

Ivy Watt

EDUCATION

University of Kansas | Lawrence, KS | May 2025

Bachelor's | History & Anthropology Major | Indigenous Studies Minor | GPA: 3.79

University Honors | Departmental Honors in History

Thesis: "The Adaptive Monument: Authenticity and Adaptation in Notre-Dame's Post-Fire Revival"

Advisors: Dr. Andrew Denning, Dr. Elizabeth MacGonagle, Dr. Christopher Forth

Undergraduate Certificate | Service-Learning | May 2024

Undergraduate Certificate | Global Awareness | May 2023

Kansas City Kansas Community College | Kansas City, KS | May 2023

Associate's | General Science Major | GPA: 4.0

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Army University Press | Leavenworth, Kansas | January 2025 – June 2025

Archival Research Intern

- Collaborated with military historians to produce a short documentary commemorating the 20th anniversary of Iraq War campaign streamers, conducting archival research and source verification.
- Contributed to script development, footage selection, and fact-checking to ensure accurate historical representation.
- Conducted independent archival research, identifying and analyzing 100+ primary source documents.
- Collaborated on an eight-person research team to compile a narrative logbook for original sources.
- Co-authored the script and treatment for a short 90-second documentary short film.

University of Kansas | History Department | Lawrence, Kansas | August 2024 – May 2025

Undergraduate Thesis Researcher

- Consulted 20+ primary sources and 35+ secondary sources to support an original argument on adaptive monumentality in heritage preservation.
- Produced a 50-page honors thesis synthesizing interdisciplinary sources (architectural history, cultural theory, policy documents) and publicly archived it on KU ScholarWorks.
- Contributed to preservation scholarship by proposing adaptive monumentality as a model that reconciles tradition and innovation for 21st-century challenges.
- Defended the thesis before a faculty committee on April 29, 2025, earning departmental honors.

Army University Press | Leavenworth, Kansas | August 2024 – December 2024

Archival Research Intern

- Provided archival research support that contributed to a published 45-minute documentary used for historical education within the Army University Press.
- Conducted primary source analysis of 40+ WWII veteran oral histories from the New Guinea campaign, synthesizing 200+ pages of transcripts to identify key narrative themes, character arcs, and first-hand accounts of the U.S. 32nd Division.
- Collaborated with senior historians to develop oral history interview protocols.
- Evaluated and tagged critical narrative evidence, flagging pivotal passages for historical accuracy and emotional impact.

PROFESSIONALEXPERIENCE

Center for American Archaeology | Kampsville, Illinois | June 2025

Field School Instructional Intern for High School Students

- Assisted in the setting up of archaeological field sites, including preparing datums and establishing site grids for field school programs.
- Supervised and mentored students in field, lab, and dorm settings.
- Provided hands-on instruction to students in archaeological excavation methods, site mapping, and field documentation.
- Taught laboratory techniques such as cleaning, identifying, cataloging, and organizing artifacts to high school students.
- Managed student transportation, airport pickups, and lodging logistics.
- Collaborated with CAA staff to ensure a safe, inclusive, and educational experience for all participants.
- Attended additional lectures on Late Woodland Lower Illinois Valley archaeology, ground-penetrating radar (GPR), and magnetometry.

Johnson County Museum | Overland Park, Kansas | October 2023 – June 2025

Museum Assistant

- Aided in public program preparation and execution, including event setup, activity supervision, and visitor direction.
- Maintained museum facilities during operating hours, ensuring a welcoming and organized environment for visitors.
- Facilitated educational games and activities for Girl Scouts, enriching their understanding and interaction with museum exhibits.
- Cultivated an inviting environment by collaborating with museum staff to enhance visitor experiences.
- Performed opening and closing procedures, ensuring facility security and exhibit readiness.

Army University Press | Leavenworth, Kansas | August 2024 – June 2025

Intern

- Conducted comprehensive research and documentation for an oral history project, implementing archival standards and historical verification methods.
- Collaborated with military historians and editorial staff in manuscript review and fact-checking processes.
- Created social media content to increase engagement and promote the press's publications and events.
- Assisted in content development and digital marketing initiatives to enhance institutional visibility.

KU Alternative Breaks | Lawrence, Kansas | December 2023 – May 2024

Coordinator

- Planned and coordinated trips in collaboration with other staff, ensuring smooth logistics and meaningful experiences for participants.
- Engaged with sponsors and donors to secure funding and resources, supporting the program's mission and activities.
- Developed itineraries and schedules that aligned with the goals of the organization, maximizing impact and learning opportunities.
- Fostered collaboration and engagement by facilitating group discussions and encouraging teamwork, resulting in a stronger collective focus.

Slavia Foundation Field School | Gać Village Site, Poznań, Poland | July 2023 – August 2023

Student Archaeologist

- Executed precise documentation and preservation protocols for archaeological artifacts, utilizing specialized cataloging systems and digital recording methods.
- Performed detailed laboratory analysis of excavated materials, including cleaning, classification, and documentation of archaeological findings.
- Maintained detailed field notes and site records, ensuring accuracy in data collection and preservation.
- Assisted in careful excavation, documentation, and relocation of human remains for preservation and research, following ethical and legal guidelines.

Kansas Anthropological Field School | Topeka, Kansas | June 2022

Student Archaeologist

- Received instruction in and performed systematic excavation techniques at the historic Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site, contributing to preservation of a significant civil rights landmark.
- Processed and cataloged archaeological materials at the Kansas Museum of History, implementing standardized documentation protocols.
- Applied laboratory methods for artifact cleaning, preservation, and organization, ensuring proper curation standards.

VOLUNTEER & LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

KU Alternative Breaks | Mission: Wolf | Westcliffe, Colorado | March 2024

Team Lead

- Led and coordinated a 12-member team for service partnership, managing logistics, team operations, and project implementation.
- Engaged in educational tours and presentations to inform visitors about wolf conservation and the sanctuary's mission.
- Revitalized sanctuary signage, improving visitor navigation, and bolstering overall visitor experience.
- Enhanced team productivity and safety by introducing a bucket-brigade system for soil transport, which cut project time, minimized physical strain, and increased team morale.

KU Alternative Breaks | Focus Hope | Detroit, Michigan | January 2024

Team Lead

- Directed a team of 6 in a Detroit-based community service initiative, overseeing project planning and team coordination.
- Contributed to the assembly and distribution of 200+ food boxes, empowering community access to vital nutrition.
- Collaborated with teachers to facilitate learning activities, maintain classroom safety, and provide individualized attention to 20 students at the Early Learning Center.
- Guided a team of six to safely reschedule senior deliveries during severe weather, meeting all commitments

SKILLS

Technical & Laboratory:

Total Station Operation | Excavation Documentation | Field Safety Protocols

Lithic Analysis | Ceramic Analysis | Osteological Analysis

Soil Analysis (Munsell, Flotation) | Artifact Cataloging | Laboratory Processing | Mapping

Research & Data Management:

Research Methods | Data Analysis | Archival Research

Digital Record Keeping | Documentation Standards

Microsoft Office Suite | Database Management

Communication & Outreach:

Grant Writing | Copywriting | Editing | Professional Correspondence

Social Media Management | Public/Community Outreach

Educational/Informal Programming | Cross-Cultural Communication

Project & Team Leadership:

Team Leadership | Event Planning | Logistics Management | Community Engagement