

HELEN DAWSON

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

- 2022 **National Scientific Habilitation in Archaeology** – Ministry of University and Education (Italy).
- Awarded the qualification of “Associate Professor for the disciplinary field of 10/A1 – Archaeology
- 2005 **PhD Archaeology** - Institute of Archaeology, University College London, UK
- Thesis: Island Colonisation and Abandonment in Mediterranean Prehistory
- 2002 **MPhil Later European Prehistory** - Downing College, University of Cambridge, UK
- Thesis: Island Biogeography vs. Culture History: The Aeolian Islands in Prehistory
- 1999 **BA Hons Archaeology** – Institute of Archaeology, University College London, UK
- Thesis: The Engineering of Mountain Roads and Tunnels in Roman Italy and the Role of Roads in the Process of Romanisation

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2024-2026 **Research Fellow** – Institute for Pre- and Protohistory and Medieval Archaeology, Eberhard Karls University of Tübingen, Germany
- Responsible for coordinating the DFG research unit application on “Islands of Transformation: An Interdisciplinary Study of Adaptation, Resilience, and Sustainability”
- 2020-present **Adjunct Professor** – Master’s degree course in Applied Critical Archaeology and Heritage, Department of History and Cultures, Alma Mater Studiorum, University of Bologna, Italy
<https://www.unibo.it/sitoweb/helen.dawson/en>
- Research Design, Dissemination and Valorization (Year 1 core module)
 - Endangered global cultural heritage in the Mediterranean and Near East (Year 2 core course)
- 2020-2021 **Heritage consultant** - Jersey Heritage, Channel Islands
- Commissioned to write and coordinate the Island Historic Research Framework for Jersey
- 2006–2013 **Adjunct Lecturer in Archaeology** - School of Archaeological and Classical Studies, University of Kent, Canterbury, UK
- Archaeological theory and methods (Year 1 undergraduate core course)
 - Aegean Archaeology (Year 1 undergraduate course)

- 2006–2011 **Heritage Consultant / Senior Archaeologist** - Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA), London, UK
- Responsible for writing archaeological desk-based assessment and cultural heritage studies for high-profile projects including the London Olympics and Crossrail
- 2005–2006 **Field Archaeologist** - Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA), London, UK
- Archaeological evaluations, watching briefs, and excavations of prehistoric to post-medieval sites in the City of London and Greater London area

RESEARCH PROJECTS (PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR)

- 2020–2025 **Senior Research Fellow** – Jersey International Centre of Advanced Studies, Channel Islands
- PI of “The Archaeological Map of Jersey” project focusing on understanding phases of island occupation and abandonment based on LiDAR, field survey, and excavation data
 - Partnership between Jersey International Centre of Advanced Studies, Société Jersiaise, Jersey Heritage, and UCL, funded by the Government of Jersey’s Department of Economy, Sport and Culture
- 2015–2019 **Post-Doctoral Research Fellow** – Freie Universität Berlin, Germany
- “Central or Marginal? Networks of Interaction in the Central Mediterranean Bronze Age”
 - Network Analysis project funded by Gerda Henkel Foundation
- 2013–2015 **Post-Doctoral Research Fellow** – Topoi Excellence Cluster, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany
- “Sense of place and identity in the prehistoric Mediterranean islands”
 - Landscape Archaeology project funded by the European Union (Marie Curie–COFUND)

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

- 2024–2026 **Associate Researcher** - Mediterranean Coastal Lifestyle and Mobility during prehistory, Department of History and Cultures, University of Bologna
<https://site.unibo.it/medcoastlife/en>
- 2021–present **Associate Researcher** - Ancient Near Eastern Empires Cluster, University of Helsinki, Finland
<https://www2.helsinki.fi/en/researchgroups/ancient-near-eastern-empires/researchers/team-3-material-culture-and-community-heritage/people>
- 2020–present **Senior Research Fellow** - Jersey International Centre for Advanced Studies (JICAS)
<https://www.jicas.ac.je/fieldschool>
- 2019–present **Affiliate Research Fellow** - Institut für Prähistorische Archäologie, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany

- <https://www.geschkult.fu-berlin.de/e/praehist/institut/Mitarbeiterinnen-und-Mitarbeiter/Assoziierte-WissenschaftlerInnen/Dawson.html>
- 2016-present **Associate Researcher and Visiting Lecturer** – Department of Archaeology, University of the Balearics, Spain
- 2021-2024 **Senior Research Collaborator** - “Being an islander: Art and Identity of the large Mediterranean Islands”, The Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, UK
<https://www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk/being-islander-art-and-identity-large-mediterranean-islands>
- 2020-2023 **DFG Island Studies Network Member** - University of Tübingen, Germany
<https://uni-tuebingen.de/en/faculties/faculty-of-humanities/departments/ancient-studies-and-art-history/institute-of-classical-archaeology/research/dfg-network-homepage/>
- 2014-2015 **Associate Researcher** – Member of the “Islands and islanders in the Aegean and the Mediterranean. Island worlds in the long geo-cultural durée” Interdisciplinary Group. School of Philosophy, University of Crete, Greece

