

Curriculum Vitae

PELISSERO, ALEX J.

Colorado State University
Campus Delivery 1787
Fort Collins, CO 80523 USA
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alex.pelissero@colostate.edu

EDUCATION:

- Present Colorado State University
 Ph.D. Candidate, Anthropology
 Dissertation: The Distribution of Hominin Activities Through the Oldowan-Acheulean Transition at Olduvai Gorge, Tanzania: A Geospatial Approach
- 2017 University of Colorado, Denver
 M.A. Anthropology
 Thesis: A Comparative Analysis of Newly Discovered Hominin Footprints from Laetoli, Tanzania.
- 2010 University of Colorado, Boulder
 B.A. Anthropology and History

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

- 2019-2026 **Instructor**
 Colorado State University, Dept. of Anthropology and Geography
 Courses:
 ANTH 120 – Human Origins and Variation (2024; 2026)
 ANTH 374 – Human Biological Variation – Online (2023-2026)
 ANTH 465 – Zooarchaeology (2022; 2026)
 ANTH 121 – Human Origins and Variation Lab (2019-2025)
 ANTH 274 – Human Diversity (2025)
- 2024-2026 **Lab Manager**
 Center for Paleoanthropological Research
 Colorado State University
- 2022-2026 **Human Origins Collections & Library Curator**
 Dept. of Anthropology and Geography
 Colorado State University
- 2022-2023 **Adjunct Instructor**
 University of Northern Colorado, Dept. of Anthropology
 Courses:
 ANTH 130 – Introduction to Biological Anthropology

2020-2021 **Graduate Teaching Assistant**
 Colorado State University, Dept. of Anthropology and Geography
Courses:
 ANTH 372 – Human Osteology
 ANTH 274 – Human Diversity

REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS:

Pelissero, A. J. (2021). Ancestors: A creative and immersive game based on human evolution. ANCESTORS: THE HUMANKIND ODYSSEY. By Panache Digital Games. Private Division. 2019. \$39.99 (Windows/PlayStation 4/Xbox One). *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, 176(3), 540–541.

Bergstrom, K., Lawrence, A.B., **Pelissero, A.J.**, Hammond, L.J., Maro, E., Bunn, H.T., Musiba, C.M. (2019). Aerial map demonstrates erosional patterns and changing topography at Isimila, Tanzania. *South African Journal of Science*, 115(7/8).

MANUSCRIPTS IN SUBMISSION/REVIEW:

Veatch, E.G., Alamsyah, N., Pante, M. **Pelissero, A.J.**, Negash, T., Jatmiko, Sutikna, T., Tocheri, M.W. (2025). Bone taphonomy at Liang Bua and its implications for the diet and technology of *Homo floresiensis*. *Science Advances*.

Keevil, T., **Pelissero, A.J.**, Negash, T., Orlikoff, E., Osborne, I., Pante, M. (2025). A comparative bone surface modification database for revealing the origins and evolution of human carnivory. *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution*.

Pansani, T.R., Behrensmeyer, A.K., **Pelissero, A.J.**, Pante, M., Bampi, H., Pobiner, B. (2025). Experimental taphonomy for evaluating the effects of burning and sediment abrasion on cut-marked bones. *Journal of Archaeological Science*.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION:

Keevil, T., Blumenschine, R., Capaldo, S. Gniewiek, E., Gumrukcu, M., Muttart, M. Negash, T., Njau, J., Orlikoff, E., Osborne, I., **Pelissero, A.J.**, Pobiner, B., Tolley, A., Winter, R., Pante, M. (2025). TaphoSource: An Open-Source Database of Experimentally Generated Bone Surface Modification for Modeling Taphonomic Processes.

Pelissero, A.J., Herrmann, E.W., Njau, J.K., Mturi, J.A., Negash, T., Peltier, D., Pante, M. (2025). Outcrop Exposure and the Spatial Distribution of Hominin Activity Localities at Olduvai Gorge, Tanzania.

