

**AMY J. HIRSHMAN, PH.D.**

Associate Professor of Anthropology  
Faculty Associate, Latin American Studies  
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**DEGREES**

2003 Ph.D. in Anthropology, Michigan State University  
1997 M.A. in Anthropology, Michigan State University  
1988 B.A. in History, Michigan State University, "With Honor"

**CURRENT POSITION at WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY:**

Associate Professor of Anthropology, Department of Sociology and Anthropology (2013-present)  
Faculty Associate, Latin American Studies, (2013-present)

Previously: Assistant Professor of Anthropology (2007-2013)  
Visiting Assistant Professor of Anthropology (2006-2007)

**Current Course Rotation:**

- SOCA 252, "Introduction to Physical Anthropology"
- SOCA 354, "Mesoamerican Archaeology"
- SOCA 450, "Archaeology of Ancient States"
- SOCA 493M, "Special Topics: Anthropology of Material Culture"

**Contract Courses:**

- SOCA 490 Teaching Practicum (variable credit)
- SOCA 495A, "Independent Study/Anthropology" (variable credit)
- Honor's College Contracts in conjunction with current courses

**Previously Taught Courses:**

- SOCA 105, "Introduction to Anthropology"
- SOCA 250, "Archaeology Laboratory" (1 credit)
- SOCA 250 Honors, "Archaeology Laboratory" (1 credit)
- SOCA 258, "Introduction to Archaeology"
- SOCA 254, "Cultural Anthropology" (as 293S, "Special Topics: Cultural Anthropology")
- SOCA 359, "World Prehistory"
- SOCA 389, "Writing in Sociology and Anthropology" (1 credit)
- SOCA 488, "The Capstone Experience" (variable credit)
- SOCA 491B, "Professional Field Experience/Anthropology" (variable credit)

- *Academic Advising 30-35 students/semester (Fall 2008-Spring 2016)*

**PREVIOUS TEACHING EXPERIENCE (as Instructor of Record):**

University of Michigan-Flint, Flint, Michigan (Fall 2004-Winter 2006):

- Anthropology 100, “Introduction to Cultural Anthropology”
- Anthropology 105, “Human Origins and Prehistory” (with laboratory; 4 credit course)
- Anthropology 110, “Introduction to Archaeology”

Mott Community College, Flint, Michigan (Fall 2004-Fall 2005):

- Anthropology 211, “Introduction to Cultural Anthropology”

Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan (Summer 1998; Fall 2000-Spring 2001; Spring 2006):

- Anthropology 101, “Introduction to Anthropology”
- Anthropology 201H “Sociocultural Diversity” (honors section)
- Anthropology 202, “Biocultural Evolution”
- Anthropology 203, “Introduction to Archaeology”
- Anthropology 363, “Rise of Civilization”

Michigan State University Alumni Lifelong Education Evening College (Fall 2001):

- “Ancient Civilizations Across the Globe”

**TEACHING ASSISTANT EXPERIENCE**

Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan (eight semesters between Fall 1992 and Spring 2000):

- Anthropology 101, “Introduction to Anthropology”
- Anthropology 201Honors, “Sociocultural Diversity”
- Anthropology 202, “Biocultural Evolution”
- Anthropology 203Honors, “Introduction to Archaeology”
- Anthropology 264, “Great Discoveries in Anthropology”
- Integrative Social Sciences 210, “Society and the Individual” (Large general education survey of human cultural diversity)
- Integrative Social Science 220, “Time, Space and Change in Human Society” (Large general education survey of human biological and cultural origins)
- Teaching Assistant /Site Supervisor, Michigan State University Summer Archaeological Field School, Willard, New Mexico

**TEACHING SUMMARY:** My teaching experience encompasses three of anthropology’s four traditional subfields, including a writing and capstone course at WVU that paralleled student fieldwork in either archaeology or cultural anthropology. Classes ranged from a dozen to over 250 students, with active learning activities used in classes of all sizes.

**RESEARCH INTERESTS:** Multi-method research on craft specialization and the emergence/expansion of social complexity, focused on the Late Postclassic Tarascan State of western Mesoamerica. Particular research interests include political economy; craft specialization; households; archaeometry; social change; material culture; pedagogy; program assessment.

