

Dr. phil. Aaron W. Schmitt, M.A.



Work address:

JGU Mainz

Institut für Altertumswissenschaften

AB Vorderasiatische Archäologie

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Career summary

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| 22.06.–
31.12.2020 | Postdoc researcher at JGU Mainz |
| 05/2020–06/2020 | Preparation of funding proposals |
| 04/2019–04/2020 | Completion of habilitation |
| 10/2017 until
04/2019 | Postdoc researcher and director of the “Altorientalische Erinnerungskulturen” project funded by the Fritz Thyssen Foundation and co-director of the project “Beyond Purple and Ivory” |
| 04/2017–09/2017 | Deputy professorship at LMU München as a substitute for Prof. Dr. Adelheid Otto |
| 10/2015–03/2017 | Postdoc researcher and director of “Altorientalische Erinnerungskulturen” project funded by the Fritz Thyssen Foundation |
| 03/2015–10/2015 | Paternal leave |
| 10/2012–09/2015 | Postdoc researcher at the Department for Ancient Near Eastern Archaeology at JGU Mainz |
| 10/2011–09/2012 | Travelling fellow of the German Archaeological Institute |
| 04/2010–09/2011 | Postdoc researcher at the Department for Ancient Near Eastern Archaeology at JGU Mainz |

Education

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| 10/2006–03/2010 | PhD student at the Department for Ancient Near Eastern Archaeology at JGU Mainz und Tübingen University, funded by the Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes e. V. (grade: <i>summa cum laude</i>) |
| 10/2001–07/2006 | Studies in Ancient Near Eastern Archaeology, Assyriology and Egyptology at JGU Mainz and Pisa University (Italy) (grade: with distinction) |

Publications

Monographs

- 2012: *Die Jüngereren Ischtar-Tempel und der Nabû-Tempel in Assur* (WVDOG 137).
- 2020: *Altorientalische Erinnerungskulturen: Eine Untersuchung zum Interesse an und dem Umgang mit Vergangenheit in altmesopotamischen Gesellschaften des 3. bis 1. Jts. v. Chr. basierend auf Fallstudien aus Assur und Ur ausgehend von der materiellen Kultur* (habilitation thesis; submitted 04/2020).

Papers and other publications

- in preparation: with F. Göttlich, A. Kilian und H. Gries: Mass-documentation of ceramic vessel fragments using 3D models generated by structure for motion. The Phoenician pottery from Tell el-Burak as a case study.
- in print 03: Metal objects, in: U. Finkbeiner und H. Sader (eds.), *Final report of the excavations at BEY 020 (Beirut downtown)*.
- in print 02: with J. Kamlah und H. Sader, The Tell el-Burak archaeological project: preliminary report on the 2015, 2017 and 2018 excavation seasons, *BAAL*.
- in print 01: Verfallen und vergessen – Überlegungen zum Umgang mit dem Andenken Tukultī-Ninurtas I. anhand der Bauwerke des Herrschers in Aššur und Kār-Tukultī-Ninurta, in: S. Maul (ed.), *Assur Forschungen II*.
- 2019i: with K. Badreshany, The Middle Bronze Age remains in Area 2, in: J. Kamlah und H. Sader (eds.), *Tell el-Burak 1: The Middle Bronze Age* (ADPV 45,1), 275–282.
- 2019h: The metal artifacts, in: J. Kamlah und H. Sader (eds.), *Tell el-Burak 1: The Middle Bronze Age* (ADPV 45,1), 336–338.
- 2019g: with H. Gries, E. Tachatou, H. Sader, E. Katzy, K. Badreshany, The Zahrani Regional Survey Project: preliminary report on the 2017 and 2018 fieldwork seasons, *BAAL* 19, 173–228.
- 2019f: with H. Gries, E. Tachatou, H. Sader, E. Katzy, K. Badreshany, The Zahrani Regional Survey Project: Vorbericht der Kampagnen 2017 und 2018, *MDOG* 151, 323–391.
- 2019e: Hidden under the floors. The inventories of the Ganunmaḥ at Ur, in: J. Evans und E. Roßberger (eds.), *Ancient Near Eastern temple inventories in third and second millennia BCE*, *MAAO* 4, 83–106.
- 2019d: with K. Badreshany, E. Tachatou and H. Sader, Insights into the economic organization of the Phoenician homeland: a multidisciplinary investigation of the later Iron Age II and Persian period Phoenician amphorae from Tell el-Burak, *Levant* 35, 1–39.
- 2019c: The ceramic material from the Phoenician settlement at Tell el-Burak. New data for an Iron Age pottery sequence from the Phoenician homeland, in: M. Bolder-Boos, N. Bagherpour Kashani (eds.), *Carthage Studies* 11, 9–26.
- 2019b: Symbolsockel in Assyrien, in: D. Prechel, H. Neumann (eds.), *Beiträge zur Kenntnis und Deutung altorientalischer Archivalien. Festschrift für Helmut Freydank zum 80. Geburtstag* (dubsar 6), 383–408.
- 2019a: Metal objects, in: U. Finkbeiner (ed.), *Final reports of the Syrian-German excavations at Tell el-'Abd III: small objects and environmental studies* (marru 5/2), 81–86.

