

Marcello Canuto

Professor and Director of the Middle American Research Institute at Tulane University

New Orleans, LA, US

Marcello Canuto researches integrative mechanisms that the ancient Maya used to build and maintain a socio-politically complex society.

Biography

Marcello A. Canuto is currently Director of the Middle American Research Institute and Professor of Anthropology at Tulane University. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Harvard University in 1991 and his Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in 2002. Before coming to Tulane in 2009, he was an Assistant Professor at Yale University. He has undertaken archaeological excavations in the Maya region, South America, India, North Africa and the northeast United States. His primary research interest in the Maya area has been on the integrative mechanisms that the ancient Maya used to build and maintain a socio-politically complex society throughout both the Preclassic and Classic periods. More broadly, his interests include household and community dynamics, the development of socio-political complexity in ancient societies, the definition of identity through material culture and the modern social contexts of archaeology in Mesoamerica. His past research in Honduras investigated the nature of ethnic diversity at Copan. He now co-directs a project in the understudied Northwest Peten, Guatemala where he investigates the construction of social categories and the mechanisms by which complex socio-political organizations develop and were maintained. Among many publications are the edited volumes "The Regimes of the Ancient Maya" (in preparation with Cambridge, 2019), "Understanding Early Classic Copan: New Research and New Themes" (University of Pennsylvania, 2004) and "The Archaeology of Communities: A New World Perspective" (Routledge, 2000). He also serves on the U.S. Board of the Universidad del Valle Guatemala.

Areas of Expertise

Archaeology, Ancient Civilizations, Ancient Maya, Maya Studies, Anthropology, Archaeological Remote Sensing, Mesoamerica, Socio-Political Complexity, Settlement Patterns

Affiliations

National Geographic Explorer

Education

University of Pennsylvania

Ph.D. Anthropology

Harvard University

A.B. Anthropology

Accomplishments

Research Grant, The Development of the Regional Political System among the Maya. Alphawood Foundation
2016 - 2019

Research and Development Grant, Political Centralization in Classic Maya Society, Louisiana Board of Regents
2015 - 2018

Certificate of Recognition, Office of the Mayor, City of New Orleans
2016

Traditional Enhancement Grant, Louisiana Board of Regents
2015

[Please click here to view the full profile.](#)

This profile was created by [Expertfile.](#)