

# LISA OVERHOLTZER

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## EMPLOYMENT:

2012-present Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, Wichita State University

## EDUCATION:

2012 Ph.D. in Anthropology, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL.  
Dissertation: *Empires and Everyday Material Practices: A Household Archaeology of Aztec and Spanish Imperialism at Xaltocan, Mexico*  
Committee: Dr. Cynthia Robin (chair), Dr. Mary Weismantel, Dr. Rosemary A. Joyce, and Dr. Elizabeth Brumfiel (in memoriam)

2008 M.A. in Anthropology, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL.

2005 B.A. in anthropology and Spanish, University of California, Berkeley  
High distinction in general scholarship, high honors in anthropology, Phi Beta Kappa  
Honors thesis title: The Kneeling Mexica Woman: Evidence for Male Domination or Gender Complementarity?  
Thesis advisor: Dr. Rosemary A. Joyce

## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS:

2013 Provost's Exceptional Merit Award for faculty, Wichita State University  
2007-2010 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship

## PUBLICATIONS:

### **Peer-reviewed journal articles:**

2014 **Overholtzer, Lisa.** A New Bayesian Chronology for Postclassic and Colonial Occupation at Xaltocan, Mexico. *Radiocarbon* 56(3): 1077–1092.

2013 **Overholtzer, Lisa.** Archaeological Interpretation and the Rewriting of History: Deimperializing and Decolonizing the Past at Xaltocan, Mexico. *American Anthropologist* 115(3):481-495.

2013 Stoner, Wesley D., John K. Millhauser, Enrique Rodríguez-Alegría, **Lisa Overholtzer**, and Michael D. Glascock. 2013. Taken with a Grain of Salt: Experimentation and the Chemistry of Archaeological Ceramics from Xaltocan, Mexico. *Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory*.

2012 Mata-Míguez, Jaime, **Lisa Overholtzer**, Enrique Rodríguez-Alegría, Brian M. Kemp, and Deborah A. Bolnick. The Genetic Impact of Aztec Imperialism: Ancient Mitochondrial DNA Evidence from Xaltocan, Mexico. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* 149(4):504-516.

2012 **Overholtzer, Lisa.** So that the baby not be formed like a pottery rattle: Rattle Figurines and Aztec Household Social Reproductive Practices. *Ancient Mesoamerica* 23(1):1-15.

2011 **Overholtzer, Lisa** and Wesley D. Stoner. Merging the Social and the Material: Life Histories of Ancient Mementos from Central Mexico. *Journal of Social Archaeology* 11(2):171-193.

2011 Fargher, Lane F., Richard E. Blanton, Verence Y. Heredia Espinoza, John Millhauser, Nezahuacoyotl Xiutecutli, and **Lisa Overholtzer.** Tlaxcallan: the archaeology of an ancient republic in the New World. *Antiquity* 85(327):172-186.

Accepted with revisions **Overholtzer, Lisa** and Wesley D. Stoner. Molding Materiality and Producing Place: The Life Histories of Ceramic Figurines at Postclassic Xaltocan, Mexico. *Cambridge Archaeological Journal*.

Accepted with revisions **Overholtzer, Lisa.** Figuring Household Practices of Men and Women in Postclassic Central Mexico: Insight from Ceramic Figurines at Xaltocan. *Latin American Antiquity*.

- Accepted  
With revisions **Overholtzer, Lisa** and Kristin De Lucia. A Multiscalar Approach to Early Aztec Social Change in Postclassic Central Mexico. Invited contribution for special issue of *Ancient Mesoamerica* in memory of Elizabeth M. Brumfiel, edited by Enrique Rodríguez-Alegría and Deborah L. Nichols. Expected publication 2015.
- Accepted  
With revisions De Lucia, Kristin and **Lisa Overholtzer**. Everyday Action and the Rise and Decline of Ancient Polities: Household Strategy and Political Change in Postclassic Central Mexico. Invited contribution for special issue of *Ancient Mesoamerica*, edited by Scott R. Hutson and Cynthia Robin. Expected publication 2015.
- Under review **Overholtzer, Lisa**. Agency, Practice, and Chronological Context: A Bayesian Approach to Household Chronologies at Xaltocan, Mexico. Submitted to the *Journal of Anthropological Archaeology*.
- Under review **Overholtzer, Lisa**. The Field and Lab Crew Symposium: A Model for Initial Implementation of a Collaborative Archaeology Project. Submitted to *Advances in Archaeological Practice*.

