NEW Flash Class ● Back by Demand
(Not included in our Spring 2017 Class Schedule!)

The Hohokam Were Not Alone
Instructors: Christopher Schwartz and Dr. Ben Nelson
1 session: Monday, Feb. 13, 2017 | 10:30 a.m. – noon
Connections Program Room at the Tempe Public Library
3500 S. Rural Rd., Tempe, AZ 85282

How can archaeologists understand the long-distance exchange of objects? Like globalized societies today, pre-Hispanic peoples of the U.S. Southwest, especially after 900 CE, were enmeshed in “international” relations that altered architectural styles, religious beliefs, and commercial and ritual objects. People in the Hohokam region of central and southern Arizona in particular were strongly engaged. Their distant relations brought objects such as copper bells, macaws, and cacao from distant parts of Mexico. Why were such objects important and why were they transported hundreds of miles from central and west Mexico to the north? How did they come to be deposited at archaeological sites in the U.S. Southwest? We will examine the importance of select objects and situate them in the globalization of pre-Hispanic North America.

Instructors
Christopher W. Schwartz, MA, is a doctoral student and research associate at ASU’s School of Human Evolution and Social Change. His research interests include better understanding interaction between pre-Hispanic societies of Mesoamerica and the US Southwest and how past humans interacted with animals in religion and ritual. He is interested in archaeological applications of isotope biogeochemistry, and has worked in the archaeological chemistry laboratory at ASU.

Ben Nelson, PhD, is a professor of anthropology with the School of Human Evolution and Social Change at ASU. He received his PhD from Southern Illinois University. His field research has been in the US Southwest, especially the Mimbres region, and in northern Mexico, where he directs the La Quemada-Malpaso Valley Archaeological Project in Zacatecas. His current research concerns the social and environmental conditions that surrounded the northward expansion of the northern Mesoamerican frontier.

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