

# ROBERT R. CARGILL, PH.D.

CENTER FOR DIGITAL HUMANITIES • 1020 PUBLIC AFFAIRS BUILDING • UCLA • LOS ANGELES, CA 90095-1499  
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## EDUCATION

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- 2008 Ph.D. Near Eastern Languages and Cultures  
University of California, Los Angeles, CA  
Dissertation: *"The Qumran Digital Model: An Argument for Archaeological Reconstruction in Virtual Reality"*
- 2006 M.A. Ancient Near Eastern Civilizations  
University of California, Los Angeles, CA
- 2000 M.Div., M.S. Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA
- 1996 B.S. Human Physiology / Pre-Med  
California State University, Fresno, CA
- 1993 A.A. Fresno City College, CA

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Book

- 2009 *Qumran through (Real) Time: A Virtual Reconstruction of Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls*, Bible In Technology 1 (Piscataway, NJ: Gorgias Press).

### Articles

- 2010 "The Benefit of Blogging for Archaeology," *Bulletin for the Study of Religion* (accepted for publication in 2010).
- 2010 "The State of the Archaeological Debate at Qumran," *Currents in Biblical Research* (accepted for publication in 2010).
- 2010 "On the Misuse of Archaeology for Evangelistic Purposes," *The Bible and Interpretation*, June 2010. <http://www.bibleinterp.com/articles/misuse357930.shtml>
- 2010 "The "Camera Friendly" Scholar: Essentials of Giving Great TV Interviews," 8-12 in *Academics and the Media: Four Perspectives* (Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2010).
- 2010 "Forget about Noah's Ark; There Was No Worldwide Flood," *The Bible and Interpretation*, May 2010. <http://www.bibleinterp.com/articles/flood357903.shtml>
- 2009 "On False Accusations of Anti-Semitism within the Academy," *The Bible and Interpretation*, December 2009. <http://www.bibleinterp.com/articles/false3141515.shtml>
- 2009 "Why Christians Should Adopt the BCE/CE Dating System," *The Bible and Interpretation*, September 2009. [http://www.bibleinterp.com/opeds/why\\_3530.shtml](http://www.bibleinterp.com/opeds/why_3530.shtml)
- 2009 "Pseudo-Science and Sensationalist Archaeology: An Exposé of Jimmy Barfield and the Copper Scroll Project," *The Bible and Interpretation*, August 2009. [http://www.bibleinterp.com/articles/cargill2\\_08261.shtml](http://www.bibleinterp.com/articles/cargill2_08261.shtml)
- 2009 "On the Curious Protests of the Dead Sea Scrolls Exhibition in Toronto," *The Bible and Interpretation*, August 2009. <http://www.bibleinterp.com/opeds/curious.shtml>
- 2009 "On the Insignificance and the Abuse of the Copper Scroll," *The Bible and Interpretation*, July 2009. <http://www.bibleinterp.com/opeds/copper.shtml>
- 2009 "The Qumran Digital Model: An Argument for Archaeological Reconstruction in Virtual Reality" and "A Response to Magness," *Near Eastern Archaeology* 72/1: 28-47.

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- 2009 “The Fortress at Qumran: A History of Interpretation,” *The Bible and Interpretation*, May 2009.  
<http://www.bibleinterp.com/articles/qumfort.shtml>

## Video

- 2007 *Ancient Qumran: A Virtual Reality Tour*. Produced, wrote, and directed film commissioned by the San Diego Natural History Museum’s for their exhibition of the Dead Sea Scrolls, June 29 – December 31, 2007.

## TELEVISION APPEARANCES

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- “*Writing the Dead Sea Scrolls*” – Appeared as featured investigator exploring new research about the Dead Sea Scrolls that appeared on *National Geographic Channel*, July 2010. (CTVC)
- “*Ancient Aliens: The Series*” - Appeared as expert on series that aired on *The History Channel*, April-May 2010. (Prometheus Entertainment)
- “*Life After People: 10,000+ Years After Humans*” - Appeared as expert in documentary that premiered on *The History Channel*, January 2010. (Flight 33)
- “*Blood for the Gods: Sex & Death*” - Appeared as expert on episode that premiered on *The Discovery Channel*, January 2010. (Flight 33)
- “*Daily Planet: October 6, 2009*” - Appeared in a featured segment highlighting the archaeology of Qumran on *Discovery Channel Canada*, October 6, 2009. (Discovery)
- “*Angels & Demons: Decoded*” - Appeared as expert on episode that premiered on *The History Channel*, May 2009. (Prometheus)
- “*Biblical Mysteries Explained: Lost Gospels*” - Appeared as expert on episode that premiered on *The Discovery Channel*, April 2009. (Flight 33)
- “*Ancient Aliens*” - Appeared as expert on 2-hour special that premiered on *The History Channel*, March 2009. (Prometheus)
- “*Biblical Mysteries Explained: Exodus*” - Appeared as expert on episode that premiered on *The Discovery Channel*, December 2008. (Flight 33)
- “*Biblical Mysteries Explained: Sodom and Gomorrah*” - Appeared as expert on episode that premiered on *The Discovery Channel*, December 2008. (Flight 33)
- “*Indiana Jones and the Ultimate Quest*” - Appeared as expert on 2-hour documentary that premiered on *The History Channel*, May 2008. (Prometheus)
- “*Decoding the Past: Prophecies of Iraq*” - Appeared as expert on episode that premiered on *The History Channel*, January 2006. (Paulist)
- “*Decoding the Past: Prophecies of Israel*” - Appeared as expert on episode that premiered on *The History Channel*, December 2005. (Paulist)