#### Edited books:

- Conditional acceptance **Overholtzer, Lisa** and Cynthia Robin. *The Materiality of Everyday Life*. Archeological Papers of the American Anthropological Association series. Expected publication 2015.

#### Peer-reviewed book chapters:

- 2009 Brumfiel, Elizabeth M. and **Lisa Overholtzer**. Alien Bodies, Everyday People, and Internal Spaces: Embodiment, Figurines and Social Discourse in Postclassic Mexico. In *Mesoamerican Figurines: Small-Scale Indexes of Large-Scale Phenomena*. Eds. Halperin, Christina T., Katherine A. Faust, Rhonda Taube, and Aurore Giguët. Gainesville: University Press of Florida.
- Conditional acceptance **Overholtzer, Lisa**. Dwelling on the Past: Temporality and Daily Material Practices at Xaltocan, Mexico. In *The Materiality of Everyday Life*, edited by Lisa Overholtzer and Cynthia Robin. Archeological Papers of the American Anthropological Association.
- Conditional acceptance **Overholtzer, Lisa** and Cynthia Robin. The Materiality of Everyday Life: An Introduction. In *The Materiality of Everyday Life*, edited by Lisa Overholtzer and Cynthia Robin. Archeological Papers of the American Anthropological Association.

#### Book chapters:

- In press **Overholtzer, Lisa**. Aztec Figurines. Invited contribution to *Oxford Handbook of Prehistoric Figurines*, edited by Timothy Insoll. Oxford University Press. Expected publication 2014.
- In press **Overholtzer, Lisa**. Household Ritual. Invited contribution to *Oxford Handbook of the Aztecs*, edited by Deborah L. Nichols and Enrique Rodríguez-Alegría. Expected publication 2014.

#### Book reviews and reports:

- In press **Overholtzer, Lisa**. Review of *The Oxford Handbook of Mesoamerican Archaeology*, edited by Deborah L. Nichols and Christopher A. Pool. *Journal of Anthropological Archaeology*.
- 2011 **Overholtzer, Lisa**. Review of *Bonds of Blood: Gender, Lifecycle, and Sacrifice in Aztec Culture* by Caroline Dodds Pennock. *Bulletin of Latin American Research* 30(1):114-116.
- 2010 **Overholtzer, Lisa**. Descripción de la Unidad "Zócalo A." In *Estrategias de las elites y cambios políticos en Xaltocan, México: Informe Annual de 2007 al Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia*, edited by Elizabeth M. Brumfiel and Enrique Rodríguez-Alegría, pp. 8-57.
- 2009 **Overholtzer, Lisa**. Figurillas de Cerámica en los Contextos de Chinampa en Xaltocan. In *Proyecto Chinampero Xaltocan: Informe de la Temporada de Campo Octubre 2007-Febrero 2008*, edited by Christopher T. Morehart, pp. 232-238.
- 2007 **Overholtzer, Lisa**. Figurillas de barro de Xaltocan, México. In *Estrategias de las Unidades Domésticas en Xaltocan Postclásico, México: Informe Final al Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia*, edited by Elizabeth M. Brumfiel.

## **RESEARCH GRANTS:**

### **Extramural funding:**

- 2013 Engaged Anthropology Grant, Wenner-Gren Foundation, \$5,000  
2013 National Science Foundation Subsidization Grant for laboratory analysis at the University of Missouri Research Reactor, \$25,900  
2010 Research Award in Archaeometry, University of Madison, Wisconsin Laboratory for Archaeological Chemistry (declined)  
2009 National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant, \$15,000  
2009 Wenner-Gren Foundation Dissertation Fieldwork Grant, \$24,950  
2008 National Geographic Society Committee for Research and Exploration Young Explorers Grant, \$5,000  
2007 Sigma Xi Grants-in-Aid of Research, \$400  
2007 National Science Foundation Subsidization Grant for laboratory analysis at the University of Missouri Research Reactor

### **Intramural funding:**

- 2014 Research Grant, David and Sally Jackman Foundation, \$15,000  
2013 University Research/Creative Projects Award, Wichita State University, \$4,500  
2013 Research Grant, David and Sally Jackman Foundation, \$7,200  
2010 Summer Research Award, Foster Fund and FAN, Northwestern University, \$900  
2008 Graduate Research Grant, Northwestern University, \$3,000  
2008 Humanities and Social Sciences Technology Grant, Northwestern University, \$2,000  
2007 Summer Research Award, Foster Fund and FAN, Northwestern University, \$1,000  
2005 University of California, Berkeley Summer Undergraduate Research Apprentice Fellow  
2004 University of California, Berkeley Summer Undergraduate Research Fellow

