# Craig Stevens

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## EDUCATION

**Northwestern University**, Evanston, IL
2026 - PhD Anthropology

**School of Oriental and African Studies**, London, UK
'20 - MA Museums, Heritage and Material Culture Studies

**University College London**, London, UK
'19 - MA Archaeology

**American University**, Washington, DC
2017 - BA Anthropology

**Tidewater Community College**, Portsmouth, VA
2015 - AS Social Sciences

## ACADEMIC RESEARCH

*Research Associate* – **Material History Lab**, Evanston, IL (2023-Present)

- Develop and evaluate an open-access 3D artifact database with 61 users, 42 objects and four institutions.
- Lead drone photogrammetry, 3D digitization and archaeological survey in southern Nigeria.
- Coordinate cross-institutional research, grants and interpretation for Yoruba material culture.

*Lead Researcher* - **Back-to-Africa Heritage and Archaeology**, Liberia (2018 – Present)

- Lead archaeological and heritage research across four Liberian counties with community partners.
- Design a Meta Quest 3 VR protocol yielding 41 interpretation sessions across eight Liberian communities.
- Collect and curate material culture with photogrammetry and Artec Eva scanning for the National Museum.

*Archaeological Technician* - **Montgomery Parks & The Ottery Group**, Bethesda, MD (2016 –2018)

- Collaborated with team in excavation of former plantation site.
- Created GIS storymap for self-guided site tour of Josiah Henson Special Park.
- Collected, analyzed and cataloged artifacts such as nails, bones, ceramics, glass and metal fragments.

## PUBLICATIONS

(2026) Ceesay, Reilly, Laurore, Stevens, Foday, Lissa, Grandfield, Frouin - *Chronological Analysis of Occupation on Providence Island, Liberia, by Luminescence Dating* - Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports 76, 106060
(2025) Reilly, Banton, Laurore, Stevens - *Archaeologies of Black Futurity: Sketches of Liberia's Monuments and Ruins*; Undoing Things How Objects, Bodies and Worlds Come Apart - Routledge
(2025) Stevens, Laurore - *Traveling Treasures: How 3D Technology Connects Liberians to Their History* - SAPIENS
(2024) Reilly, Stevens - *Global Archaeologies of the Long Emancipation: An Introduction* – American Antiquity
(2024) Reilly, Banton, Stevens, Laurore - *The Archaeology of Providence Island: Liberian Heritage beyond Settlement* – American Antiquity
(2023) Laurore, Stevens - *Migration as Resistance? Liberia and the Back-to-Africa Heritage and Archaeology Research Project* – Change Over Time
(2023) Reilly, Banton, Stevens - *Aspirational Architecture and AK-47s* - American Anthropologist
(2019) Reilly, Banton, Stevens, Gijanto - *Back-to-Africa Archaeology and Heritage in Liberia* - Nyame Akuma

## GRANTS/FELLOWSHIPS/AWARDS

2025 Buffet Dissertation Fellowship Program
2025 Graduate Research Grant | Yoruba Material Culture Training in Nigeria
2024 Wenner-Gren Dissertation Field Work Grant | VR Data Collection for Archaeology and Museums
2022 FAN-Foster Summer Research Grant | 3D Digitization in Liberia
2020 Culture of Solidarity Fund | Virtual creative learning platform
2018 Marshall Scholarship | 2 years of graduate study in the United Kingdom
2018 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship
2018 Explorer's Club Youth Activity Grant | Fieldwork and documentary filmmaking in Liberia
2017 American Anthropological Association Archaeology Division Student Membership Award
2017 CfMA Middle Atlantic Archaeology Conference (MAAC) Student Award

**EXHIBITIONS**

(2024) *Inescapable Truths: James Foley's Indelible Legacy* – Northwestern University Main Library
(2023) *Augmented Curiosities: Virtual Play in African Pasts and Futures* - Herskovits Library of African Studies
(2023) *Artificial Intelligentsia* - Northwestern University Main Library

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

*Assistant Professor* - **African and African Diaspora Studies, The University of Texas at Austin** (2026 - Present)

- Conduct research and teach at the intersection of African and African diasporic material culture, archaeology, museums and emerging technology.
- Develop research infrastructure for digitization, VR, motion capture, 3D scanning, photogrammetry and AI-assisted scholarly workflows.

*Innovator in Residence* - **Northwestern University Information Technology** (2022 - 2026)

- Developed extended reality (XR) research and learning resources for university students, staff and faculty.
- Designed and led exhibition programs integrating photogrammetry, VR, AR, interactive storytelling and responsible AI.
- Facilitated workshops, demonstrations and project teams that translated emerging technologies for interdisciplinary university audiences.

*Communications Coordinator* – **Society of Black Archaeologists** (2021 – Present)

- Lead organizational efforts to publicize and promote Black heritage sites and professionals.
- Develop strategic relationships with artists and content producers for SBA products and initiatives.

*Researcher* - **Taylor Made Culture** (2018 – 2021)

- Develop museum exhibitions, interactive map, archive submissions, board game and mobile application.
- Investigate Negro Motorist Green Book businesses through historical research and site visits.
- Coordinate and transcribe interviews for preservation of Green Book oral histories.

*Research Fellow* - **Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service** (2018 –2019)

- Support the creation of innovative and elegant traveling exhibitions.
- Research and procure diverse objects and media.

**SKILLS**

**3D, XR & Field Hardware:** Blender; Unity; Agisoft Metashape; PhotoCatch; Artec Studio; Artec Eva; Meta Quest 3; drone photogrammetry
**AI & Development:** Codex; Claude Code; Gemini; Astro; React; Three.js; FastAPI; PostgreSQL
**Audio/Visual Production:** Adobe Premiere Pro; Adobe Illustrator; Logic Pro X; Ableton Live
**Geographic Information Systems:** Esri ArcGIS; QGIS

**COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

*Treasurer*, The Society of Black Archaeologists
*Co-Founder***,** The Black and African Solidarity Show (B.A.S.S.)
*Peer Editor*, Contingent Horizons Student Journal of Anthropology