- 2017c: Art. Assur, in: Alkier, St. / Bauks, M. / Koenen, K. (eds.), *Das wissenschaftliche Bibelllexikon im Internet, 2007ff.*, <https://www.bibelwissenschaft.de/stichwort/14093/>
- 2017b: Art. Kalchu, in: Alkier, St. / Bauks, M. / Koenen, K. (eds.), *Das wissenschaftliche Bibelllexikon im Internet, 2007ff.*, <https://www.bibelwissenschaft.de/stichwort/23052/>
- 2017a: Art. Ninive, in: Alkier, St. / Bauks, M. / Koenen, K. (eds.), *Das wissenschaftliche Bibelllexikon im Internet, 2007ff.*, <https://www.bibelwissenschaft.de/stichwort/29296/>
- 2016c: with J. Kamlah und H. Sader, A cultic installation with a standing stone from the Phoenician settlement at Tell el-Burak, *Berytus* 105, 135–168.
- 2016b: with J. Kamlah und H. Sader, The Tell el-Burak archaeological project: preliminary report on the 2011, 2013, and 2014 seasons in Area 3, *BAAL* 16, 79–130.
- 2016a: Review of S. Mühl, Siedlungsgeschichte im mittleren Osttigrisgebiet, *OLZ* 111/3, 220–225.
- 2014b: On Assyrian building inscriptions: an addition to J. Novotny, *JCS* 66 (2014), *NABU* 2014/4, 97) 152–153.
- 2014a: with A. Bartelmus, Beutestücke aus Babylonien in Assyrien. Überlegungen zu einer neuen Weihinschrift Kurigalzus I. aus Assur, *ZA* 104, 2014, 74–90.
- 2013: Die eisenzeitlichen Metallfunde von Tell el-Burak und Beirut (BEY020), *ZDPV* 129, 171–216.
- 2011/2012: Die Ischtar-Tempel und der Nabû-Tempel in Assur, in: *Alter Orient aktuell* 12 (ed. by the Deutsche Orient-Gesellschaft), 48–50.
- 2011b: Rezension zu J. Seeher, Götter in Stein gehauen. Das hethitische Felsheiligtum von Yazılıkaya, http://www.wbg-wissenverbindet.de/WBGCMS/php/Proxy.php?purl=/de_DE/wbg/Tochter/zabern/show,2914.html
- 2011a: Beitrag in: A. Pruß, Excavations in Field P in the years 2004-2009, in: M. Lebeau und A. Suleiman (eds.), *Tell Beydar. The 2004-2009 Seasons of Excavations* (Subartu 29), 111–175.
- 2008: Vom funktionalen Gegenstand zum historischen Dokument. Stationen eines Angelsteins in Assur, *MDOG* 140, 2008, 137–150.
- 2004: Deponierung von Figuren bei der Fundamentlegung assyrischer und babylonischer Tempel, in: C. Ambos, *Mesopotamische Baurituale*, 229–234.
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Teaching

W = winter term; S = summer term

W	2019	Ancient Near Eastern memory cultures (JGU Mainz)
W	2017	Marx? For archaeologists? Really? Theories in post processual archaeology (JGU Mainz)
S	2017	Quality and quantity: scientific methodologies in Ancient Near Eastern Archaeology (LMU Munich)
S	2017	Burial customs in the Ancient Near East (LMU Munich)