## **RESEARCH AND FIELD EXPERIENCE:**

- 2013-present Project director, Xacalli Xaltocan: A Community, Experimental Archaeology Museum Project  
2009-present Project director, Xaltocan Archaeological Project: Domestic Spaces and Household Practices at Xaltocan under Aztec Imperial Expansion  
2008 Project member, Tlaxcala Mapping Project, Tlaxcala, Mexico, under the direction of Richard Blanton and Lane Fargher  
2007 Operation Supervisor, Household Strategies at Xaltocan, Mexico, under the direction of Elizabeth M. Brumfiel  
2006 Laboratory Analyst, Household Strategies at Xaltocan, Mexico, under the direction of Elizabeth M. Brumfiel  
2005 Unit Supervisor, El Hibe, Egypt, Archaeological Field Season, under the direction of Carol A. Redmont and Maury Morgenstein  
2004-2005 Workshop on Nahuatl Studies in Translation and Intersemiotic Systems, University of California, Berkeley  
2004-2005 Research Assistant, Honduran Colonial Archives Project, UC Berkeley,  
2004 Unit Supervisor, Lake Yojoa, Honduras Field School, under the direction of Rosemary A. Joyce  
2003 Participant, Campus Conservatory Field School, University of California, Berkeley campus, under the direction of Laurie Wilkie

## **ORGANIZED CONFERENCE SESSIONS:**

- 2012 "The Materiality of Everyday Life," Symposium co-organized with Cynthia Robin. 77th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Memphis, Tennessee, April 18-22, 2012.  
2010 "Of the People, by the People, for the People: Community Archaeologies in Middle America," co-organized with Geoffrey McCafferty. 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Chacmool Conference, Calgary, Canada, November 12-14, 2010.  
2010 "Descubriendo Xaltocan Antiguo: Hallazgos y experiencias de las excavaciones arqueológicas de 2009-2010." Conference organized in Xaltocan, Mexico, May 1, 2010. Participants included all members of the archaeological team.

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS:**

- 2014 **Overholtzer, Lisa.** Unwinding the Cable, Weighing its Strands: Social Memory, History, and Power in Archaeological Interpretation. Paper to be presented at the 113<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Washington, D.C.: December 3-7, 2014.
- 2014 **Overholtzer, Lisa** and Juan Argueta. Letting Skeletons Out of the Closet: The Ethics of Displaying Ancient Mexican Human Remains. Paper presented at the 79<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology in Austin, Texas, April 23-27, 2014.
- 2014 Mata-Miguez, Jaime, **Lisa Overholtzer**, Enrique Rodríguez-Alegría, Brian Kemp and Deborah Bolnick. Using Household Bioarchaeology to Assess the Demographic Effects of Aztec Imperialism: A Kinship Study Based on Ancient Mitochondrial and Nuclear DNA from Xaltocan, Mexico. Paper presented at the 79<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology in Austin, Texas, April 23-27, 2014.
- 2014 Fox, Keri and **Lisa Overholtzer.** An Experimental Project of Mud Men-and-Women, Ceramic Figurines Common in Household Production: Made Locally by the Household or a Specialist? Paper presented at the 79<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology in Austin, Texas, April 23-27, 2014.
- 2014 Mata-Miguez, Jaime, **Lisa Overholtzer**, Enrique Rodríguez-Alegría, Brian Kemp and Deborah Bolnick. Assessing the demographic effects of Aztec Imperialism: Ancient mitochondrial and nuclear DNA evidence from Xaltocan, Mexico. Paper presented at the 83<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists in Calgary, Alberta, April 8-12, 2014.
- 2013 **Overholtzer, Lisa.** Agency, Practice, and Chronological Context: A Bayesian Approach to Household Chronologies At Xaltocan, Mexico. Paper presented at the 112<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association in Chicago, IL, November 20-24, 2013.
- 2013 **Overholtzer, Lisa.** Negotiating with Unseen Empires: Household Craft Production Strategies and Intended and Unanticipated Consequences at Xaltocan, Mexico. Paper presented at the Theoretical Archaeology Group Annual Meeting in Chicago, IL, May 9-11, 2013.
- 2013 **Overholtzer, Lisa.** Weaving Tlacamecayotl Temporalities: The "rope of people," household histories, and time in archaeology. Paper presented at the 78<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology in Honolulu, Hawaii, April 3-7, 2013.
- 2012 **Overholtzer, Lisa** and Kristin De Lucia. Pre-Aztec Social Change in Postclassic Central Mexico: A Multiscalar Approach. Paper presented at the 111<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association in San Francisco, CA, November 14-18, 2012.
- 2012 De Lucia, Kristin and **Lisa Overholtzer.** Everyday Action and the Rise and Decline of Ancient Polities: Household Strategy and Political Change in Postclassic Central Mexico. Paper presented at the 111<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association in San Francisco, CA, November 14-18, 2012.
- 2012 **Overholtzer, Lisa.** Dwelling on the Past: The Materiality of Everyday Life at Xaltocan, Mexico. Paper presented at the 77<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology in Memphis, Tennessee, April 18-22, 2012.
- 2012 Mata-Miguez, Jaime, Deborah A. Bolnick, **Lisa Overholtzer**, and Enrique Rodríguez-Alegría. Ancient DNA evidence of population replacement following the Aztec conquest of Xaltocan, Mexico. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists in Portland, Oregon, April 11-14, 2012.
- 2011 **Overholtzer, Lisa.** Finishes and Flourishes: Indigenous Ceramic Production and Consumption in Colonial Central Mexico. Paper presented at the 110<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association in Montreal, Canada, November 16-20, 2011.
- 2011 **Overholtzer, Lisa.** Otomies at Xaltocan: A Case of Ethnic Change. Paper presented at the 76<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology in Sacramento, California, March 30-April 3, 2011.
- 2010 **Overholtzer, Lisa.** Community Archaeology at Xaltocan. Paper presented at the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Chacmool Conference in Calgary, Canada, November 12-14, 2010.
- 2009 **Overholtzer, Lisa**, Wesley D. Stoner, Jeffrey R. Ferguson, and Michael D. Glascock. Ancient Mementos: Life Histories of Curated Figurines from Central Mexico. Paper presented at the 2<sup>nd</sup> U.S. meeting of the Theoretical Archaeology Group in Stanford, California, May 1-3, 2009.

