

# ROBERT R. CARGILL, PH.D.

DEPARTMENTS OF CLASSICS AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES  
210 JEFFERSON BUILDING • THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA • IOWA CITY, IA 52242-1418

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## EDUCATION

2008	Ph.D.	Near Eastern Languages and Cultures University of California, Los Angeles, CA Dissertation: <i>"The Qumran Digital Model: An Argument for Archaeological Reconstruction in Virtual Reality"</i>
2006	M.A.	Ancient Near Eastern Civilizations University of California, Los Angeles, CA
2000	M.Div., M.S.	Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA
1996	B.S.	Human Physiology / Pre-Med California State University, Fresno, CA
1993	A.A.	Fresno City College, CA

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2011-present	Assistant Professor of Classics and Religious Studies	The University of Iowa
2010-2011	Adjunct Assistant Professor	University of California, Los Angeles
2009	Visiting Professor	Portland State University
2009	Adjunct Professor	Azusa Pacific University
2001-2005	Adjunct Professor	Pepperdine University

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## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

### Departmental

- 2011-Present Digital Humanities Committee, University of Iowa
- 2011-Present Egyptology Steering Committee, University of Iowa

### University

- 2011-Present Digital Humanities Committee, University of Iowa
- 2009-11 Instructional Technology Coordinator, Center for Digital Humanities, UCLA
- 2009-11 Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, UCLA
- 2009-11 Research Associate, Cotsen Institute of Archaeology, UCLA
- 2010-11 Faculty Affiliate, Center for the Study of Religion, UCLA
- 2010-11 Chair, Common Collaboration and Learning Environment (CCLE) Functionality Sub-group
- 2009-10 Chair, Common Collaboration and Learning Environment (CCLE) Support Sub-group
- 2006-08 Chief Architect and Designer, Qumran Visualization Project, UCLA

### National

- 2009-Present Chair, American Schools of Oriental Research Media Relations Committee
- 2010-Present Chair, Society of Biblical Literature Blogging and Online Publication Steering Committee

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## PUBLICATIONS

### Book

- 2009 *Qumran through (Real) Time: A Virtual Reconstruction of Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls*, Bible In Technology 1 (Piscataway, NJ: Gorgias Press).

### Chapter in Edited Volume

- 2012 "Early Archaeological Explorations and the New Testament Era," Chap. 2 in *The Bible in Archaeology and History: The New Testament, Judaism, and Early Christianity*, Vol. 1. (In progress).

### Peer-Reviewed Articles

- 2011 "The State of the Archaeological Debate at Qumran," *Currents in Biblical Research* 10 (1): 101-18.
- 2010 "The Benefit of Blogging for Archaeology," *Bulletin for the Study of Religion*, 39 (3): 12-16.
- 2009 "The Qumran Digital Model: An Argument for Archaeological Reconstruction in Virtual Reality" and "A Response to Magness," *Near Eastern Archaeology* 72 (1): 28-47.
- 2009 "The Fortress at Qumran: A History of Interpretation," *The Bible and Interpretation*, May 2009.  
<http://www.bibleinterp.com/articles/qumfort.shtml>

### Essays and Op-Eds

- 2011 "A Critique of Simcha Jacobovici's Secrets of Christianity: Nails of the Cross," *The Bible and Interpretation*, May 2011. <http://www.bibleinterp.com/articles/simcha358005.shtml>

