



**Professor Nicholas Saunders**  
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## Biography

See homepage - <http://www.conflictarchaeology.com/>

Nicholas was educated at the universities of Sheffield (BA Archaeology, 1979), Cambridge (MPhil Social Anthropology, 1981), and Southampton (PhD Archaeology, 1991). He has held teaching and research positions at the National Autonomous University of Mexico, the University of the West Indies, Dumbarton Oaks, Washington D.C., and at University College London, where he was Reader in Material Culture, and undertook a major British Academy sponsored investigation into the material culture anthropology of the First World War (1998–2004). He is a prominent contributor to the nascent field of conflict archaeology, and has authored and edited numerous academic publications in the field. In addition to his research specialising in the anthropology of 20th-century conflicts and the archaeology of First World War theatres in Belgium, France and the Middle East, Saunders has also conducted extensive fieldwork and research in pre-Columbian and historical archaeology of the America. He has been involved with major museum exhibitions in London, Ypres (Belgium), Tübingen (Germany), and at the Centre Pompidou-Metz (France). Saunders has investigated and published on material cultures and landscapes of Mesoamerica, South America, and the Caribbean. His most recent research has been on the aesthetics of brilliance and colour in indigenous Amerindian symbolism, an extensive survey investigation of the Nazca Lines in Peru, and the anthropological archaeology of twentieth-century conflict (especially the First World War) and its legacies along the Soca (Isonzo) Front on the Slovenian-Italian border.

## Memberships

### Organisations

[Department of Archaeology and Anthropology](#)

### Academics by department

- [Anthropology and Archaeology](#)

### Honorary staff

- [Honorary Anthropology and Archaeology](#)

## Recent publications

- Saunders, N.J., Frolík, J & Heyd, V, 2019, '[Zeitgeist archaeology: Conflict, identity and ideology at Prague Castle, 1918-2018](#)'. *Antiquity*, vol 93., pp. 1009-1025
- Saunders, N, 2017, '[Desert Insurgency: Archaeology, T.E. Lawrence and the Arab Revolt, 1916-1918](#)'. Oxford University Press
- Saunders, N, 2016, '[Pearl's Treasure: The trench art collection of an Australian Sapper](#)'. in: Lisa Slade (eds) *Sappers & Shrapnel: Contemporary Art and the Art of the Trenches*. Adelaide: Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, pp. 12-39

- Saunders, N, 2016, '[Materiality, Space and Distance in the First World War](#)'. in: Nicholas J Saunders, Paul Cornish (eds) *Modern Conflict and the Senses: Killer Instincts?*. Routledge, London
- Saunders, N & Glass, E, 2016, '[Vestiges of the Home Front: An archaeological approach to recording the Great War landscape in Britain](#)'. in: Peter Liddle (eds) *The Britain and the Widening War, 1915-1916: From Gallipoli to the Somme*. Pen and Sword, Barnsley, pp. 316-332
- Saunders, N, 2016, '[Conflict Art and Material Culture](#)'. in: Joanna Bourke (eds) *A Global History of Art in Modern Warfare*. Reaktion, London
- Saunders, N & Cornish, P, 2016, '[Modern Conflict and the Senses: Killer Instincts?](#)'. Routledge
- Saunders, N & Baquedano, E, 2015, '[Introduction: Symbolizing Tezcatlipoca](#)'. in: Elizabeth Baquedano (eds) *Tezcatlipoca: Trickster and Supreme Deity*. University of Colorado Press, Boulder, pp. 1-6
- Saunders, NJ & Cornish, P, 2014, '[Bodies in Conflict: Corporeality, Materiality and Transformation](#)'. Routledge
- Saunders, N, 2014, '[Bodies in Trees: a matter of being in Great War landscapes](#)'. in: Nicholas J Saunders, Paul Cornish (eds) *Bodies in conflict: Corporeality, Materiality and transformation*. Routledge, London, pp. 22-38

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