## CONFERENCE PAPERS AND LECTURES

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- “*The Israeli-Palestinian Peace Process during the First Decade of the 2000s: An Assessment*” – Presented as a part of a symposium sponsored by the Middle Eastern Peace and Awareness (MEPA) organization at Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA, March 10, 2010.
- “*The State of the Archaeological Debate at Qumran*” – Presented to the Association for Jewish Studies annual meeting in Los Angeles, CA, December 21, 2009.

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- “*Scholars Behaving Badly: ‘Charles Gadda,’ Raphael Golb, and the Campaign of Anonymity on the Internet to Promote Norman Golb and Smear His Rivals,*” - Presented at the *Society of Biblical Literature* Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, November 23, 2009.
- “*Talking to the Media as a Biblical Scholar*” - Presented at the *Society of Biblical Literature* Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, November 22, 2009.
- “*A Response to Jodi Magness, Yuval Peleg, Lawrence Schiffman, and Eric Cline,*” - Presented as a part of the review of my book “*Qumran through (Real) Time: A Virtual Reconstruction of Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls*” (Gorgias 2009) at the *Society of Biblical Literature* Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, November 22, 2009.
- “*A Tour of Herodian Jerusalem*” - Presented to the Los Angeles chapter of the *Biblical Archaeology Society*, Los Angeles, CA, May 1, 2009.
- “*Qumran at the Dead Sea: A Virtual Reality Tour of the Dead Sea Qumran Settlement*” - Presented at the “*Writings from the Ancient World*” conference at California State University, Fullerton (Irvine Campus), Irvine, CA, April 4, 2009.
- “*Promoting Social Justice: Confronting Racism and Homophobia*” - Presented as part of a panel discussion hosted by the Pepperdine University Graduate School of Education and Psychology at the Howard Hughes Center West Los Angeles Campus, March 24, 2009.
- “*The Eight Gates of Jerusalem*” - Presented to the Los Angeles chapter of the *Biblical Archaeology Society*, Monrovia, CA, January 9, 2009.
- “*Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls*” - Presented at the Oxnard Public Library, Oxnard, CA, January 19, 2008.
- “*The Qumran Visualization Project*” - Presented to the *UCLA Club of San Diego*, San Diego, CA, November 20, 2007.
- “*The Archaeology of Qumran: The Digitally Reconstructed Settlement and a Proposed Occupation Model*” - Presented at the *Society of Biblical Literature* Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, November 19, 2007.
- “*The Archaeology of Qumran: The Digitally Reconstructed Settlement and a Proposed Occupation Model*” - Presented at the *American Schools of Oriental Research* Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, November 17, 2007.
- “*A Virtual Tour of Qumran*” - Presented the Plenary Introduction for keynote speaker Dr. Jodi Magness’ *American Schools of Oriental Research* Plenary Presentation: “*The Current State of Qumran Archaeology,*” San Diego, CA, November 14, 2007.
- “*Ancient Qumran: A Virtual Reality Tour*” - Wrote script and produced film for the San Diego Natural History Museum’s exhibition of the Dead Sea Scrolls, on exhibit June 29 – December 31, 2007.
- “*Qumran in Biblical Times: The Reconstructed Settlement at Khirbet Qumran*” - Presented to the Los Angeles chapter of the *Biblical Archaeology Society*, Los Angeles, CA, April 23, 2007.
- “*Qumran through (Real) Time: A Virtual Reconstruction of the Archaeology of Qumran*” - Presented at the *Society of Biblical Literature* Annual Meeting, Washington D.C., November 20, 2006.
- “*Qumran through (Real) Time: The Qumran Visualization Project*” - Presented at the *American Schools of Oriental Research* Annual Meeting, Washington D.C., November 17, 2006.
- “*Reactions to Binary Messianic Expectation in the Second Temple Period: Its Expectation, Embodiment, and Rejection*” - Presented at the *Society of Biblical Literature* Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, CA, November 21, 2005.

