

I am an anthropological archaeologist specializing in African archaeology. For the past 15 years my research has focused on Holocene archaeology of West and Central Africa. Therefore, I am willing to supervise any research on the archaeology of Africa on any topic from over the past 10,000 years. Below you can find a series of potential research areas for which I have particular expertise:

Contact me here for additional details: peter.coutros@ugent.be

African Archaeology

- The archaeology of the Bantu Expansion
- The archaeology of Late Stone Age autochthonous hunter-gatherers
- The archaeology of early African Kingdoms (Kongo Kingdom, etc.)
- Atlantic era and European contact archaeology
- Application of historical documents and oral histories
- The production, decoration, and use of pottery (including ethnographic research)
- Early Iron production
- The domestication of plants and animals (including the earliest African agriculture and pastoralism)

Social/Environmental Interaction

- Palaeoclimate reconstruction with faunal, botanical, and geochemical proxies
- Adaption of social institutions due to environmental changes
- Shifts in subsistence practices, including hunting-gathering, fishing, agriculture, and pastoralism

Urbanism and 'Complex Societies'

- The emergence of Urbanism
- Unique forms of African urbanism
- The archaeology of monumental architecture, including tumuli, megaliths, etc.

Cultural Patrimony

- The preservation of cultural heritage in the face of climate change
- Debates on the restitution of African cultural heritage
- Nationalism and the use of history in politics