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- 2010 “On the Virtue of Doubt: A Brief Autobiography of the Skeptic in the Sanctuary,” *JasonBoyett.com*, September 2010. <http://blog.beliefnet.com/omeoflittlefaith/2010/09/robert-cargill-skeptic-sanctuary.html>
- 2010 “How and Why Academic Peer-Review is About to Change,” *The Bible and Interpretation*, August 2010. <http://www.bibleinterp.com/opeds/cargillp357931.shtml>
- 2010 “On the Misuse of Archaeology for Evangelistic Purposes,” *The Bible and Interpretation*, June 2010. <http://www.bibleinterp.com/articles/misuse357930.shtml>
- 2010 “The “Camera Friendly” Scholar: Essentials of Giving Great TV Interviews,” 8-12 in *Academics and the Media: Four Perspectives* (Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2010).
- 2010 “Forget about Noah’s Ark; There Was No Worldwide Flood,” *The Bible and Interpretation*, May 2010. <http://www.bibleinterp.com/articles/flood357903.shtml>
- 2009 “On False Accusations of Anti-Semitism within the Academy,” *The Bible and Interpretation*, December 2009. <http://www.bibleinterp.com/articles/false3141515.shtml>
- 2009 “Why Christians Should Adopt the BCE/CE Dating System,” *The Bible and Interpretation*, September 2009. [http://www.bibleinterp.com/opeds/why\\_3530.shtml](http://www.bibleinterp.com/opeds/why_3530.shtml)
- 2009 “Pseudo-Science and Sensationalist Archaeology: An Exposé of Jimmy Barfield and the Copper Scroll Project,” *The Bible and Interpretation*, August 2009. [http://www.bibleinterp.com/articles/cargill2\\_08261.shtml](http://www.bibleinterp.com/articles/cargill2_08261.shtml)
- 2009 “On the Curious Protests of the Dead Sea Scrolls Exhibition in Toronto,” *The Bible and Interpretation*, August 2009. <http://www.bibleinterp.com/opeds/curious.shtml>
- 2009 “On the Insignificance and the Abuse of the Copper Scroll,” *The Bible and Interpretation*, July 2009. <http://www.bibleinterp.com/opeds/copper.shtml>

## Video

- 2007 *Ancient Qumran: A Virtual Reality Tour*. Produced, wrote, and directed film commissioned by the San Diego Natural History Museum’s for their exhibition of the Dead Sea Scrolls, June 29 – December 31, 2007.

## CONFERENCE PAPERS, LECTURES, AND PERFORMANCES

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### National

- 2011 “No, No You Didn’t Find That: The Importance of Scholarly Refutation in An Era of Social Media,” – Presented at *Biblical Archaeology Society’s Bible & Archaeology Fest XIV*, San Francisco, CA, November 20, 2011.
- 2010 “Instruction, Research, and the Future of Online Educational Technologies” - Presented at the *Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting*, Atlanta, GA, November 22, 2010.
- 2009 “The State of the Archaeological Debate at Qumran” – Presented to the Association for Jewish Studies annual meeting in Los Angeles, CA, December 21, 2009.
- 2009 “Scholars Behaving Badly: ‘Charles Gadda,’ Raphael Golb, and the Campaign of Anonymity on the Internet to Promote Norman Golb and Smear His Rivals,” - Presented at the *Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting*, New Orleans, LA, November 23, 2009.
- 2009 “Talking to the Media as a Biblical Scholar” - Presented at the *Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting*, New Orleans, LA, November 22, 2009.
- 2009 “A Response to Jodi Magness, Yuval Peleg, Lawrence Schiffman, and Eric Cline,” - Presented as a part of the review of my book “Qumran through (Real) Time: A Virtual Reconstruction of Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls” (Gorgias 2009) at the *Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting*, New Orleans, LA, November 22, 2009.
- 2007 “The Archaeology of Qumran: The Digitally Reconstructed Settlement and a Proposed Occupation Model” - Presented at the *Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting*, San Diego, CA, November 19, 2007.
- 2007 “The Archaeology of Qumran: The Digitally Reconstructed Settlement and a Proposed Occupation Model” - Presented at the *American Schools of Oriental Research Annual Meeting*, San Diego, CA, November 17, 2007.
- 2007 “A Virtual Tour of Qumran” - Presented the Plenary Introduction for keynote speaker Dr. Jodi Magness’ *American Schools of Oriental Research Plenary Presentation*: “The Current State of Qumran Archaeology,” San Diego, CA, November 14, 2007.
- 2006 “Qumran through (Real) Time: A Virtual Reconstruction of the Archaeology of Qumran” - Presented at the *Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting*, Washington D.C., November 20, 2006.
- 2006 “Qumran through (Real) Time: The Qumran Visualization Project” - Presented at the *American Schools of Oriental Research Annual Meeting*, Washington D.C., November 17, 2006.
- 2005 “Reactions to Binary Messianic Expectation in the Second Temple Period: Its Expectation, Embodiment, and Rejection” - Presented at the *Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting*, Philadelphia, CA, November 21, 2005.