- 2009 **Overholtzer, Lisa.** (Re)presenting Figurines and the Aztec State: Gender in the Postclassic Central Mexican Household. Paper presented at the 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology in Atlanta, Georgia, April 22-26, 2009.
- 2009 **Overholtzer, Lisa.** Molding Materiality and Producing Place: The Life Histories of Ceramic Figurines at Postclassic Xaltocan, Mexico. Paper presented at the Braunstein Figurine Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada, January 16-17, 2009.
- 2008 **Overholtzer, Lisa.** Men and Women in the Household in Postclassic Central Mexico: Insight from Ceramic Figurines at Xaltocan. Paper presented at the 107<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association in San Francisco, California, November 19-23, 2008.
- 2008 **Overholtzer, Lisa,** Michael D. Glascock, and Wesley D. Stoner. Trading Faces: INAA results from Ceramic Figurines from Postclassic Xaltocan, Mexico. Paper presented at the 73<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology in Vancouver, B.C., March 26-30, 2008.
- 2008 **Overholtzer, Lisa,** Michael D. Glascock, and Wesley D. Stoner. Trading Faces: INAA results from Ceramic Figurines from Postclassic Xaltocan, Mexico. Paper presented at the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Midwest Conference on Mesoamerican Archaeology and Ethnohistory at Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, March 15, 2008.
- 2004 **Overholtzer, Lisa.** The Kneeling Mexica Woman: Evidence for Male Domination or Gender Complementarity? Poster presentation made at 2004 American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting digitally through AnthroCommons.

### **SCHOLARLY AND COMMUNITY LECTURES:**

- 2014 **Overholtzer, Lisa.** Archaeology: Ancient Detective Work. Invited presentation given to 4<sup>th</sup> graders at Colvin Elementary, Wichita, Kansas.
- 2014 **Overholtzer, Lisa** and Juan Argueta. Letting Skeletons Out of the Closet: The Ethics of Displaying Ancient Mexican Human Remains. Lecture given at Wichita State University, May 2014.
- 2012 **Overholtzer, Lisa.** "And Their Temple and Their City Sprouted Grass": The Rewriting of History and Archaeological Interpretation. Invited lecture given for the Archaeological Association of South Central Kansas, Wichita, October 2012.
- 2010 **Overholtzer, Lisa.** El Xaltocan Antiguo: Su Historia y Significado. Invited lecture given for cultural event of the Grupo de Jovenes Revolucionarios, Xaltocan, Mexico, August 2010.
- 2010 **Overholtzer, Lisa.** Resultados de la temporada 2009-2010 del proyecto arqueológico Xaltocan: Los entierros. Invited lecture given for the Festival Cultural Huitolohua Elhuayotl (Flechando Armas), Xaltocan, Mexico, July 2010.
- 2008 **Overholtzer, Lisa.** Pieces of Places: Life Histories of Ancient Curated Figurines from Central Mexico. Invited Lecture, Center for International and Comparative Studies, Northwestern University, September 2008.
- 2007 **Overholtzer, Lisa.** Injc amo cacalactimotlaliz in piltzintli—So that the baby not be formed like a pottery rattle: Rattle Figurines and Aztec Household Reproductive Practices, Invited Lecture, Center for International and Comparative Studies, Northwestern University, April 2007.
- 2007 Brumfiel, Elizabeth M. and **Lisa Overholtzer.** Alien Bodies, Everyday People, and Internal Spaces: Embodiment, Figurines and Social Discourse in Postclassic Mexico, Invited Lecture, Department of Anthropology Colloquium Series, Northwestern University, February 2007.

