

# 2025 Annual Ancestors Lecture

## Fishing Through Flux: Economic Strategies for Managing El Niño Risks in Coastal Peru

### Visiting Professor Dr. Jo Osborn

#### UNM Department of Anthropology

How do communities confront challenging climatic circumstances? This talk explores the development of community economic specialization at Jahuay (200 BC–AD 150), a fishing village on the Peruvian south coast where full-time maritime specialists made a living through fishing, shellfish collection, and the hunting of marine birds and mammals. These products were consumed locally and exchanged regionally. I propose complementarity between independent specialized communities exploiting distinct resources was a regional strategy that buffered against periodic scarcity and made communities more resilient to El Niño cycles.



## Thurs., February 13 @ 6:30 pm

UNM Maxwell Museum

Hibben Center Rm 105 + Zoom

  
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