### Regional

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- 2009 *"Qumran at the Dead Sea: A Virtual Reality Tour of the Dead Sea Qumran Settlement"* - Presented at the "Writings from the Ancient World" conference at California State University, Fullerton (Irvine Campus), Irvine, CA, April 4, 2009.
- 2004 *"Palaeo-Hebrew as Language Ideology in the Numismatic Record of the Bar Kokhba Revolt"* - Presented at the *Society of Biblical Literature* Pacific Coast Regional Conference, Whittier, CA, March 21, 2004.

## Local

- 2011 *"2011 Fresno City College Commencement Address"* - Presented at the 2011 commencement ceremony for Fresno City College, Selland Arena, Fresno, CA, May 20, 2011.
- 2011 *"What Archaeology Taught Me about Peacemaking in Israel and Palestine"* - Presented to the Middle Eastern Peace and Awareness (MEPA) organization at Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA, January 25, 2011.
- 2010 *"Combating Sensationalist Archaeological Claims and Debunking Pseudoscience"* - Presented to the Los Angeles chapter of the *Biblical Archaeology Society*, Los Angeles, CA, October 1, 2010.
- 2010 *"The Israeli-Palestinian Peace Process during the First Decade of the 2000s: An Assessment"* - Presented as a part of a symposium sponsored by the Middle Eastern Peace and Awareness (MEPA) organization at Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA, March 10, 2010.
- 2009 *"A Tour of Herodian Jerusalem"* - Presented to the Los Angeles chapter of the *Biblical Archaeology Society*, Los Angeles, CA, May 1, 2009.
- 2009 *"Promoting Social Justice: Confronting Racism and Homophobia"* - Presented as part of a panel discussion hosted by the Pepperdine University Graduate School of Education and Psychology at the Howard Hughes Center West Los Angeles Campus, March 24, 2009.
- 2009 *"The Eight Gates of Jerusalem"* - Presented to the Los Angeles chapter of the *Biblical Archaeology Society*, Monrovia, CA, January 9, 2009.
- 2008 *"Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls"* - Presented at the Oxnard Public Library, Oxnard, CA, January 19, 2008.
- 2007 *"The Qumran Visualization Project"* - Presented to the *UCLA Club of San Diego*, San Diego, CA, November 20, 2007.
- 2007 *"Qumran in Biblical Times: The Reconstructed Settlement at Khirbet Qumran"* - Presented to the Los Angeles chapter of the *Biblical Archaeology Society*, Los Angeles, CA, April 23, 2007.
- 2005 *"A Brief History of Jerusalem"* - Presented to the Los Angeles chapter of the *Biblical Archaeology Society*, Monrovia, CA, October 7, 2005.
- 2005 *"Messianism at the Time of Christ"* - Presented to the Los Angeles chapter of the *Biblical Archaeology Society*, Monrovia, CA, June 3, 2005.
- 2004 *"Does Archaeology Illuminate the New Testament?"* - Presented at the "Give Me An Answer" Lecture Series in Huntington Beach, CA, July 11, 2004.
- 2004 *"The History of Sepphoris through its Mosaics"* - Presented to the Los Angeles chapter of the *Biblical Archaeology Society*, Monrovia, CA, January 9, 2004.
- 2002 *"The Significance of Caesarea Philippi to the Ministry of Jesus"* - Presented to the Los Angeles chapter of the *Biblical Archaeology Society*, Monrovia, CA, November 1, 2002.

## TELEVISION AND RADIO APPEARANCES

- 2011 *"History of the World in Two Hours"* - Appeared as expert on episode that premiered on *The History Channel*, October 2011. (Flight 33)
- 2011 *"Ray Appleton Show"* - Guest for 1-hour interview with Ray Appleton on KMJ 580, Fresno, CA, May 20, 2011. [web]
- 2010 *"Writing the Dead Sea Scrolls"* - Appeared as featured investigator exploring new research about the Dead Sea Scrolls that appeared on *National Geographic Channel*, July 2010. (CTVC) [web]
- 2010 *"Ancient Aliens: The Series"* - Appeared as expert on 6-episode series that aired on *The History Channel*, April-May 2010. (Prometheus Entertainment) [web]
- 2010 *"Life After People: 10,000+ Years After Humans"* - Appeared as expert in documentary that premiered on *The History Channel*, January 2010. (Flight 33)
- 2010 *"Blood for the Gods: Sex & Death"* - Appeared as expert on episode that premiered on *The Discovery Channel*, January 2010. (Flight 33)
- 2009 *"Daily Planet: October 6, 2009"* - Appeared in a featured segment highlighting the archaeology of Qumran on *Discovery Channel Canada*, October 6, 2009. (Discovery)

