

# Ryan Patrick Breslawski

Email [rbreslawski@smu.edu](mailto:rbreslawski@smu.edu) | Website [people.smu.edu/rbreslawski/](http://people.smu.edu/rbreslawski/) | ORCID 0000-0002-8336-1295  
Southern Methodist University | 3225 Daniel Avenue | Dallas, Texas 75205 | United States

## Education

- 2023 PhD Anthropology, Southern Methodist University, Dallas
- 2016 MA Anthropology, Southern Methodist University, Dallas
- 2014 MS Anthropology, Utah State University, Logan
- 2010 BS Anthropology, University of Utah, Salt Lake City

## Appointments & Employment

- 2023– Research Affiliate – Department of Anthropology, Southern Methodist University, TX.
- 2023– Faunal Osteology Specialist – AR Consultants, Inc., TX.
- 2020 Adjunct Instructor – Department of Anthropology, Southern Methodist University, TX.
- 2019–2020 Archaeology Field and Laboratory Technician – AR Consultants, Inc., TX.
- 2014–2021 Teaching Assistant – Department of Anthropology, Southern Methodist University, TX.
- 2012 Archaeologist – Bureau of Land Management, Vernal Field Office, UT. Contracted through SWCA Environmental Consultants.
- 2010–2012 Cultural Resources Technician – SWCA Environmental Consultants, UT.
- 2011 Cultural Resources Intern – Bureau of Land Management, UT State Office.
- 2010–2011 Research Assistant – Utah State University Department of Sociology, Social Work, and Anthropology, UT.

## Research Interests

Human-environment interaction, western North America, zooarchaeology, paleoecology, quantitative methods, chronology

## Refereed Publications

- 2023 Holliday, Vance T., Tyrone L. Daulton, Patrick J. Bartlein, Mark B. Boslough, **Ryan P. Breslawski**, Abigail E. Fisher, Ian A. Jorgeson, Andrew C. Scott, Christian Koeberl, Jennifer Marlon, Jeffrey Severinghaus, Michail I. Petaev, Philippe Claeys. Comprehensive refutation of the Younger Dryas Impact Hypothesis (YDIH). *Earth-Science Reviews* 247: 104502.<sup>2</sup>
- 2023 **Breslawski, Ryan P.** Minimum animal units and the standardized count problem. *Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory* 30: 268–309.<sup>2</sup>
- 2022 Andrews, Brian N., Metin I. Eren, **Ryan P. Breslawski**, Susan Mentzer, Briggs Buchanan, David J. Meltzer. Investigations at Goodson Shelter, Oklahoma. *Plains Anthropologist* 67: 372–404.<sup>2</sup>
- 2022 Boulanger, Matthew T., **Ryan P. Breslawski**, Ian A. Jorgeson. Quantifying evenness of Paleoindian point forms within Geographic regions of eastern North America. *Defining and Measuring Diversity in Archaeology*, edited by Metin I. Eren and Briggs Buchanan, pp. 213–246. Berghahn Books, New York.<sup>2</sup>
- 2021 Grayson, Donald K., David J. Meltzer, **Ryan P. Breslawski**. Overkill and the North American archaeological record—not guilty by association? A comment on Wolfe and Broughton (2020). *Journal of Archaeological Science* 128: 105312.<sup>2</sup>
- 2020 **Breslawski, Ryan P.**, Tomasin Playford, Christopher M. Johnston. Foetal bison long bones and mortality season estimates at the Early Holocene Casper and Horner II Sites, North America. *International Journal of Osteoarchaeology* 30: 425–434.<sup>2</sup>