### **TEACHING AND ADVISING:**

#### **Instructor of record:**

- 2012-present Department of Anthropology, Wichita State University  
 Courses Taught: Anth 103, Introduction to Archaeology (Fall 2012, Spring 2013, Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Fall 2014), Anth 305, World Archaeology (Fall 2012), Anth 397, Archaeology of Ethnicity in the U.S. (Spring 2013, Summer 2014), Anth 509, Cultures of Ancient Mexico (Fall 2013), Anth 597, Ceramic Analysis in Archaeology (Spring 2014), Anth 736, Advanced Archaeological Theory (Fall 2013, Fall 2014)
- 2012 Department of Anthropology, Northwestern University  
 Course Taught: Anth 327, Archaeology of Ethnicity in America (Spring 2012)
- 2011-2012 Department of Anthropology, School of Continuing Studies, Northwestern University

2010-2012 Course Taught: Anth 383, Environmental anthropology (Winter 2011)  
Department of Anthropology, DePaul University  
2007-2009 Course Taught: ANT 103, Archaeology (Fall 2010, Spring 2011, and Fall 2011)  
SERTS (Science and Engineering Research and Teaching Synthesis) Program,  
Northwestern University  
Seminar Taught: "New High Resolution Analyses in Archaeology," for Anth 213, Human  
Origins

**Teaching Assistant:**

2007-2008,  
2011-2012 Teaching Assistant, Department of Anthropology, Northwestern University  
Courses: Anth 213, Human Origins; Anth 214, Culture Origins; Anth 355, Sexualities

**Teaching development and mentoring:**

2014-2015 Online Faculty Fellow, Wichita State University  
2013 Reboot Camp for Online Teaching, Wichita State University  
2009 Teaching Assistant Fellow for Department of Anthropology, Northwestern University  
2009 Participant, Teaching, Learning, and Technology Program, Searle Center for Teaching  
Excellence, Academic Technologies, and the University Library  
2008-2009 Participant, Graduate Teaching Certificate Program, Searle Center for Teaching Excellence,  
Northwestern University

**Advising:**

2012-present Mentor for minority and underrepresented pre-PhD honors students, McNair Scholars  
Program, Wichita State University

**SERVICE:**

2014-present Faculty representative, Morris K. Udall and Stuart L. Udall Foundation  
2012-present Member, College of Arts and Science Curriculum Committee, Wichita State University  
2012-2013 Member, Hiring Committee for tenure-track anthropology position, Department of  
Anthropology, Wichita State University  
2008-2009 Member, Hiring Committee for tenure-track archaeology position, Department of  
Anthropology, Northwestern University  
2008-2009 Mentor, Evanston Township High School Biology Honors Program  
2007-2012 Undergraduate Mentor, Anthropology Undergraduate Society Mentorship Program,  
Northwestern University  
2007-2008 Session leader, Take Our Daughters to Work Day, Northwestern University  
2007-2008 Graduate Student Representative, Departmental Meetings, Northwestern University

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:**

American Anthropological Association  
Society for American Archaeology

## **REFERENCES:**

Dr. Rosemary A. Joyce  
Department of Anthropology  
University of California, Berkeley  
2215 College, Room 204  
Berkeley, CA 94720  
(510) 643-0975  
rajoyce@berkeley.edu

Dr. Cynthia Robin  
Department of Anthropology  
Northwestern University  
1810 Hinman Ave.  
Evanston, IL 60208  
(847) 491-4835  
c-robin@northwestern.edu

Dr. Mary Weismantel  
Department of Anthropology  
Northwestern University  
1810 Hinman Ave.  
Evanston, IL 60208  
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