## PUBLICATIONS

- 2018 Pollard, Helen Perlstein and Amy J. Hirshman. La producción y el intercambio de cerámica prehispánica en la cuenca del lago de Pátzcuaro. In *Cerámica en México: El universo técnico, social y cognitivo del alfarero prehispánico*, Annick Daneels and Chloé Pomedio, eds., pp. 305-318. México D. F.: Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Instituto de Investigaciones Antropológicas.
- 2018 Hirshman, Amy J. “Product Continuity and Change in Persistent Household Ceramic Production: The Tarascan Case.” In *Ceramics of Ancient America: Multidisciplinary Approaches*, edited by Yumi Park Huntington, Dean E. Arnold, and Johanna Minich, pp. 335-354. University Press of Florida, Gainesville.
- 2017 Hirshman, Amy J. Documenting Accommodation and Change in the Tarascan Ceramic Economy. In *Innovative Approaches and Exploration in Ceramic Case Studies*, edited by Sandra L. López Varela, pp. 41-52. Archaeopress Archaeology, Oxford, UK.
- 2016 Hirshman, Amy J. and David Haskell. Evaluating Contrasting Models of Ceramic Production in the Tarascan State: Negotiations in Clay. In *Cultural Dynamics and Production Activities in Ancient Western Mexico*, edited by Eduardo Williams and Blanca Maldonado, pp. 201-214. British Archaeological Reports International Series, Oxford, UK.
- 2015 Hirshman, Amy J. “Valor, Skill, and Resistance”: Tarascan Opposition to Aztec Ambitions. *General Anthropology* 22(2):1-5. DOI: 10.1111/gena.12001.
- 2013 Hirshman, Amy J. and Christopher J. Stawski. Distribution, Transportation, and the Persistence of Household Ceramic Production in the Tarascan State. *Ethnoarchaeology* 5 (1):1-23. Doi: 10.1179/1944289013Z.0000000002
- 2012 Hirshman, Amy J. and Jeffry R. Ferguson. Temper mixture models and assessing ceramic complexity in the emerging Tarascan state. *Journal of Archaeological Sciences* 39:3195-3207. Doi:10.1016/j.jas.2012.05.003
- 2011 Hirshman, Amy J. Un modelo para la organización de la producción cerámica en la Cuenca de Pátzcuaro en la época prehispánica. In *Patrones de asentamiento y actividades de subsistencia en el Occidente de México: reconocimiento a la doctora Helen P. Pollard*, edited by Eduardo Williams and Phil C. Weigand, pp. 209-230. El Colegio de Michoacán, Zamora.

- 2010 Hirshman, Amy J., William Lovis, Helen P. Pollard. Specialization of Ceramic Production: A Sherd Assemblage Based Analytic Perspective. *Journal of Anthropological Archaeology* 29(3): 265-277. Doi: 10.1016/j.jaa.2010.03.003
- 2010 Hirshman, Amy J. Like a Fish in Water: Helping Students identify the Role of Culture in their Lives. In *Strategies in Teaching Anthropology, 6<sup>th</sup> edition*, edited by Patricia C. Rice, David W. McCurdy, and Scott Lukas, pp. 149-152. Pearson Prentice Hall, Upper Saddle, NJ.
- 2008 Fowler, Willam R., Geoffrey G. McCafferty, and Amy J. Hirshman. Introduction. *Ancient Mesoamerica* 19 (2): 215-216
- 2008 Hirshman, Amy J. Tarascan Ceramic Production and Implications for Ceramic Distribution. *Ancient Mesoamerica* 19 (2): 299-310.
- 2006 Hirshman, Amy J. Before Cortés: Pre-Hispanic Mexico. In *Teaching About Canada and México, NCAA Bulletin 104*, edited by William W. Joyce and John F. Bratzel, pp. 63-72. National Council for the Social Studies, Silver Springs (MD).
- 2005 Pollard, Helen Perlstein, Amy Hirshman, Hector Neff, and Michael D. Glascock. Exchange, Elites, and the Emergence of the Tarascan Core. In *Archaeology Without Limits. Papers in Honor of Clement W. Meighan*, edited by Brian D. Dillon and Matthew A. Bost, pp. 295-307. Labyrinthos, Lancaster (CA).
- 2003 Hirshman, Amy. Mesoamerica: Native American Civilizations. *Michigan Social Studies Journal* 14(1):32-34.
- 2001 Pollard, Helen Perlstein, Amy Hirshman, Hector Neff, and Michael Glascock. Las elites, el intercambio de bienes y el surgimiento del area nuclear Tarasca: analysis de la cerámica de la cuenca de Pátzcuaro. In *Estudios cerámicos en el occidente y norte de México*, edited by E. Williams and P. Weigand, pp. 289-309. Colegio de Michoacán, Insitituto Michoacano de Cultura, Zamora, Mexico.

## BOOK REVIEWS

2017 Book Review: Shaft Tombs and figures in West Mexican Society: A Reassessment. *Latin American Antiquity* 28 (2):309-310. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/laq.2017.12>

2017 Book Review: Archaeological Perspectives on the Southern Appalachians: A Multiscalar Approach. *West Virginia History, N.S.* 11 (1):84-85.

**PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS**

- 2018 Hirshman, Amy J. “Petrographic Perspectives on the Ceramic Complexity in the Lake Pátzcuaro Basin” Paper presented in “The State of the Field: Current Research in Tarascan (Purépecha Archaeology: session in Honor of Dominique Michelet,” 83<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Washington, D. C., April 13, 2018.
- 2017 Hirshman, Amy J. “Potters’ Resources in the Tarascan State: Clay and Temper.” Paper presented in “Ceramic Ecology,” 116<sup>th</sup> American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington, D. C., December 2, 2017.
- 2017 Hirshman, Amy J. “Ollas, Pastas y Producción: Complejidad Cerámica Tarasca.” El 2 Coloquio de la Arqueología en Michoacan. Centro INAH Michoacán, Morelia, México, November 16-17, 2017.
- 2017 Hirshman, Amy J. Ethnographic Perspectives on Tarascan Household Ceramic Production. Paper presented at the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Midwest Conference on Mesoamerican Archaeology and Ethnohistory, Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan, March 10-11, 2017.
- 2015 Hirshman, Amy J. ““Helping, not doing”: the familiar/strange in the gendered division of labor in potting households in the *P’urépecha* region of Michoacán, México.” Paper presented at the Ceramic Ecology XXIX symposium, 114<sup>th</sup> American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Denver, Colorado, November 18-22, 2015.
- 2014 Haskell, David L. and Amy J. Hirshman. Negociaciones con arcilla: las lozas finas y las interacciones entre los artesanos y la élite en la Cuenca del Lago de Pátzcuaro durante el Postclásico tardío. Invited paper presented at Simposio sobre dinámicas culturales y actividades de producción en el Occidente de México: arqueología y etnohistoria. El Colegio de Michoacán, A. C., Centro De Estudio Arqueológicos. September 18-19, 2014.
- 2013 Hirshman, Amy J. State style and household production: Tarascan ceramics. Paper Presented at the 27<sup>th</sup> Ceramic Ecology XXVII: Honoring Charles C. Kolb, 112<sup>th</sup> American Anthropological Association Annual Meetings, November 14-18, 2013.
- 2012 Hirshman, Amy J. Petrographic perspectives on Tarascan ceramic production. Paper presented at the 26<sup>th</sup> Ceramic Ecology symposium, 111<sup>th</sup> American Anthropological Association Annual Meetings, November 14-18, 2012.
- 2012 Hirshman, Amy J. Petrography of Tarascan ritual pipes. Paper presented at the 77<sup>th</sup> Society for American Archaeology Annual Meetings, Memphis, Tennessee, April 18-22, 2012.
- 2012 Hirshman, Amy J. Potters and potting resources in the prehispanic Lake Pátzcuaro Basin.

- Paper presented at the 2012 Midwest Mesoamericanists Meeting, East Lansing, Michigan, March 10, 2012.
- 2011 Hirshman, Amy J. and Christopher Stawski. Gone to market: examining spatial relationships of ceramic production and distribution in the Lake Pátzcuaro Basin. Paper presented at the 25<sup>th</sup> Ceramic Ecology symposium, 110th American Anthropological Association Meeting, Montreal, Canada, November 16-20, 2011.
- 2011 Pollard, Helen P. and Amy J. Hirshman. El entendimiento de la producción e el intercambio de cerámica prehispánica dentro de la Cuenca del lago de Pátzcuaro. El Premier Coloquio de Tecnología Ceramic, Instituto de Investigaciones Antropológicas, UNAM, Mexico, D.F., Mexico. June 9-10, 2011.
- 2011 Hirshman, Amy J. and Christopher Stawski. Paddlers and porters: moving Late Postclassic Tarascan ceramics to market. Paper presented at the Society for American Archaeology 76<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Sacramento, California, March 30-April 3, 2011.
- 2011 Hirshman, Amy J. Archaeological analysis of ceramic production standardization: Tarascan perspectives. Invited Colloquia, Center for Materials Research in Archaeology and Ethnology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, April 15.
- 2010 Hirshman, Amy J., Volcanic Ash and Tarascan Ceramic Variability: Petrographic Observations. Poster Presented at the 109th Annual American Anthropological Association Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana, November 17-21.
- 2010 Zhang, Xinya, Suzanne Bell, and Amy Hirshman. Combined inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (ICP-MS) and cathodoluminescence in provenience study of ceramics. Poster presented at 38<sup>th</sup> Annual International Symposium on Archaeometry, Tampa, Florida, May 10-14.
- 2010 Hirshman, Amy J. Appraising the data: resolving multiple inquiries into the nature of the Tarascan ceramic pastes. Presented at the 75 Annual Society for American Archaeology Meeting, St. Louis, Missouri, April 14-18.
- 2009 Hirshman, Amy J. Petrographic Analysis of Paste Variability in Tarascan Fine Ware Ceramics: A Preliminary Assessment. Paper Presented at the 108th Annual American Anthropology Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, December 2-6.
- 2009 Hirshman, Amy J. Modeling the Organization of Ceramic Production in the Pre-Hispanic Lake Pátzcuaro Basin. Paper presented at: Mesa de Trabajo del Centro de Estudios Arqueológicos: Patrones de Asentamiento y Actividades de Subsistencia en el Occidente de México: Reconocimiento a la Dra. Helen P. Pollard. La Piedad, Michoacán, Mexico, September 3-4.