CONFERENCES AND SESSIONS ORGANISED

- 2024 **Mediterranean interaction “from within”: Island and coastal communities in dialogue** – Session #1147, 30th European Association of Archaeologists (EAA) Annual Meeting, Rome.
- 2021 **“Network Perspectives in the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East and Eastern Mediterranean”** - University of Helsinki
<https://www2.helsinki.fi/en/news/language-culture/network-perspectives-in-the-archaeology-of-the-ancient-near-east-and-eastern-mediterranean-december-13-14-2021>
- 2019 **“Spot the Stereotype!”** - Freie Universität Berlin
<https://blogs.fu-berlin.de/stereotypes/>
- 2018 **The “island laboratory” revisited: Integrating environmental and socio-cultural approaches** – Session #392, 24th European Association of Archaeologists (EAA) Annual Meeting, Barcelona
- 2016 **“Bridging Social and Geographical Space through Networks”** – Freie Universität Berlin (with Francesco Iacono)
<https://www.topoi.org/event/32715/>

KEYNOTE LECTURES

- 2021 ***Decolonising Island Archaeology***
 Invited keynote speaker at the BALCAN Workshop. “BALearic & CANary archaeology in dialogue”, Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain.
- 2020 ***Comparative perspectives in Island Archaeology: A view from the Ionian Sea***
 Invited keynote speaker at IIHSA 2020 international conference “The Archaeology of the Ionian Sea: Landscapes, seascapes and the circulation of people, goods and ideas (Palaeolithic – Bronze Age)”, Irish Institute of Hellenic Studies in Athens
- 2020 ***Relational thinking in Archaeology: from network analysis to network modeling***

- Invited keynote speaker at the ANEE Excellence Cluster, University of Helsinki, Finland
- 2018 ***Island “Netscapes”: Navigating Issues of Insularity***
Invited keynote speaker at the “Islands in Dialogue - Islandia 2018” Conference, Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici, Università degli Studi di Torino

INVITED LECTURES

- 2024 ***Out of the ordinary “common places”? Critical insights on island archaeology from the Mediterranean and beyond***
Invited paper at the “Down by the Water: Global conversations in maritime archaeology” seminar series, University of Helsinki
- 2023 ***L’archeologia globale delle isole tra metafore, stereotipi e modelli analitici.***
Paper presented at the “Isole Mediterranee. Storie, culture, patrimoni” Convegno dedicato a Sebastiano Tusa, Fondazione Buttitta, Favignana, Italy
- 2019 ***Reframing insularity: Communities, Places, and Resources in the Mediterranean Longue Durée***
Invited paper at the SFB 1070 RessourcenKulturen Eberhardt Karls Universität Tübingen
- 2019 ***From Local to Global: Relational Thinking in Island Archaeology***
Invited lecture at the University of the Balearic Islands (Departament de Ciències Històriques i Teoria de les Arts, Àrea de Prehistòria)
- 2019 ***Island Colonisation Processes in the Mediterranean Longue Durée***
Invited lecture at the Museum of Mallorca
- 2018 ***The importance of island networks in Mediterranean prehistory***
Invited lecture at the University of Catania as part of the international workshop “Stone Age sailors? The origins of seafaring and island colonization”
- 2017 ***Il ruolo dei network delle piccole isole del Mediterraneo centrale nelle dinamiche di interazione culturale dell’età del Bronzo***
Invited lecture presented (in Italian) at the University of Bologna as part of the workshop: “Isole di Storia. Esplorare il Mediterraneo nell’età del Bronzo”
- 2017 ***The island laboratory: Landscapes, networks, and identities. Case studies from the Neolithic-Bronze Age central Mediterranean islands***
Invited lecture at the Institute for Prehistoric Archaeology, Freie Universität Berlin
- 2015 ***Missing links: Colonisation horizons and cultural transitions in Mediterranean island archaeology***
Invited lecture presented at the “Early Mediterranean Islanders” Colloquium, Archaeological Institute of America Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA
- 2014 ***Thinking through islands. From theory to practice***
Invited lecture presented at “Islands and islanders in the Aegean and the Mediterranean. Island worlds in the long geo-cultural durée” Island Interdisciplinary Workshop, University of Crete, School of Philosophy, Rethymno
- 2014 ***Per un’archeologia comparata delle isole: Tematiche e sviluppi***

Invited lecture presented (in Italian) at the conference “Ubi Minor. Le isole minori del Mediterraneo centrale dal Neolitico ai primi contatti coloniali”.
Capri, Italy

2014 ***Central or marginal? Insularity and interaction in the central Mediterranean Bronze Age***

Invited lecture presented at the “Economic and Political Interaction on the Edges of the Ancient Empires” workshop, Topoi Excellence Cluster, Berlin, Germany

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2019 ***The Lure of Islands: A Cross-disciplinary Conversation*** (co-authored with Dr Jonathan Pugh, Department of Geography, University of Newcastle).
Paper presented at the “European Islands - Between Isolated and Interconnected Life Worlds. Interdisciplinary Long Term Perspectives” conference. Eberhardt Karls Universität Tübingen.

