



Petrography of Cultural Materials

Spring 2023

CLST 7311 / AAMW 5120 / ANTH 5211

Wednesdays 10:15-1:15

This is a skills-based methods course focusing on the application of thin-section petrography to the study of stone, ceramic and building materials from archaeological and historical contexts. Taught at the Center for the Analysis of Archaeological Materials this laboratory course first introduces students to the basics of optical mineralogy and the petrography of igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary rocks, and moves on to the petrographic characterization of fabrics, mainly ceramics, but also plaster, stone, and vitreous materials. Petrographic data is then interpreted in terms of provenance, manufacturing technology, and weathering processes. Research projects are individualized based on student interest and field of study.

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