Pelissero, A.J., Herrmann, E.W., Njau, J.K., Mturi, J.A., Negash, T., Peltier, D., Pante, M. (2025). Changes in Hominin Activities and Land-use Through the Oldowan to Acheulean Transition at Olduvai Gorge, Tanzania.

Pelissero, A.J., Mturi, J.A., Peltier, D., Njau, J.K., Pante, M. (2025). Carnivore Avoidance and Its Influence On Hominin Land-use at Olduvai Gorge, Tanzania.

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS / PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS:

- Pelissero, A.J.**, Herrmann, E.W., Njau, J.K., Mturi, J.A., Negash, T., Peltier, D., Pante, M. (2025). Changes in hominin land-use through the Oldowan to Acheulean transition at Olduvai Gorge, Tanzania. *Paleoanthropology*, 2025(1), 225.
- Negash, T., Herrmann, E.W., Fellman, C.D., **Pelissero, A.J.**, Pante, M. (2025). Distinguishing bone retoucher marks from other bone surface modifications. *Paleoanthropology*, 2025(1), 221.
- Keevil, T., Tolley, A., Gniewek, E., Negash, T., Orlikoff, E., Osborne, I. **Pelissero, A.J.**, Winter, R., Pante, M. (2025). Context is Bone Deep: A quantitative analysis of experimentally generated bone surface modifications with applications for developing an open source and collaborative taphonomic database. *Paleoanthropology*, 2025(1), 217.
- Pelissero, A.J.**, Herrmann, E.W., Njau, J.K., Mturi, J.A., Negash, T., Peltier, D., Pante, M. (2025). Changes in the spatial distribution of hominin activities across the Oldowan to Acheulean transition at Olduvai Gorge, Tanzania. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, 186 (S79), 128.
- Pelissero, A.J.**, Herrmann, E., Njau, J. Negash, T., Peltier, D., Pante, M. (2024). Using Drone Survey to Map Hominin Activity Patterns at Olduvai Gorge. *East African Association for Paleoanthropology and Paleontology 9th Biennial Conference*.
- Veatch, E.G., Alamsyah, N., Juliatano, I., **Pelissero, A.**, Pante, M., Sutikna, T., Tocheri, M.W. (2024). Homo floresiensis and Komodo Dragons consumed Stegodon at Liang Bua. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, 183 (S77), 186.
- Pelissero, A.J.**, Herrmann, E., Njau, J. Negash, T., Peltier, D., Pante, M. (2024). Using Drone Survey to Map Stratigraphy and Hominin Activity Patterns at Olduvai Gorge. *Paleoanthropology*, 2024 (1), 172.
- Negash, T., Pante, M., Herrmann, E.W., Fellman, C.D., **Pelissero, A.** (2024). A Quantitative Analysis of the Micromorphology of Marks On Bone Retouchers Used to Sharpen Lithics. *Paleoanthropology*, 2024 (1), 167.
- Pelissero, A.J.**, Negash, T., Pante, M. (2023). Using Drone Survey to Map Hominin Activity Patterns at Olduvai Gorge. *Rocky Mountain Biological Anthropology Association Annual Meeting*.
- Pelissero, A. J.**, Bergstrom, K., Lawrence, A. B., Hammond, L., Magori C., Maro, E., Mwambungu, M., Bates, C. R., Bateman, R., Bunn, H. T., Musiba, C. M. (2021). Transparency and data sharing in paleoanthropology: A case study of Isimila, Tanzania. *American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting*.
- Musiba, C. M., Mwambungu, M. M., Mwankunda, J., Zaitsev, A. N., Savchenok, A. I., Mabulla, A. Z., Magori, C., Bergstrom, K., **Pelissero, A.**, Assefa, S. (2020). Balancing Research, Education, Conservation and Sustainable Use of the 3.6 Million Years Old Hominin Footprint Site G and S at Laetoli in northern Tanzania. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, 171, 194.
- Pelissero, A. J.**, Musiba C. M., Magori C., Mwankunda J., Bunn H. T. (2019). Rethinking the Laetoli Hominin Trackmakers in Light of New Sets of Prints at Site S. *Paleoanthropology*, 2019(1), A27.
- Pelissero, A. J.**, Bergstrom, K., Lawrence, A. B., Hammond, L., Bunn, H. T., Musiba, C. M. (2018). Drone Mapping of Isimila, Tanzania: The Implications for Future Research into Mid-Pleistocene *Homo* Behavior. *Paleoanthropology*, 2018(1), A26.