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“*A Brief History of Jerusalem*” - Presented to the Los Angeles chapter of the *Biblical Archaeology Society*, Monrovia, CA, October 7, 2005.

“*Messianism at the Time of Christ*” - Presented to the Los Angeles chapter of the *Biblical Archaeology Society*, Monrovia, CA, June 3, 2005.

“*Does Archaeology Illuminate the New Testament?*” - Presented at the “Give Me An Answer” Lecture Series in Huntington Beach, CA, July 11, 2004.

“*Palaeo-Hebrew as Language Ideology in the Numismatic Record of the Bar Kokhba Revolt*” - Presented at the *Society of Biblical Literature* Pacific Coast Regional Conference, Whittier, CA, March 21, 2004.

“*The History of Sepphoris through its Mosaics*” - Presented to the Los Angeles chapter of the *Biblical Archaeology Society*, Monrovia, CA, January 9, 2004.

“*The Significance of Caesarea Philippi to the Ministry of Jesus*” - Presented to the Los Angeles chapter of the *Biblical Archaeology Society*, Monrovia, CA, November 1, 2002.

## **MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

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Alliance of Digital Humanities Organizations (Member)  
American Schools of Oriental Research (Committee Chair)  
Archaeological Institute of America (Member)  
Association for Computers in the Humanities (Member)  
Association for Jewish Studies (Member)  
Educause (Member)  
Israel Exploration Society (Member)  
Society of Biblical Literature (Section Chair)

## **PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE SERVICE**

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Co-Chair (with Eric H. Cline) - American Schools of Oriental Research Media Relations Committee  
Chair - Society of Biblical Literature Blogging and Online Publication Steering Committee  
Governing Board, UCLA Center for the Study of Religion

## **GRANTS, AWARDS, AND HONORS**

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2010 Named as a distinguished alumnus to Fresno City College’s “100 Stars for 100 Years” celebrating the centennial anniversary of the college.  
2010 CCLE Innovation and Development Program (IDP) grant for improving online instructional documentation for the CCLE/Moodle Course Management System at UCLA. (\$3,200).  
2008 Grant from the *North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences* for the production of HD reconstructions of Qumran for use in their exhibition of the Dead Sea Scrolls (\$16,000)  
2007 UCLA Graduate Student Research Fellowship (\$10,000)  
2006 Research grant from the *San Diego Natural History Museum* and Steven Spielberg’s *Righteous Persons Foundation* for dissertation work on the *Qumran Visualization Project* (\$75,000)  
2005 UCLA Graduate Student Research Fellowship (\$10,000)  
2003 *Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers*  
1999 J. P. Sanders Ministerial Scholarship (\$12,000)  
1999 *Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges*  
1998 J. P. Sanders Ministerial Scholarship (\$12,000)  
1998 Seaver Dean’s Scholarship for work on the project: “The History of Israel through Coins”  
1997 J. P. Sanders Ministerial Scholarship (\$12,000)  
1996 Pepperdine University Religion Division Grant (4-year renewable)

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## PRESENT APPOINTMENTS

Instructional Technology Coordinator, Center for Digital Humanities, UCLA  
Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, UCLA  
Research Associate - Cotsen Institute of Archaeology, UCLA

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Date	Course	Position	School
Summer 2010	RELIGN 140: Mythology of Otherworldly Journeys	Adjunct Assistant Professor	UCLA
Spring 2010	ANNEA 10W: Jerusalem the Holy City	Adjunct Assistant Professor	UCLA
Summer 2009	HST 410: Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls	Visiting Professor	Portland State
Spring 2009	UBBL 310: 1&2 Samuel	Adjunct Professor	Azusa Pacific
Spring 2009	UBBL 210: Luke-Acts	Adjunct Professor	Azusa Pacific
Summer 2008	ANNEA 10W: Jerusalem the Holy City	Teaching Fellow	UCLA
Summer 2007	ANNEA 10W: Jerusalem the Holy City	Teaching Associate	UCLA
Spring 2006	ANNEA 10W: Jerusalem the Holy City	Teaching Associate	UCLA
Fall 2005	REL 101: History and Religion of Israel	Adjunct Professor	Pepperdine
Summer 2005	REL 102: History and Religion of Early Christianity	Adjunct Professor	Pepperdine
Spring 2005	ANNEA 10W: Jerusalem the Holy City	Teaching Associate	UCLA
Spring 2005	REL 102: History and Religion of Early Christianity	Adjunct Professor	Pepperdine
Fall 2004	REL 101: History and Religion of Israel	Adjunct Professor	Pepperdine
Spring 2004	REL 101: History and Religion of Israel	Adjunct Professor	Pepperdine
Fall 2003	REL 101: History and Religion of Israel	Adjunct Professor	Pepperdine
Summer 2003	REL 102: History and Religion of Early Christianity	Adjunct Professor	Pepperdine
Fall 2002	REL 101: History and Religion of Israel	Adjunct Professor	Pepperdine
Summer 2002	REL 102: History and Religion of Early Christianity	Adjunct Professor	Pepperdine
Summer 2002	REL 101: History and Religion of Israel	Adjunct Professor	Pepperdine
Spring 2002	REL 101: History and Religion of Israel	Adjunct Professor	Pepperdine
Fall 2001	REL 101: History and Religion of Israel	Adjunct Professor	Pepperdine