- 2020 Byers, David A., Jonathan Keith, **Ryan P. Breslawski**. Impact scar frequency, bone density and marrow utility: an experimental study. *International Journal of Osteoarchaeology* 30: 557–564.<sup>2</sup>
- 2020 Jorgeson, Ian A., **Ryan P. Breslawski**, Abigail E. Fisher. Radiocarbon simulation fails to support the temporal synchronicity requirement of the Younger Dryas impact hypothesis. *Quaternary Research* 96: 123–139.<sup>2</sup>
- 2018 **Breslawski, Ryan P.**, Bonnie L. Etter, Ian Jorgeson, Matthew T. Boulanger. The atlatl to bow transition: What can we learn from modern recreational competitions? *Lithic Technology* 43: 26–37.<sup>2</sup>
- 2018 **Breslawski, Ryan P.**, Tomasin Playford. Probabilistic models of seasonal *Bison* exploitation based on fetal prey osteometry and reproductive phenology. *Archaeological and Anthropological Sciences* 10: 1851–1866.<sup>2</sup>
- 2016 Byers, David A., L. Suzann Henrikson, **Ryan P. Breslawski**. Holocene cold storage practices on the eastern Snake River Plain: A risk-mitigation strategy for lean times. *Journal of Anthropological Archaeology* 43: 56–68.<sup>2</sup>
- 2015 **Breslawski, Ryan P.**, David A. Byers. Skeletal fat, processing intensity, and the Late Holocene bison remains from Baker Cave, Southern Idaho. *American Antiquity* 80: 184–192.<sup>2</sup>
- 2015 **Breslawski, Ryan P.**, David A. Byers. Assessing measurement error in paleozoological osteometrics with bison remains. *Journal of Archaeological Science* 53: 235–242.<sup>2</sup>
- 2014 **Breslawski, Ryan P.**, David A. Byers. Holocene bison diminution on the Snake River Plain, Idaho, USA. *The Holocene* 24: 862–873.<sup>2</sup>

## Comments

- 2022 Jorgeson, Ian A., **Ryan P. Breslawski**, Abigail E. Fisher. Comment on “The Younger Dryas impact hypothesis: a review of the evidence”, by Martin B. Sweatman (2021), *Earth-Science Reviews* 218:103677. *Earth-Science Reviews* 225:103892.<sup>2</sup>
- 2020 **Breslawski, Ryan P.**, Ian A. Jorgeson, Abigail E. Fisher. A multi-proxy study of changing environmental conditions in a Younger Dryas sequence in southwestern Manitoba, Canada — comment on the paper by Teller et al., *Quaternary Research* Volume 93, 60–87. *Quaternary Research* 94:210–211.<sup>2</sup>
- 2014 **Breslawski, Ryan P.**, David A. Byers. Baker Caves I and III Revisited. *Idaho Professional Archaeological Council Newsletter*.

## Technical Reports

- 2012 **Breslawski, Ryan**. Class I Inventory and Reconnaissance Survey for Stone Collection Permit Renewals in Uintah and Duchesne Counties, Utah. U-12-BL-0599b. Report on file: Bureau of Land Management, Vernal Field Office, UT.
- 2012 **Breslawski, Ryan**. Class III Inventory for the McCoy Flats Trail System, Uintah County, Utah. U-12-BL-479b. Report on file: Bureau of Land Management, Vernal Field Office, UT.
- 2012 **Breslawski, Ryan**. Class III Inventory for a Proposed Fence in the S.J. Hatch Allotment, Uintah County, Utah. U-12-BL-0456b. Report on file at the Bureau of Land Management, Vernal Field Office, UT.

## Professional Conference Presentations

- 2024 **Breslawski, Ryan**, Annette Romero, Olivia LoGiurato, Kathryn Crater Gershtein. Ongoing Investigations into Late Woodland and Early Caddo Subsistence in the Bois d’Arc Creek Watershed, Northeast Texas. To be presented at the 89<sup>th</sup> Society for American Archaeology Meeting, New Orleans, LA.
- 2023 Romero, Annette, Olivia LoGiurato, **Ryan Breslawski**, Kathryn Crater Gershtein. Preliminary Faunal Analysis at a Repeatedly Occupied Prehistoric Site (41FN120) in the Bois d’Arc Creek Watershed. Presented at the 94<sup>th</sup> Texas Archeological Society Meeting, San Marcos, TX.

