

Archaeology of Epidemics Syllabus

Introduction

Through these readings we examine the archaeological evidence of medical technology, human behavior, and relationships between people and their environments during past epidemics. Our focus is on the physical, material evidence, and how we can understand past human behaviors and relationships from this source of data. We are looking into landscapes, built environments, all kinds of technologies, artefacts and material traces of the past human experience of epidemics. This is not a course about human biology, and we will only minimally discuss direct evidence from human skeletal or tissue remains.

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Contributing

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This syllabus is inspired by:

- [#FergusonSyllabus \(The Atlantic\)](#)
- [#BrexitSyllabus](#)
- [Humanities Coronavirus Syllabus](#)
- [#coronavirussyllabus - a crowdsourced cross-disciplinary resource](#)
- [COVID-19 Anthropology Syllabus](#)
- [Coronavirus COVID-19 Syllabus--Sociology](#)



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Flint Dibble 🏺📖 on Twitter: second thread on the Plague of Athens (430 B.C.E.) examines the failed leadership of Pericles [https://twitter.com/flintdibble/status/1444444444](#)

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The Viral Archive:
Capturing the visual record of human creativity and hope during the Covid-19 pandemic

Background:

WE NEED YOUR CREATIVITY. WE NEED YOUR HOPE.

This is a global invitation to capture the visual record of the signs, marks and graffiti that are keeping us safe, together and uplifted during this pandemic.

This is a collaborative project between archaeologists at University College Cork (UCC), University of Bristol and University College London (UCL) whose love and value for human spirit in its most creative form in the archaeological record has inspired us to record the unfolding marks and signs seen during daily exercise.

We see this as our contribution: to capture all of the vital signs of life around us, as a wider thank you to all on the frontline of it, and those who are sadly no longer with us.

Your Task (Should you choose to accept it!):

Using either #ViralShadows (to capture yourself in the shadow of a viral mark, or a trace or scar the pandemic has left on your landscape) or #SignsOfLife (to capture the viral marks that are keeping us safe, either physically or emotionally) tweet us your images with a general location!

Safety:

Keep your safety paramount. Only venture out in accordance with national, regional or state guidelines. Only capture images in passing, do not travel specifically to capture images. Respect people's privacy. Be mindful of protecting your own location. Be as general in terms of location as you feel comfortable with.

Examples:

#ViralShadows	#SignsOfLife
	
Shadow in 2m line for food (Malvern, 24/03/2020)	Finding direction in food shopping (Cork City, 13/04/2020)
	
Discarded Latex Gloves in Shopping Centre (West Sussex 2/4/20)	Rainbow Ribbons Supporting NHS (Shoreham-by-Sea 20/4/20)

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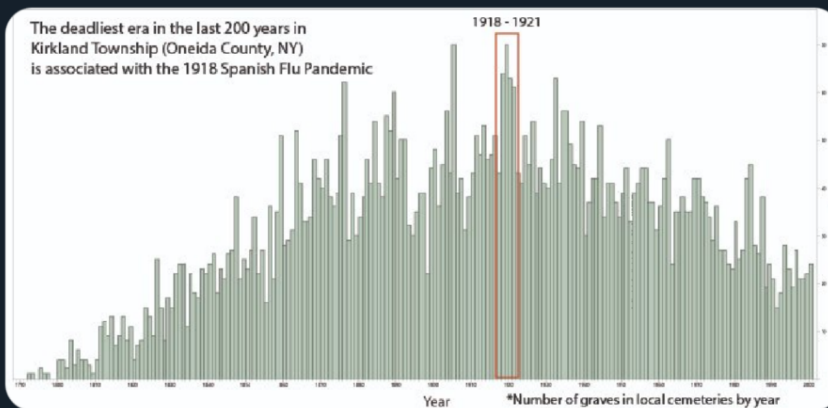


Colin Quinn

@cpquinn2

In my Landscape Archaeology class at Hamilton College, students documented grave stones in local historic and modern cemeteries. The deadliest era was associated with the 1918 Pandemic; not any war.

[@HamiltonCollege](#) [#Archaeology](#) [#COVID19](#)



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