2019 ***Redefining The Role Of Insular And Marginal Spaces In Mediterranean Interaction Networks From The Neolithic Onwards***
Paper presented at the International Open Workshop “Socio-Environmental Dynamics over the last 15000 years. The Creation of Landscapes VI”, Kiel University

2018 ***Far away but close? Schematic rock art and Neolithic seaborne connections in the central-western Mediterranean***
Joint paper with Tommaso Mattioli and Margarita Diaz-Andreu. 24th EAA Annual Meeting, Barcelona

2018 ***The “island laboratory” revisited: integrating environmental and socio-cultural approaches***

Session organizer and discussant. 24th EAA Annual Meeting, Barcelona

2018 ***Rock Art and the Sea: The Symbols of Prehistoric Coastal Societies and Maritime Interaction in Europe***, with Dr Bettina Schulz Paulsson (University of Gothenburg) and Dr Tommaso Mattioli (University of Barcelona) - 24th EAA Annual Meeting, Barcelona

2018 ***Island archaeology in dialogue: past and present issues for small island communities***

Paper presented at ISIC 14 (International Small Islands Conference) “New directions in island studies”, University of Caen, Ile Tatihou, France.

2017 ***Island encounters in the Bronze Age central Mediterranean: A network approach***

Paper presented at the EAA Maastricht, Session 150 "Island Networks. Analytical and conceptual advances in the archaeological study of intra- and inter-island relationships"

2017 ***Painting the Neolithic: Coastal rock art from the Balkans to the Iberian Peninsula as a potential marker of maritime interaction***

Paper presented at the EAA Maastricht, Session 347: “Somewhere beyond the Sea: Seafaring, Seafaring Societies and Intercultural Exchange in Prehistoric

- Europe” (paper co-authored with Tommaso Mattioli and Margarita Diaz-Andreu, University of Barcelona)
- 2017 ***Central or marginal? Small island networks of the central Mediterranean during the Bronze Age***
 Paper presented at the EAA Maastricht, Session 398 “On the margins? Thinking through marginality in the Holocene Mediterranean”

FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE

- 2020-2025 **Director – “La Hougue de Vinde” Project** (Jersey International Centre of Advanced Studies, Channel Islands)
- Director of excavations at La Hougue de Vinde, Bronze Age barrow site, Jersey
- 2017-2018 **Supervisor – Ustica, Italy** (Archaeological Museum of Palermo, Italy)
- Excavation of “I Faraglioni”, Middle Bronze Age settlement on the small island of Ustica
 - Trained and supervised a small group of student volunteers
- 2008 **Supervisor – Nissi Beach and Aspros, Cyprus** (Cyprus Department of Antiquities)
- Excavation of two Upper Palaeolithic coastal sites
 - Trained and supervised a small group of student volunteers
- 2007 **Supervisor – The Keros Research Project, Greece** (University of Cambridge)
- Supervised the excavation of an Early Bronze Age settlement
 - Trained and lectured an international group of students as part of the Keros Archaeological Field School
- 1999–2005 **Assistant Director – Volubilis, Morocco** (UCL & Institut National des Sciences de l’Archéologie et du Patrimoine, Rabat)
- Organisation and implementation of fieldwork, study, and publication of excavations at this Islamic period World Heritage Site:
<https://www.sitedevolubilis.org/>
- 1997–2005 **Archaeologist (volunteer)**
- Hymera, Sicily (Classical site, Università di Palermo, 2001; 2 weeks)
 - Troina, Sicily (Copper Age site, University of Cambridge, 2000; 4 weeks)
 - Kythera Island Project, Greece (multi-period island survey, UCL, 1999-2000; 4 weeks/year)
 - The Palatine Forum, Rome (deep stratified urban site, Università La Sapienza, 1997; 2 weeks)
 - Heywoods, Barbados (Amerindian site, UCL, 1997; 4 weeks)
 - Val Camonica, Italy (prehistoric rock art survey and recording; Le Orme dell’Uomo, Cooperativa Archaeologica, 1997; 2 weeks)

MEMBERSHIP OF SCIENTIFIC BOARDS

- 2020-present **Member of the advisory board of the Small Island Cultures Research Initiative (SICRI)**
<https://www.sicri.net/>
- 2006–present **Member of the editorial board of Shima, International Journal of Research into Island Cultures**
<http://shimajournal.org/index.php>
- 2010-present **Member of the UK Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (MCIfA no. 5736)**
- 2023 **Member of the Scientific board of “Isole Mediterranee. Storie, culture, patrimoni”, Convegno dedicato a Sebastiano Tusa. Fondazione Buttitta, Favignana, 18-19 Maggio 2023**
 ■ <https://www.fondazioneignaziobuttitta.org/convegni-e-seminari-2/>

IT SKILLS & LANGUAGES

- Proficient in Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint), Geographical Information Systems (ArcGIS, QGIS), network analysis (Gephi)
- Native English and Italian speaker
- Fluent French
- Advanced working knowledge of German