- 2019 Boulanger, Matthew T., **Ryan Breslawski**, Ian Jorgeson. A Systematic Approach to Quantifying Diversity in the Morphology and Spatial Distribution of Eastern Paleoindian Projectile Points. Presented at the Diversity Symposium, 84<sup>th</sup> Society for American Archaeology Meeting, Albuquerque, NM.
- 2017 **Breslawski, Ryan**. Seasonal Bison Exploitation in North American Prehistory. A Probabilistic Approach Using Fetal Prey Osteometry. Presented at the 82<sup>nd</sup> Society for American Archaeology Meeting, Vancouver, BC.
- 2017 **Breslawski, Ryan**, Bonnie Etter, Ian Jorgeson, Matthew Boulanger. The Atlatl to Bow-and-Arrow Transition: What can We Learn from Modern Recreational Competition Data? Presented at the 75<sup>th</sup> Plains Anthropological Conference, Bismarck, ND.
- 2016 **Breslawski, Ryan**: Seasonal Bison Hunting by Paleoindians on the Northwestern Plains. Revisiting Fetal Prey Remains from Horner II and Casper. Presented at the 74<sup>th</sup> Plains Anthropological Conference, Lincoln, NE.
- 2016 Byers, David, L. Suzann Henrikson, **Ryan P. Breslawski**. Holocene Cold Storage Practices on the Eastern Snake River Plain: A Risk-Mitigation Strategy for Lean Times. Presented at the 35<sup>th</sup> Great Basin Anthropological Conference, Reno, NV.
- 2015 **Breslawski, Ryan**, David Byers. Controlling for Carnivores and Fragmentation in Skeletal Element Analysis: Some Insights from Southern Idaho Cave Deposits. Presented at the 80<sup>th</sup> Society for American Archaeology Meeting, San Francisco, CA.

## Professional Poster Presentations

- 2022 **Breslawski, Ryan**. Geographic Variability in Climate Stress on Middle Holocene Bison. Presented at the 79<sup>th</sup> Plains Anthropological Conference, Oklahoma City, OK.
- 2019 **Breslawski, Ryan**. Evaluating Differential Animal Carcass Transport Decisions at Regional Scales Using Bayesian Mixed-Effects Models. Presented at the Novel Statistical Techniques in Archaeology Symposium, 84<sup>th</sup> Society for American Archaeology Meeting, Albuquerque, NM.
- 2019 Jorgeson, Ian, **Ryan Breslawski**, Abigail Fisher. Evaluating Chronological Hypotheses by Simulating Radiocarbon Datasets. Presented at the Novel Statistical Techniques in Archaeology Symposium, 84<sup>th</sup> Society for American Archaeology Meeting, Albuquerque, NM.
- 2018 **Breslawski, Ryan**, Brian Andrews, David Meltzer. The Goodson Shelter Archaeofauna and Archaic Subsistence in Eastern Oklahoma. Presented at the 76<sup>th</sup> Plains Anthropological Conference, San Antonio, TX.
- 2014 **Breslawski, Ryan**, David A. Byers. Bison Processing at Baker Cave III (10BN153), Snake River Plain, Idaho. Presented at the 79<sup>th</sup> Society for American Archaeology Meeting, Austin, TX.
- 2013 **Breslawski, Ryan**, David A. Byers. Bison Sex Composition at Baker Cave III (10BN153), Snake River Plain, Idaho. Presented at the 11<sup>th</sup> Rocky Mountain Anthropological Conference, Taos, NM.
- 2011 Jones, Emily Lena, Tod Hildebrandt, **Ryan Breslawski**, Elizabeth Seymour. The Idaho Archaeofaunal Database. Presented at the 76<sup>th</sup> Society for American Archaeology Meeting, Sacramento, CA.

## Public Presentations

- 2012 **Breslawski, Ryan**. Making a Living as a Hunter-Gatherer on Idaho's Snake River Plain. Talk for Utah State University's Saturdays at the Museum Program, Logan, UT.
- 2012 **Breslawski, Ryan**. The Role of Bison in Prehistoric Subsistence on Idaho's Snake River Plain. Poster for the Intermountain Graduate Research Symposium, Logan, UT.
- 2011 **Breslawski, Ryan**, Leigh Grench. The Moab National Register Nomination. Talk for the 31<sup>st</sup> Utah Rock Art Research Association Symposium, Price, UT.

## Grants & Awards: \$20,435.96 external, \$33,116.90 internal

2023	Institute for the Study of Earth and Man, travel funds: \$105.60
2023	Arizona State Museum, travel funds: \$399.96
2022	Dean's Dissertation Writing Fellowship, Moody School of Graduate and Advanced Studies, Southern Methodist University: \$23,000.00
2015–2022	Graduate Student Assembly, Southern Methodist University. Grants for conference travel, research, and society memberships: \$3183.18 over seven awards
2015–2022	Office of Research and Graduate Studies, Southern Methodist University. Grants for conference travel: \$2999.19 over six awards (\$750.00 declined due to COVID-19 related travel cancellation)
2019	Co-PI with PI David Meltzer. US National Science Foundation. Doctoral Dissertation Research Grant: The Geography of Altithermal Subsistence Adaptations on the North American Great Plains: \$19,236.00
2019	William P. Clements Center for Southwest Studies. Dissertation grant: \$500.00
2015–2019	Paul Steed Endowment, Department of Anthropology, Southern Methodist University. Grants for conference travel: \$678.93 over four awards
2016	Student paper competition prize, 74 <sup>th</sup> Plains Anthropological Conference. Plains Anthropological Society: \$300. Center for Applied Isotope Studies credit: \$500.00
2013	Office of Research and Graduate Studies and the Anthropology Program, Utah State University. Travel award for the 79 <sup>th</sup> Society for American Archaeology Meeting, Austin, TX: \$600.00
2011–2012	Anthropology Program, Utah State University. Scholarships: \$1750.00 over two awards
2011	Graduate Student Senate, Utah State University. Travel grant for the 77 <sup>th</sup> Society for American Archaeology Meeting, Memphis, TN: \$300.00

