

# IEMA

Institute for European and Mediterranean Archaeology

## The Seventh IEMA Visiting Scholar Conference

5-6 April 2014 | Buffalo, NY

Saturday and Sunday, 5-6 April, 9am-5:30pm  
380 Millard Fillmore Academic  
Center Ellicott Complex  
North Campus  
University at Buffalo  
SUNY Buffalo, NY 14261

# Inequality in Antiquity Tracing the Archaeological Record

organizer: **Dr. Orlando Cerasuolo** | [www.iema.buffalo.edu/conference](http://www.iema.buffalo.edu/conference)

Stone cippus from Chiusi, second quarter of 5th century BCE, Museo Archeologico Regionale Antonio Salinas di Palermo – ITALY

The social and political division of communities was a common and complex feature of past civilizations around the world. In many ancient cultures there were several discrimination strategies: free people versus slaves, age- and gender-based categories, economic concentration and exclusion. As archaeologists, we have to ask how visible such structures of inequality are in the material record of the past. Where they are visible, how do we interpret their meaning for the marginalized communities that they document? So far, no symposium has addressed these diverse aspects of inequality in a single venue. A wider, interdisciplinary archaeology based approach to these issues should prove especially productive.

We know that in ancient times there were men and women, freemen and slaves, locals and immigrants. We can observe some material residues of their existence in the archaeological record. The central methodological problem is how we can extract fuller meaning from the surviving archaeological residues and relate those meanings to issues of gender, legal and ethnic status, and other categories of potential inequality.

This conference will apply two relatively novel approaches. While studies of slavery, gender, and ethnicity are relatively common, the IEMA conference will explore them as intersecting areas of study within the larger framework of inequality. It will also attempt to bring together prehistorians, specialists in classical archaeology, and students of Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages, as well as physical anthropologists; epigraphers; and statisticians.

Many issues should arise from the perspective envisaged for this symposium. Is it possible to develop a general theory of inequality in antiquity? Is it possible to define wide-ranging strategies for the archaeological analysis of that inequality? To what degree are the inequalities and social boundaries culture specific and how does their emergence relate to growing complexity? To what degree can archaeologists identify and analyze different patterns of inequality.

### CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS

**Giovanna Bagnasco Gianni** Università degli Studi di Milano  
**Dorian Borbonus** University of Dayton  
**Patrice Brun** Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne  
**Anna Maria D'Onofrio** Università di Napoli "L'Orientale"  
**Stephen Dyson** University at Buffalo SUNY  
**Steven J. R. Ellis** University of Cincinnati  
**Elizabeth Fentress** International Association of Classical Archaeology  
**Maryl B. Gensheimer** University of Maryland  
**Brian Hanks** University of Pittsburgh  
**Bryan D. Hayden** Simon Fraser University  
**Kristian Kristiansen** Göteborgs Universitet  
**Luuk de Ligt** Universiteit Leiden  
**Myles McCallum** Saint Mary's University  
**Jennifer Lynn Muller** Ithaca College  
**William A. Parkinson** The Field Museum - Chicago  
**T. Douglas Price** University of Wisconsin – Madison  
**Mario Torelli** Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei  
**Vicky Vlachou** Université libre de Bruxelles  
**Ruth Westgate** Cardiff University  
**Rachel Zelnick-Abramovitz** Tel-Aviv University

### REGISTRATION INFORMATION

All are welcome to attend the conference  
Please register through [www.iema.buffalo.edu/conference](http://www.iema.buffalo.edu/conference)  
For more information contact Dr. Orlando Cerasuolo ([orlandoc@buffalo.edu](mailto:orlandoc@buffalo.edu))  
Institute for European and Mediterranean Archaeology  
University at Buffalo, State University of New York  
380 MFAC Ellicott Complex | Buffalo, NY 14261-0026 | [www.iema.buffalo.edu](http://www.iema.buffalo.edu)