

Anthropology Provides Powerful Data



Josh Snodgrass

Professor, Department of Anthropology University of Oregon, 2016 - Current

CURRENT RESEARCH

Dried blood samples provide insights into how social factors influence health

Anthropologists study the complexities of culture and biology to create solutions for human problems. Dr. Josh Snodgrass, of the University of Oregon, is a broadly trained biological anthropologist with an expertise in human evolutionary biology. His research focuses on human health and adaptation and is unified by its physiological approach. Using dried blood samples (DBS), he and his highly collaborative team provide powerful data for researchers in the social sciences and in biomedicine/epidemiology which leads to applications in both public health and medicine. Such data allows his team to tap into underlying physiology and examine the specific pathways through which social and other environmental factors 'get under the skin' to shape human development, behavior, and health. Such research has inspired many researchers to apply DBS to a variety of questions such as how racial discrimination affects health, the pathways through which adverse childhood experiences influence aging, and the optimization of treatment strategies for patients with tuberculosis.

Dr. Snodgrass' research has proceeded along four major lines: 1) human adaptation to environmental stressors; 2) the influence of social change on health; 3) human energetics and evolution of the human diet; and 4) the role of psychosocial stress in health and disease. Many of his research projects cut across multiple focal areas which reflect his deep commitment to integration across anthropological subfields and between anthropology and other disciplines, including physiology, epidemiology, psychology, nutritional sciences, and evolutionary biology. Such an holistic approach offers a powerful integrative theoretical perspective that incorporates...

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AFFILIATION

University of Oregon

EDUCATION

- B.A., in Department of Anthropology, 1995
University of California, Santa Cruz
- M.A., in Department of Anthropology, 1998
University of Florida
- Ph.D., in Department of Anthropology, 2004
Northwestern University
- National Institute on Aging Postdoctoral Fellowship, in Cognitive and Social Neuroscience, 2005
University of Chicago

AWARDS

- University of Oregon Outstanding Faculty Advisor Award, 2014
- Michael A. Little Early Career Award, 2013
- Elected as Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), 2013
- Scientist to Watch in August issue of The Scientist magazine, 2013
- University of Oregon Williams Fellow for distinguished undergraduate teaching, 2012
- and 2 more...

RESEARCH AREAS

Humanities, Anthropology, Global Policy

FUNDING REQUEST

Your contributions will support the continued research of Dr. Snodgrass as he applies novel methods and theoretical approaches to answer basic questions about human biology. Donations will support the \$200K required for personnel, \$50-100K required for larger projects, \$1-20K required for smaller projects, and \$10-15K for conferences and open access publications. Your support will help to understand basic human biology and to use this information to inform public health practice and clinical medicine.