## Teaching Experience

Undergraduate courses at Southern Methodist University, 2014–2021:

Course Instructor, North American Archaeology (ANTH 3304) one semester  
Laboratory Instructor, The Science of Our Past (ANTH 2463) seven semesters  
Teaching Assistant, People of the Earth (ANTH 2302) four semesters  
Teaching Assistant, Human Evolution (ANTH 2315) one semester  
Teaching Assistant, Forensic Anthropology (ANTH 3351) one semester  
Teaching Assistant, Ice Age Americans (ANTH 3399) one semester

## Select Field Experience

2023 Nov–Dec	Excavation, mammoth skeleton, Fannin County, TX. Faunal osteology specialist, AR Consultants, Inc. Supervisors: Molly Hall, Dani Fitzgibbon.
2023 Jun	Text excavations, Black Mountain Folsom Site, Hinsdale County, CO. Research assistant, QUEST Archaeology Program, Southern Methodist University. Supervisor: David Meltzer.
2022 Jun	Mapping, Gypsum Overlook Site, Otero County, NM. Graduate research assistant, QUEST Archaeology Program, Southern Methodist University. Supervisor: David Meltzer.
2021 Jun	Text excavations, Lindenmeier Folsom Site, Larimer County, CO. Graduate research assistant, QUEST Archaeology Program, Southern Methodist University. Supervisors: David Meltzer and Jason LaBelle.
2020 May–Jun	Survey and historic site documentation, Lake Ralph Hall, Fannin County, TX. Field technician, AR Consultants. Supervisor: Molly Hall.

2019 Jul	Surface collection and mapping, Flat Top North Site, Gunnison County, CO. Graduate research assistant, QUEST Archaeology Program, Southern Methodist University. Supervisor: David Meltzer.
2019 Jun–Jul	Intensive survey, Reeves, Ector, and Ward Counties, TX. Field technician, AR Consultants. Supervisor: Philip Fisher.
2019 Jun	Test excavations, Witcher Site, Fannin County, TX. Field technician, AR Consultants. Supervisor: Allen Rutherford.
2019 May	Sediment coring, Bandelier National Monument, Sandoval County, NM. Research assistant, Bandelier Paleo-Eco-Hydrology Project. Supervisor: Michael Aiuvalasit.
2017, 2018 Jun	Test excavations, Paleo Crossing, Medina County, OH. Graduate research assistant, QUEST Archaeology Program, Southern Methodist University. Supervisors: David Meltzer and Metin Eren.
2017 May	Test excavations, Double Flute Site, Socorro County, NM. Graduate research assistant, QUEST Archaeology Program, Southern Methodist University. Supervisor: David Meltzer.
2015 Jun	Excavation, Goodson Shelter, Craig County, OK. Graduate research assistant, QUEST Archaeology Program, Southern Methodist University. Supervisors: David Meltzer and Brian Andrews.
2014 Apr	Intensive survey, Three Creeks, Rich County, UT. Cultural resources technician, USU Archeological Services. Supervisor: Jonathan Peart.
2013 Oct	Intensive survey, Dugway Proving Ground, Tooele County, UT. Technician, USU Archeological Services. Supervisor: Jonathan Peart.
2013 Sep	Intensive Survey, Lima Reservoir, Beaverhead County, MT. Technician, USU Archeological Services. Supervisor: Jonathan Peart.
2012 Jun	Reconnaissance survey, Uintah and Duchesne Counties, UT. Field supervisor, Bureau of Land Management, Vernal Field Office. Supervisor: Cameron Cox.
2012 May	Intensive survey, McCoy Flats Trails System, Uintah County, UT. Field supervisor, Bureau of Land Management, Vernal Field Office. Supervisor: Cameron Cox.
2011 Jul	Cattle grazing assessment surveys, Juab County, UT. Cultural resources intern, Bureau of Land Management, Utah State Office. Supervisor: Brian Storm.
2011 Jun	Reconnaissance survey, San Juan County, UT. Cultural resources intern, Bureau of Land Management, Utah State Office. Supervisor: Byron Loosle.
2010 Aug	Intensive survey, Carbon County, UT. Cultural resources technician, SWCA Environmental Consultants. Supervisor: Kristine Kisman.
2010 Jun–Jul	Intensive survey, Nine Mile Canyon, Carbon County, UT. Volunteer, Colorado Plateau Archaeological Alliance. Supervisor: Jamie Clark.
2009 Aug	Reconnaissance survey, Black's Fork, Uinta National Forest, UT. Volunteer, United States Forest Service. Supervisors: Thomas Flanigan, Rachelle Green.
2009 Jun–Jul	Excavation and survey, Range Creek Canyon, Emery County, UT. Undergraduate student, University of Utah Field School. Supervisors: Duncan Metcalfe, Shannon Arnold Boomgarden, Jamie Clark.

