Experiences of Empire and Colonialism in Latin America

Special Problems Seminar (ANT 385)

This class will investigate the origins, institutions, experiences, and, ultimately, resistance to colonialism in Spanish Latin America from an archaeological and ethnohistoric perspective. We will focus on three specific forms of imperialism: the Inka in the Central Andes, the Aztecs in Central America, and the Spanish Empire that eventually overtook both. Within this context, we will pay particular attention to the role, agency, and impact of material culture in the process of empire-building, colonialism, and decolonization. We will explore specific examples of material culture through a hands-on approach. Finally, we will explore how experiences and portrayals of colonialism influence archaeological research and interpretation within Latin American archaeologies.

MW 2:00-3:15 pm
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This seminar will be delivered in-person.