

SPECIAL

FOUNDERS SEMINAR

Presents:

Martin Cuitzeo Dominguez N.

Ph.D Student at the Anthropology Center for research and Advanced Studies in Social Anthropology

Title:

The Tehuacan archaeological site and its relations with the landscape



When: **Wednesday, May 23, 2018**

Time: **2:45- 4:00**

Location: **A-220, Loeb Bldg.**

ALL WELCOME

Abstract:

In the State of Puebla, in the South Centre Region of Mexico 700 years ago the pre-Hispanic city of Tehuacan flourished. Fieldwork during the last five years has revealed water canals, temples, sculptures of divinities and astronomical elements. This study is focused on how infrastructure elements and cultural artifacts uncovered relate to the Tehuacan Valley landscape during pre-Hispanic times. The ancient Tehuacan city adapted and transformed a multi-functional landscape composed of ecological and geological features; and created unique historical, economic, social and symbolic relations. These adaptations and transformations can be analyzed through the spatial structure of the site and its main temple, by its hydraulic components and through the symbolic and astronomical elements throughout the ancient city. Through perspective that combines archaeology, semiotics and cultural astronomy, we are looking to explore the relationships of recent findings with the multifunctional Tehuacan Valley landscape.

Biography:

Martin Cuitzeo Dominguez N. is a PhD Student of Anthropology at the Center for Research and Advanced Studies in Social Anthropology located in Mexico City. His academic interests focus on Mexico and Colombia, Pre-Columbian and Indigenous cultures, Cultural Astronomy, Landscape Archaeology, Semiotics and Cybercartography. He holds a bachelor's degree in Archaeology from ENAH (National School of Anthropology and History) located in Mexico and a master's degree in Semiotics from UIS (Industrial University of Santander) located in Colombia. He has conducted archaeological and ethnographic fieldwork and research both in Mexico and in Colombia. Currently, Martin is working on a Ph.D dissertation focused on Indigenous Astronomy in Northwest Mexico in which he is taking a transdisciplinary approach that combines Ethnography, Archaeology, Semiotics and Cybercartography. As part of his dissertation, he is doing short-term research at the GCRC (Geomatics and Cartographic Research Centre) at Carleton University.