## Select Laboratory Experience

2023	41FN178 (Texas) archaeofaunal analysis. Faunal osteology specialist, AR Consultants, Inc. Supervisor: Kathryn Crater Gershtein.
2022–2023	Isotope ratio measurement of 679 bison tooth enamel carbonate samples. Instruments: Thermo Finnigan MAT-253 mass spectrometer and GasBench. Acid and bleach sample pretreatment. Graduate student, Southern Methodist University. Supervisor: John Robbins.
2019–2022	Analysis of bison long bone fragmentation and sampling bison dental enamel for stable isotope analysis: faunal assemblages from Middle and Early Holocene sites

- in Texas, New Mexico, Kansas, Wyoming, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Saskatchewan, and Alberta. Graduate student, Southern Methodist University. Supervisor: David Meltzer.
- 2016–2018 Goodson Shelter (Oklahoma) archaeofaunal analysis. Graduate research assistant, Southern Methodist University. Supervisor: David Meltzer.
- 2016 Sorting materials from Chesapeake Bay (Virginia) shell middens and processing shell samples for radiocarbon dating. Graduate student volunteer, Southern Methodist University. Supervisor: Leslie Reeder-Myers.
- 2015–2016 Metric analysis of fetal bison bone from the Upper Tucker site (Texas) and fetal bison from the University of Wyoming Archaeological Repository. Graduate student, Southern Methodist University. Supervisor: Karen Lupo.
- 2013 Baker Cave (Idaho) archaeofaunal analysis. Graduate student, Utah State University. Supervisor: David Byers.
- 2010 Analysis of lithic debitage from 2008–2009 Range Creek Canyon (Utah) excavations. Undergraduate student, University of Utah. Supervisor: Shannon Arnold Boomgarden.

## Service & Professional Memberships

- 2011– Member, Society for American Archaeology
- 2014– Member, Plains Anthropological Society
- 2023– Member, Texas Archaeological Society
- 2023– Member, North Texas Archaeological Society
- 2018 Judge, 76<sup>th</sup> Plains Anthropological Conference Student Paper Competition
- 2016–2018 Representative for the Department of Anthropology, Graduate Student Assembly, Southern Methodist University

Reviewer for the *Journal of Field Archaeology*, *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports*, *Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory*, and *Journal of Zoology*.

## Professional References

David J. Meltzer  
Henderson-Morrison Professor of Prehistory  
Department of Anthropology  
Southern Methodist University  
Email: [dmeltzer@smu.edu](mailto:dmeltzer@smu.edu)  
Office phone: 214-768-2826

Kacy L. Hollenback  
Associate Professor  
Department of Anthropology  
Southern Methodist University  
Email: [khollenback@smu.edu](mailto:khollenback@smu.edu)  
Office phone: 214-768-2943

Christopher I. Roos  
Professor  
Department of Anthropology  
Southern Methodist University  
Email: [croos@smu.edu](mailto:croos@smu.edu)  
Office phone: 214-768-2753

David A. Byers  
Associate Professor  
Department of Sociology and Anthropology  
Utah State University  
Email: [David.byers@usu.edu](mailto:David.byers@usu.edu)  
Office phone: 435-797-1178