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- 2009 *"Angels & Demons: Decoded"* - Appeared as expert on episode that premiered on *The History Channel*, May 2009. (Prometheus)
- 2009 *"Biblical Mysteries Explained: Lost Gospels"* - Appeared as expert on episode that premiered on *The Discovery Channel*, April 2009. (Flight 33)
- 2009 *"Ancient Aliens"* - Appeared as expert on 2-hour special that premiered on *The History Channel*, March 2009. (Prometheus)
- 2008 *"Biblical Mysteries Explained: Exodus"* - Appeared as expert on episode that premiered on *The Discovery Channel*, December 2008. (Flight 33)
- 2008 *"Biblical Mysteries Explained: Sodom and Gomorrah"* - Appeared as expert on episode that premiered on *The Discovery Channel*, December 2008. (Flight 33)
- 2008 *"Indiana Jones and the Ultimate Quest"* - Appeared as expert on 2-hour documentary that premiered on *The History Channel*, May 2008. (Prometheus)
- 2006 *"Decoding the Past: Prophecies of Iraq"* - Appeared as expert on episode that premiered on *The History Channel*, January 2006. (Paulist)
- 2005 *"Decoding the Past: Prophecies of Israel"* - Appeared as expert on episode that premiered on *The History Channel*, December 2005. (Paulist)

## SELECTED MEDIA COVERAGE OF RESEARCH

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- 2011 Casas, Flavia, "Tech-savvy Professors Take to Tweeting," *Daily Bruin*, Jan. 20, 2011. [[web](#)]
- 2010 Horgan, Richard, "UCLA Prof Earns Doctorate in Self-Defense," *Fishbowl LA*, Nov. 23, 2010. [[web](#)]
- 2010 Tugend, Tom, "Slander, Lies and the Dead Sea Scrolls," *Jewish Journal*, Nov. 23, 2010. [[web](#)]
- 2010 "Cyber Bullying: The Dead Sea Scrolls and the Criminal Case of Raphael Golb," *UCLA Newsweek*, Nov. 17, 2010 [[web](#)]
- 2010 Selavan, Barnea and Dovid Willner, "Interview of Dr. Robert Cargill," *LandMinds*, Arutz Sheva's Israel National Radio, Aug. 18, 2010. [[mp3 part 1](#), [part 2](#)]
- 2010 Abhold, Katrina, "Robert Cargill 'Star' of Fresno City Colleges," *UCLA Today*, Aug. 3, 2010. [[web](#)]
- 2010 Than, Ker, "Biblical Mystery of Dead Sea Scrolls Solved?" *National Geographic*, July 27, 2010. [[web](#)]
- 2010 Sullivan, Meg, "Scholar Highlights New Research on Dead Sea Scrolls in TV Special," *UCLA Today*, July 22, 2010. [[web](#)]
- 2010 Tigay, Chanan, "Scholarly Squad Debunks Biblical 'Discoveries'," *AOL News*, May 2, 2010. [[web](#)]
- 2009 Jarus, Owen, "Exclusive Interview: Dr. Robert Cargill on Virtual Reality Qumran," *Heritage Key*, July 20, 2009. [[web](#)]
- 2009 Kolowich, Steve, "Harassment of Dead Sea Scroll Scholars Leads to Arrest of Professor's Son," *Chronicle of Higher Education*, March 6, 2009. [[web](#)]
- 2008 Afron, Heidi, "קומראן בתלת-ממד" ("Qumran in Three-dimensions"), *National Geographic Israel*, June 2008. (Hebrew) [[web](#)]
- 2007 Sanchez, Maria, "Interview with Robert Cargill," *The Maria Sanchez Show*, KTVA AM 1520, Dec. 27, 2007.
- 2007 Whipps, Heather, "Warriors Once Occupied Dead Sea Scrolls Site," *Live Science*, July 12, 2007. [[web](#)]
- 2007 Feuer, Jack, "On Exhibit: Ancient Qumran Comes Alive," *UCLA Magazine*, July, 1, 2007 [[web](#)]
- 2007 Sullivan, Meg, "Virtual Qumran Sheds New Light On Dead Sea Scrolls Discovery Site," *Science Daily*, June 21, 2007 [[web](#)]
- 2007 Tugend, Tom, "Armchair Archeologists Can Explore Qumran Virtually," *Jewish Journal*, June 14, 2007. [[web](#)]