- S 2017 Archaeology and history of the Persian empire (LMU Munich)
- S 2017 The Ancient Near East in the 2nd millennium BC (LMU Munich)
- W 2015/2016 Archaeology and history of Mari (JGU Mainz)
- W 2015/2016 Archaeology and history of Mari (Heidelberg University)
- W 2014/2015 Iron Age pottery in the Levant (JGU Mainz)
- W 2014/2015 with Susanne Görke, Apotropaic figurines: text and images (JGU Mainz)
- W 2014/2015 The Early Dynastic period in Mesopotamia (Heidelberg University)
- S 2014 Preparation class for an excursion to the ICAANE in Basel (JGU Mainz)
- S 2014 Methods and theories in Ancient Near Eastern Archaeology (JGU Mainz)
- S 2014 The Early Dynastic period in the Diyala region (JGU Mainz)
- S 2014 Iconography of Mesopotamian gods and rulers (JGU Mainz)
- W 2013/14 Introduction to Ancient Near Eastern Archaeology (JGU Mainz)
- W 2013/14 with Alexa Bartelmus, The Kassite period in Mesopotamia (JGU Mainz)
- W 2013/14 Archaeology and history of Uruk (JGU Mainz)
- W 2013/14 The 2nd half of the 2nd millennium BC in Mesopotamia, Middle Assyrian and Kassite periods (Frankfurt University)
- S 2013 Bronze working in the Ancient Near East (JGU Mainz); in cooperation with the Laboratory for Experimental Archaeology in Mayen
- S 2013 Introduction to Ancient Near Eastern Archaeology (*Studieren 50+ program*; JGU Mainz)
- W 2012/13 Object categories in Ancient Near Eastern Archaeology (JGU Mainz)
- W 2012/13 Archaeology and history of Ur (JGU Mainz)
- S 2011 Recent publications in Ancient Near Eastern Archaeology (JGU Mainz)
- S 2011 Continuity and change – the transition from ED III to the Akkadian period (JGU Mainz)
- W 2010/2011 Materials and manufacture in the Ancient Near East (JGU Mainz)
- W 2010/2011 Tell Halaf and the late Hittite period in northern Syria and southeast Anatolia (JGU Mainz)
- S 2010 Important excavations and excavators in Ancient Near Eastern Archaeology (JGU Mainz)
- S 2010 Ashur: old excavations – new research (JGU Mainz)

Thesis supervisions

Master (first supervisor)

E. Tachatou, Landscape and agriculture in the Sidonian hinterland in the Iron Age (1200–332 BC) (2018)

- R. Amerykkou, Lehm als Baumaterial im Alten Orient (2016)
- K. Zartner, Nach- und Umnutzung von öffentlichen Gebäuden im Alten Orient (2016)
- A. Dietz, Der Raubzug des Šutruk-naḫḫunte und andere Beispiele für den Umgang mit Beute in der mesopotamischen Geschichte (2015)
- M. Neumann, Befestigungsanlagen der späten Eisenzeit in der Levante (2015)
- T. Graichen, Rekonstruktion neuassyrischer Tempelarchitektur am Beispiel des Nabû-Tempels in Khorsabad in einer interaktiven Umgebung (2014)
- S. Sarigül, Assyrische Gründungs- und Baurkunden (2014)
- F. Sarga, Installationen in Frühdynastischen Tempeln (2014)

Master (second supervisor)

- M. Rummel, Late Iron Age Phoenician tableware from Tell el-Burak as a case study (FU Berlin, 2019)
- F. Grops, Quarzkeramik in Vorderasien am Beispiel ausgewählter Funde aus Assur (2016)
- S. Reisel, Darstellungen des Schurzes auf assyrischen Darstellungen (2014)

Bachelor (first supervisor)

- O. Hense, Bildliche Darstellungen von Humbaba (2015)
- A. Mjasin, Apotropäische Figuren in mesopotamischen Gebäuden (2015)
- M. Rummel, Gründungsfiguren von der frühdynastischen bis zur altbabylonischen Zeit (2015)
- E. Tachatou, Assyrische Bilderschrift (2015)

Bachelor (second supervisor)

- P. Christmann, Pazuzu in der Populärkultur (2017)
- J. Eise, Interkulturalität und Kultkontinuität des hethitischen Pantheons am Beispiel des Wettergottes (2016)

Organized scientific workshops and conferences

- 12/2018 Between foreign hegemony and expansion to the west. Phoenician society and economy from the 10th until the 5th c.; with M. Bolder-Boos, financed by the Fritz Thyssen Stiftung and JGU Mainz; <https://www.vorderasiatische-archaeologie.uni-mainz.de/phoenicians-workshop-12-12-14-12-2018/>

Conference lectures

- 11/2018 Kinship relations in Assyria in the Middle and Neo-Assyrian period – the Stela Site at Aššur as a case study (workshop Leipzig)
- 10/2018 with E. Tachatou and K. Badreshany: Phoenician economy in their homeland (International Congress of Phoenician and Punic Studies, Mérida)
- 10/2018 with H. Gries: Jenseits von Purpur und Elfenbein. Ein archäologischer Survey im phönizischen Mutterland (evening lecture, Berlin)
- 04/2018 with E. Tachatou: Agriculture and economy in the Phoenician homeland – the Sidon hinterland as a case study (ICAANE Munich)