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION EXPERIENCE

2006	Excavator	Hazor, Israel	Supervisors: A. Ben-Tor and S. Zuckerman
2004	Square Supervisor	Omrit, Israel	Supervisor: J.A. Overman
2000	Area Supervisor	Banias, Israel	Supervisors: V. Tzaferis and J.F. Wilson
1999	Square Supervisor	Banias, Israel	Supervisors: V. Tzaferis and J.F. Wilson

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Qumran	Instructional Technology	Computer Assisted Research
Dead Sea Scrolls	Eastern Mediterranean Archaeology	Digital Modeling
Digital Humanities	Classical Judean Numismatics	The Bar Kokhba Rebellion
Hebrew Language	History of Religion	Biblical Literary Criticism
OT & NT Pseudepigrapha	Aramaic Targumim	

## ANCIENT LANGUAGE PROFICIENCIES

Hebrew (Biblical, Qumran, Rabbinic)  
Aramaic (Biblical, Imperial, Qumran, Targumic)  
Northwest Semitic (Moabite, Ammonite, Edomite, Phoenician)  
Syriac  
Greek (Biblical)  
Coptic

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## **DOCTORAL DISSERTATION AND COMMITTEE**

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Dissertation Title: *"The Qumran Digital Model: An Argument for Archaeological Reconstruction in Virtual Reality"*

Dissertation Committee: Dr. William M. Schniedewind, UCLA Dept. of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures (Chair)  
Dr. Aaron Burke, UCLA Dept. of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures  
Dr. Diane Favro, UCLA Dept. of Architecture and Urban Design

Dissertation Abstract: The nature of the settlement of Khirbet Qumran has been at the center of an archaeological debate since the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls in the nearby caves. Recent research and publications have renewed questions regarding Roland de Vaux's initial conclusions about Qumran: that the site was built and occupied by the Essenes, who composed the Dead Sea Scrolls there. This dissertation examines the history of interpretation of the settlement at Qumran and introduces a new digital methodology for examining archaeological sites using virtual reconstructions. The process catalogues archaeological data as geometry and allows for the juxtaposition of competing architectural interpretations using "data-switches" in addition to showing diachronic developments using "date-switches." A fully interactive, three-dimensional, real time, virtual reconstruction of Qumran serves as the test case for future use of this technology. The merits and methods of reconstructing archaeological remains in a digital environment are discussed.

It is concluded that after an initial Iron Age occupation, the site of Qumran was established as a fortress during the Hasmonean period. This fortress was then abandoned and reoccupied by a small religious community that expanded the site in a communal, non-military manner. The research concludes that the archaeological data do not eliminate the possibility that a sectarian group, with a keen concern for ritual purity, and participating in agricultural, industrial, and scribal endeavors took up residence in the former fortress. The dissertation concludes that this group was ultimately responsible for the library of documents found in the nearby caves, commonly known as the Dead Sea Scrolls.

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## REFERENCES

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- **Dr. William M. Schniedewind**      **Kershaw Chair of Ancient Eastern Mediterranean Studies, UCLA**  
**Professor of Biblical Studies and Northwest Semitic Languages, UCLA**  
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378 Humanities Building  
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USA
- **Dr. Susan Ackerman**              **Preston H. Kelsey Professor of Religion, Dartmouth**  
**Chair, Department of Religion, Dartmouth**  
email: susan.ackerman@dartmouth.edu  
phone: 603.646.3738  
address: 6036 Thornton Hall  
Hanover, New Hampshire 03755  
USA
- **Dr. Christian Brady**              **Dean, Schreyer Honors College, Penn State**  
**Associate Professor of Classical Studies and Jewish Studies, Penn State**  
email: cbrady@psu.edu  
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- **Dr. Nancy Magnusson Durham**      **Senior Vice President for Planning, Information**  
**and Technology, Pepperdine University**  
email: nancy.magnusson@pepperdine.edu  
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