

Aaron Deter-Wolf Bio



Aaron Deter-Wolf is a Prehistoric Archaeologist with the Tennessee Division of Archaeology in Nashville, where his work includes managing archaeological sites on State-owned lands and conducting excavations and research. Over the past decade Aaron has been a leading researcher in developing the archaeological study of tattooing. His work includes refining contextual and microwear analyses for identifying tattooing tools in archaeological collections, efforts to systematically document tattoos on mummified human remains, and experimental archaeological studies recreating and testing ancient and historic tattooing implements. He co-edited the volumes *Drawing with Great Needles: Ancient Tattoo Traditions of North America* and *Ancient Ink: The Archaeology of Tattooing*, and was part of research teams that identified ancient Native American tattooing tools including a 2,000-year old set of cactus spines from Utah, and 5,000-year old turkey bone needles from Tennessee. He shares information about the history of tattooing and body modification on the Instagram account [@archaeologyink](#).