- 02/2018 Between continuity and change. Collective memories of the Assyrian elites in the 2nd and 1st millennia (workshop Paris)
- 10/2017 New insights into the material culture of the Persian period in the Phoenician homeland based on the ceramic material from Tell el-Burak (workshop Marburg)
- 10/2017 First results of the Zahrani Regional Survey (symposium Beirut)
- 07/2017 Der Stelenplatz in Assur – eine Neuinterpretation (RAI Marburg)
- 05/2017 Under the eyes of the ancestors. The (possible) involvement of media from the past in feasting and festivals in Ur during the Ur III and Old Babylonian periods (conference Munich)
- 12/2016 with K. Badreshany and E. Tachatou: Phoenician amphorae from the late Iron Age settlement at Tell el-Burak (congress Ghent)
- 11/2016 Hidden under floors. The inventories of the Ganunmah at Ur (3rd to 1st mill.) (workshop Munich)
- 11/2016 What do we (seem to) know about modes of production and distribution in the Phoenician homeland during the late Iron Age and Persian period? (Phoenicians network meeting Gent)
- 07/2016 Sites of memory in Ur (RAI Philadelphia)
- 06/2016 Assyrische Erinnerungsorte. Neue Erkenntnisse zum Stelenplatz in Assur (evening lecture, München)
- 04/2016 The late Iron Age pottery from Tell el-Burak (ICAANE Vienna)
- 03/2016 Der Neue Palast in Assur (ICDOG Frankfurt)
- 11/2015 The Iron Age pottery of Tell el-Burak: amphorae as indicators of standardization and centralization tendencies (Phoenicians network meeting Bochum)
- 10/2015 Remembering in Assyria. Thoughts on the role of material culture in collective Assyrian memories (workshop Tübingen)
- 11/2014 The Iron Age pottery of Tell el-Burak: a preliminary report (ASOR meeting San Diego)
- 10/2014 Das Andenken Tukultī-Ninurtas I. Ein Fall von *damnatio memoriae* im Alten Orient? (conference Heidelberg)
- 06/2014 The emulation of Akkadian imagery in the Assyrian periods – fact or fiction? (ICAANE Basel)
- 05/2014 with Alexa Bartelmus: Beutestücke aus Babylonien in Assur. Neue Einblicke in die Praxis der Deportierung von Weihgaben (DOG assembly Munich)
- 10/2013 Objects with 3rd and early 2nd millennium inscriptions from later contexts. The case of Ur (workshop Heidelberg)
- 03/2013 The Iron Age metal objects from Tell el-Burak (workshop Tübingen)
- 01/2013 Standarten in Tempeleingängen in Assyrien (workshop Munich)
- 07/2011 Tradition und Innovation in Assyrien am Beispiel des Ishtar-Tempels in Assur (RAI Rome)

Administrative experience

04/2014–03/2017	Member of the council of Faculty 07 at JGU Mainz
10/2013–03/2015	Member of the council of the Institute for Ancient Studies at JGU Mainz
2014	Member of appointment committee (succession Prof. Otto)
2009	Member of appointment committee (succession Prof. Braun)
Since 2008 repeatedly	Member of committees for the selection of student fellows for the Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes e. V.

Field work

- Zahrani Regional Survey (Lebanon, as co-director): 2017, 2018
- Tell Burak (Lebanon): 2002, 2003, 2005, 2008, 2010, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2018 (since 2013 as co-director)
- Tell Beydar (Syria): 2006, 2008, 2009
- Tell Afis (Syria): 2005
- Tchoga Zanbil (Iran): 2003
- Haft Tappeh (Iran): 2005
- Bakr Awa (Iraq): 2013

Professional affiliations and memberships

- Since 2017 co-director of the Zahrani Regional Survey Project
- 10/2015–07/2019: board member and Vice Secretary of the International Association for Assyriology
- Member of the DFG network group: „Von Kanaan nach Gibraltar und zurück – die Phönizier im Mittelmeerraum“ (2015–2017)
- Member and co-director (since 2013) of the Tell el-Burak project
- Member of the Assur project (Berlin)
- Member and co-director (since 2011) of the German component of the Tell Beydar excavations

Awards and fellowships

2014	Teaching award of the JGU Mainz
2011/12	Travel fellowship of the German Archaeological Institute
2011	Forschungsförderpreis of the „Vereinigung der Freunde der Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz e. V.“ for the PhD thesis
2007–2010	PhD Scholarship of the Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes e. V.

Languages

- German (mother tongue)
- English (fluent)
- Italian (good)
- French (good)
- Arabic (basic)