## GRANTS

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- 2011 CCLE Innovation and Development Program (IDP) grant to test the viability of *Fedora/Islandora* data repository for use with the CCLE/Moodle 2.0 Course Management System at UCLA. (\$3,500).
- 2010 CCLE Innovation and Development Program (IDP) grant to test the viability of *Equella* and *Alfresco* data repositories for use with the CCLE/Moodle Course Management System at UCLA. (\$15,000).
- 2010 CCLE Innovation and Development Program (IDP) grant for improving online instructional documentation for the CCLE/Moodle Course Management System at UCLA. (\$3,200).
- 2008 Grant from the *North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences* for the production of HD reconstructions of Qumran for use in their exhibition of the Dead Sea Scrolls (\$16,000)
- 2007 UCLA Graduate Student Research Fellowship (\$10,000)

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- 2006 Research grant from the *San Diego Natural History Museum* and Steven Spielberg's *Righteous Persons Foundation* for dissertation work on the *Qumran Visualization Project* (\$75,000)  
2005 UCLA Graduate Student Research Fellowship (\$10,000)  
1998 Seaver Dean's Scholarship for work on the project: "The History of Israel through Coins"  
1997 J. P. Sanders Ministerial Scholarship (\$36,000) (1997-2000, 3-year renewable)  
1996 Pepperdine University Religion Division Grant (1996-2000, 4-year renewable)

## AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2011 Fresno City College *Distinguished Alumnus* Award Recipient and 2011 Commencement Speaker, Selland Arena, Fresno, CA, May 20, 2011. [web]  
2010 Named one of 100 distinguished alumni as part of Fresno City College's "100 Stars for 100 Years," celebrating the centennial anniversary of the college.

## IOWA COURSES TAUGHT

Last Taught	Course	Title
Fall 2012	RELS:4352	Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls
Fall 2012	CLSA:3447	Intro to Biblical Pseudepigrapha and Apocrypha
Spring 2012	RELS:2289	Jerusalem from the Bronze to the Digital Age
Spring 2012	CLSA:3445	Mythology of Otherworldly Journeys
Fall 2011	RELS:1001	Judaism, Christianity and Islam

## COURSES TAUGHT ELSEWHERE

Last Taught	Course	Title	Place
Winter 2011	ANNEA 10W	Jerusalem, the Holy City	University of California, Los Angeles
Summer 2009	HST 410	Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls	Portland State University
Spring 2009	UBBL 310	1 & 2 Samuel	Azusa Pacific University
Spring 2009	UBBL 210	Luke-Acts	Azusa Pacific University
Summer 2005	REL 102	History and Religion of Early Christianity	Pepperdine University
Fall 2005	REL 101	History and Religion of Israel	Pepperdine University

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION EXPERIENCE

2006	Excavator	Hazor, Israel	Supervisors: A. Ben-Tor and S. Zuckerman
2004	Square Supervisor	Omrit, Israel	Supervisor: J.A. Overman
2000	Area Supervisor	Banias, Israel	Supervisors: V. Tzaferis and J.F. Wilson
1999	Square Supervisor	Banias, Israel	Supervisors: V. Tzaferis and J.F. Wilson

## MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Society of Biblical Literature (Section Chair)	American Mensa (Member)
Association for Jewish Studies (Member)	American Schools of Oriental Research (Committee Chair)
Archaeological Institute of America (Member)	Israel Exploration Society (Member)

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Hellenistic Judaism	Pseudepigrapha and Apocrypha	Aramaic Targumim
Digital Humanities	Eastern Mediterranean Archaeology	The Bar Kokhba Rebellion
Hebrew Bible	Qumran	Natural Science and Religion
Dead Sea Scrolls	Hebrew and Aramaic Languages	

## ANCIENT LANGUAGE PROFICIENCIES

Northwest Semitic  
Hebrew (Biblical, Qumran, Rabbinic)  
Aramaic (Biblical, Imperial, Qumran, Targumic)  
Syriac

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Greek (Biblical)  
Coptic