Pelissero, A. J., Musiba, C. M., Magori, C., Mwankunda, J., Bunn, H. T. (2017). Photogrammetric Comparisons of Footprint Morphology of the Recently Discovered Hominin Footprints at Laetoli. *East African Association for Paleoanthropology and Paleontology 6th Biennial Conference*

Pelissero, A. J., Musiba, C. M., Masao, F., Mabulla, A., Magori, C., Maro, E., Gidna, A., Bunn, H.T., Gurtov, A., Sarathi, A., et al. (2017). Photogrammetric Imaging: A Fresh Look at the Laetoli Footprints in Relation to Recent Discoveries. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, 162 (S64), 55.

AWARDS / GRANTS:

- | | |
|------|---|
| 2025 | CSU Dept. of Anthropology and Geography Dissertation Grant - \$3000 |
| 2024 | <p>Leakey Foundation Dissertation Research Grant - \$17,000
 Grant #S202410524 – “The distribution of hominin activities at Olduvai Gorge: A geospatial approach.”</p> <p>NSF – Archaeology Program Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant - \$8250
 Award #2418743 – “The Spatial Distribution of Hominin Activities at Olduvai Gorge, Tanzania During the Oldowan-Acheulean Transition”</p> |
| 2023 | <p>CSU Africa Center Graduate Research Scholarship - \$2500
 CSU Dept. of Anthropology and Geography Graduate Research Grant - \$1500</p> |
| 2022 | CSU Dept. of Anthropology and Geography Graduate Research Grant - \$1500 |

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:

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| 2023-2025 | <p>Dissertation Fieldwork and Data Collection
 Olduvai Gorge, Tanzania
 National Natural History Museum, Arusha, Tanzania</p> |
| 2021 | <p>Excavator and Faunal Analyst
 Astor House Community Archaeology Project
 Golden, Colorado</p> |
| 2017 | <p>Research Assistant / Teaching Assistant
 Human Origins Study at the Cradle of Humanity Field School
 Laetoli, Isimila, and Engare Sero, Tanzania</p> |
| 2016 | <p>Research Assistant
 Laetoli Research Project
 Laetoli and Isimila, Tanzania</p> |
| 2009 | <p>Field Student and Lab Assistant
 CU Boulder Archaeology Field School
 Chadron, Nebraska</p> |

PROFESSIONAL AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE:

United Campus Workers Representative – CSU Dept. of Anthropology and Geography (2021-2025)
Volunteer – CSU Dept. of Anthropology and Geography Public Outreach Programs (2022-2025)
Prospective Student Tour Guide – CSU Dept. of Anthropology and Geography (2019-2025)
Graduate Student-Faculty Liaison – CSU Dept. of Anthropology and Geography (2020-2022)
Graduate Representative – CSU Dept. of Anthropology and Geography Seminar Committee (2019-2020)
Graduate Student Mentor - CU Denver Anthropology Mentorship Program (2019)
Rapporteur – UNESCO Safeguarding African World Heritage as a Driver for Sustainable Development Conference, Arusha, Tanzania (2016)

PROFESSIONAL WORKSHOPS AND TRAININGS:

Creating Inclusive Excellence Program
Best Practices in Teaching: Active Learning
Best Practices in Teaching: Inclusive Pedagogy
Best Practices in Teaching: Planning an Effective Class Session
Integrating Writing in the Academic Core

RELATED PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

FAA Unmanned Aerial Systems Pilot License
Agisoft Metashape
ArcGIS Pro; QGIS
R Statistical Language; PAST Statistics
Sensofar Confocal Profilometer

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS:

American Association of Biological Anthropologists
East African Association of Paleoanthropology and Paleontology
Paleoanthropology Society
Rocky Mountain Biological Anthropology Association