

Faculty Member Contact Information

Name	Susan Kooiman, PhD
Contact Info	
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Department	Anthropology

1 Funded, 1 Unfunded URCA Assistant(s)

Are you willing to work with students from outside of your discipline? If yes, which other disciplines?

- No

How many hours per week will your student(s) be required to work in this position?
(Minimum is 6 hours per week; typical is 9)

- 8

Will it be possible for your student(s) to earn course credit?

- No

Location of research/creative activities:

- Peck Hall 0403 (Anthropology Lab)

Brief description of the nature of the research/creative activity?

- The selected applicant will contribute to an ongoing archaeological investigation of the Gehring site, which is located on the SIUE campus. This is a multi-component Indigenous site that was occupied between 2000 to 800 years ago. It is the site of our SIUE field school, and goals are to better understand local Middle Woodland lifeways and the lives of Mississippians living on the Cahokia periphery. The artifacts collected and during the Summer 2026 excavation season require analysis and curation. Furthermore, the comparative collection of local examples of archaeological materials, along with other artifacts and casts, is housed in the Anthropology Lab. This collection is vital to the analysis of the Gehring artifact assemblage and requires proper cataloging and organization to properly fulfill its function of informing interpretations of Gehring site materials.

Brief description of student responsibilities?

- Duties include artifact analysis and curation; artifact analysis, inventorying and cataloging; data collection and organization (using Excel and other programs); assisting with writing and compilation of archaeological report and/or article for publication.

URCA Assistant positions are designed to provide students with *research or creative activities* experience. As such, there should be measurable, appropriate outcome goals. What exactly should your student(s) have learned by the end of this experience?

- The student will learn: archaeological artifact analysis; standard archaeology lab and curation procedures; standard museum inventorying and cataloging procedures; how to organize data into tables and graphs for the purposes of summary and scientific communication; contributions to official field reports submitted to government agencies and/or scholarly articles submitted to a peer-reviewed journal for publication (i.e., co-authorship)

Requirements of Students

If the position(s) require students to be available at certain times each week (as opposed to them being able to set their own hours) please indicate all required days and times:

- The position schedule is flexible, based on the student's availability.

If the location of the research/creative activities involves off campus work, must students provide their own transportation?

- No

Must students have taken any prerequisite classes? Please list classes and preferred grades:

- No required prerequisite courses, but students with coursework in archaeology will be given priority.

Other requirements or notes to applicants:

- Applicants must be highly organized, should have a good understanding of archaeology and have good writing and communication skills; they should have some understanding of Excel, and they should be detail-oriented. Applicants should also be enthusiastic about artifact analysis, inventorying, cataloging, curation, and interpretation.