Relevant Skills

Software

LaTeX, Git, ArcGIS Pro, Artec Studio, AutoCAD, Photoshop

Programming Languages

Proficient in: R

Familiar with: NetLogo, Python

Natural Languages

Mandarin/Hunanese (native), English (fluent), French (basic competence in reading)