



ANTHROPOLOGY COLLOQUIUM

FRIDAY
DECEMBER
15TH, 2023

3 TO 5 PM

ZOOM
PRESENTATION

FOR ZOOM ACCESS INQUIRIES,
PLEASE EMAIL
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Dr. Robert Anemone
Professor of Anthropology
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Developing a New Geospatial Palaeontology: How GIScience Can Inform the Search for Primate Fossils

Most vertebrate paleontologists and paleoanthropologists recognize that chance and serendipity have long played an outsized role in the location of productive fossil bearing sites. Our work offers a different approach to the problem of finding fossils in the field, informed by methods borrowed from the geographic information sciences and utilizing recent advances in machine learning, to locate productive fossil sites more efficiently. We have developed several predictive models that use satellite imagery and other remotely sensed data and artificial intelligence approaches to identify the distinctive spectral signatures of fossil sites. While our work has mostly been performed and tested in Paleogene deposits of Wyoming, the methods and approaches we have developed can be used in other time periods and other geographic settings by archaeologists, paleoanthropologists, or paleontologists.



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