

SPRING 2020 COLLOQUIUM SERIES

Ph.D. PROGRAM IN ANTHROPOLOGY

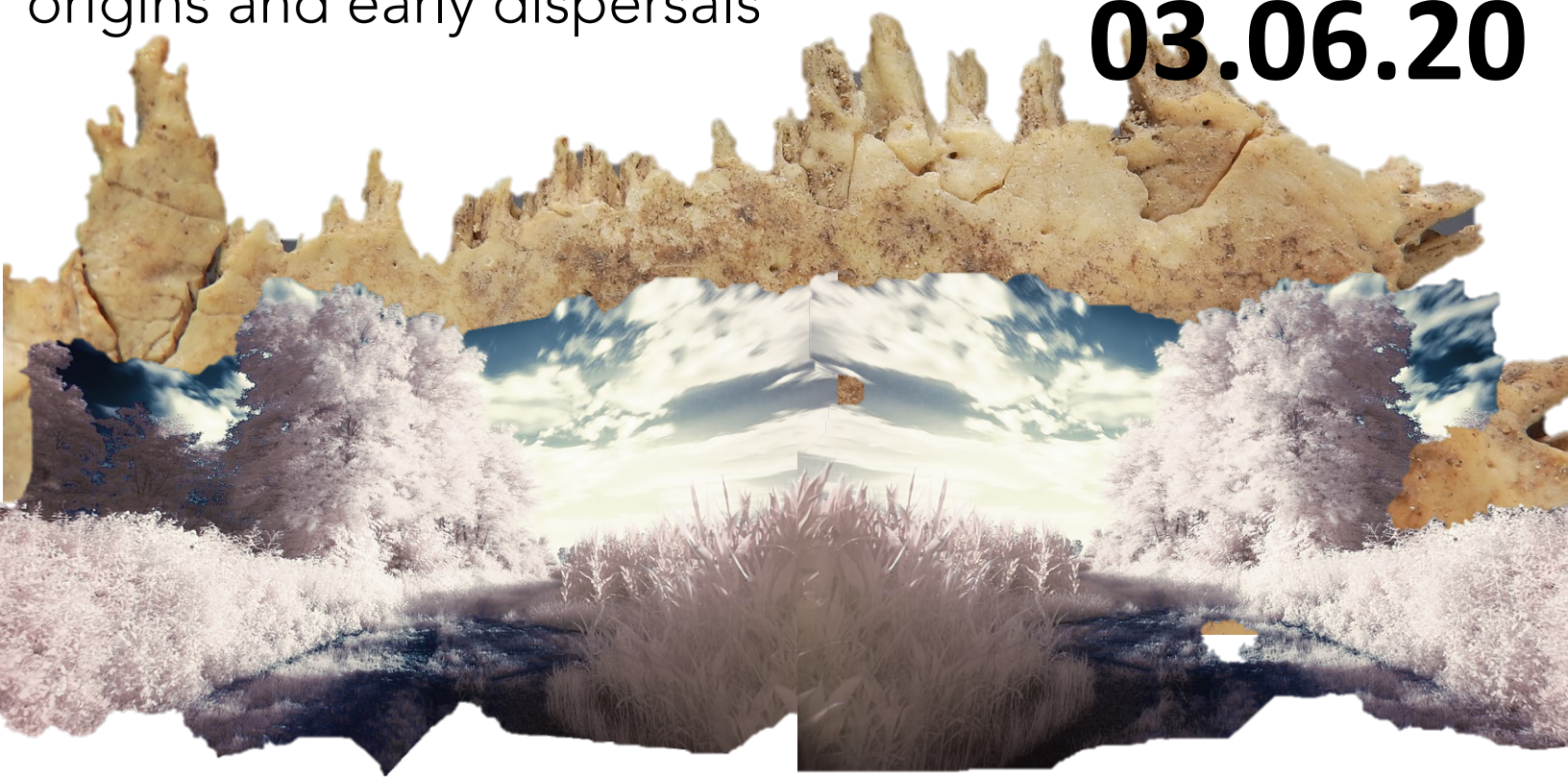
Unless otherwise noted, all colloquia take place 4:15-6:15 pm in rm. C415A at the Graduate Center, CUNY.

Refreshments follow in the Brockway Room (rm. 6402). gc.cuny.edu/anthropology

THE FOSSIL HUMAN CRANIA from APIDIMA:

new analysis and implications for modern human origins and early dispersals

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The Eastern Mediterranean region is considered a major dispersal corridor for both fauna and human populations moving across three continents. Furthermore, the Balkan peninsula is one of three European Mediterranean glacial refugia, where flora, fauna and human populations are expected to have survived during glacial times, recolonising the rest of the continent when conditions improved. The region's human fossil record, therefore, has been hypothesized to reflect the complexities of repeated, multi-directional dispersals, late survivals and admixture of human groups. The fossil human crania from Apidima cave, Mani (Southern Greece), discovered in the late 1970s, are among the most important specimens from South East Europe, yet their affinities and chronology have long remained unclear. The lecture will present new virtual reconstructions of the Apidima fossils, their 3-d geometric morphometric comparative analysis, and new dates obtained for the specimens in the context of Pleistocene human evolution in Europe and early Homo sapiens dispersals.