



Stanford Archaeology Center

Tuesday, November 11, 2014

5:15pm – Seminar Room

Dr. Aleksander Pluskowski

Lecturer in Archaeology; University of Reading, United Kingdom

“How Conquest Transformed Northern Europe”

The Europe Center and Stanford Archaeology Center join forces to inaugurate a new lecture series focused on how modern Europe has been shaped by the concepts, materials and ideology of its past inhabitants. By diversifying our understanding of the ‘development of Europe’, this series demonstrates that the concept of the *longue durée* still has relevance for contemporary Europe in a rapidly altering world.

Our first speaker highlights both the ecological and socio-political ramifications of conquest. Based on work undertaken in Poland, Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania, Dr. Aleksander Pluskowski discusses the way that relationships created during one of the most dynamic epochs of European history, the period of crusading, have left a profound legacy for modern Europe. The process of crusading resulted in massively modified landscapes and catalyzed population reconfiguration at the frontiers of Europe, during the period of Christian expansion. The archaeo-historical backdrop to these events is presented, along with a discussion of how Europe, and the relationship Europe has with non-Christian societies, was permanently altered.

Aleksander Pluskowski's research focuses on frontier societies, colonization and ecological diversity in medieval Europe. He is primarily concerned with the nuanced relationships between ecology and culture, moving towards a complete integration of environmental and social archaeology, history and art history. His ultimate aim is to further a holistic understanding of this formative period of European society, contributing to the management of cultural and ecological heritage [today](#). His other interests include cult praxis in the past and the construction of religious identities.



*Co-sponsored by
The Europe Center*

Location:

Building 500
488 Escondido Mall
Terman Labs

If you have any questions
regarding our events,
please contact:

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