- 2009 Hirshman, Amy J. Crafting States: Reflections on the Necessary Intensity of Ceramic Production. Paper Presented at the Society for American Archaeology 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, April 22-26.
- 2008 Hirshman, Amy J. Clarifying the Context: Shedding Light on Tarascan Potters. Paper presented at the 107<sup>th</sup> American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, California, November 21, 2008.
- 2008 Hirshman, Amy J., Helen P. Pollard, Jeffrey Ferguson, Michael Glascock. Paste recipes and clay sourcing: Modeling pottery production in the core of the Tarascan State. Paper presented at the 31st Annual Midwest Mesoamericanist Meeting, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, March 15.
- 2007 Hirshman, Amy J. and Helen P. Pollard. Firing Variability and Paste Construction in Tarascan Fine Paste Ceramics: A Preliminary Assessment. Paper presented at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Southeast Conference on Mesoamerican Archaeology and Ethnohistory, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina, October 26-27.
- 2006 Hirshman, Amy J. "Craft Production Specialization and Social Complexity: the Organization of Tarascan Ceramic Production." Paper presented at the 71<sup>st</sup> Annual Society for American Archaeology Meeting, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- 2005 Hirshman, Amy J. "Tarascan Ceramic Production Organization: Ceramic Paste Evidence from Urichu, Michoacán, Mexico." Paper presented at the 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Society for American Archaeology Meeting, Salt Lake City, Utah.
- 2004 Hirshman, Amy J. Ceramic Production Organization: the Perspective from Urichu, Michoacán, Mexico. Paper presented at the 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Society for American Archaeology Meeting, Montreal, Canada.
- 1999 Hirshman, Amy J., Helen P. Pollard, Hector Neff and Michael D. Glascock. "Emergence of the Tarascan State: chemical characterization of ceramic sherds from Urichu, and clay samples, Lake Pátzcuaro Basin, Michoacán, Mexico." Paper presented at the 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Society for American Archaeology Meeting, Chicago, Illinois.
- 1999 Richard McCosh, Helen P. Pollard, and Amy J. Hirshman. "Prehispanic settlement and chronology in the Lake Pátzcuaro Basin: the Urichu, Xaracuaro, and Pareo polities." Paper presented at the 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Society for American Archaeology Meeting, Chicago, Illinois.
- 1998 Hirshman, Amy J. "Changing ceramic production and the emerging Tarascan State: the Urichu Case." Paper presented at the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Midwest Mesoamericanists Meeting, East Lansing, Michigan.

- 1998 Hirshman, Amy J. “The relationship between ceramic production and elite control in the Tarascan State.” Paper presented at the 63rd Annual Society for American Archaeology Meeting, Seattle, Washington.

#### **REPORTS AND UNPUBLISHED MANUSCRIPTS**

- n.d. Zhang, Xinya, Amy J. Hirshman, and Suzanne Bell. Investigation of Ceramic Diversity at a Late Prehispanic Capital by a Simplified ICP-MS Protocol. Completed September 2012.
- n.d. Bell, Suzanne, Xinya Zhang, and Amy J. Hirshman. Comparison of NAA and ICP-MS as analytical tools for characterization of archaeological ceramics using multivariate statistics. Completed 2012.
- 2004 Hirshman, Amy J. “Basic Training: Assistant Bookkeeper Protocols for Loomis, Ewert, Parsley, Davis & Gotting, P. C.,” training manual for in-house use.
- 1993 Hirshman, Amy J., Aimee Centivany, Josh Fredrickson, and Amanda Ledwon. “Room 4,” in *A Preliminary Report of the 1993 Field Season at LA-2091, Pueblo de la Mesa, Cibola National Forest, New Mexico*, edited by Alison E. Rautman, pp. 17-26 (112 pp.). Manuscript on file, USDA Forest Service, Cibola National Forest (Albuquerque), and Museum of New Mexico (Santa Fe).

#### **GRANTS AND FUNDING**

- 2009 Faculty Development Funds, Eberly College of Arts and Sciences, West Virginia University, matched by the School of Applied Social Sciences, ECAS, WVU. \$600.00
- 2008 “Cathodoluminescence and Allied Techniques as an alternative to neutron Activation Analysis (NAA) in Archaeometry” West Virginia University ARTS Grant, Suzanne Bell and Amy Hirshman. \$30,000.

#### **COMPLETE CV PROVIDED UPON REQUEST.**

Updated 08-2019