Stanford



Richard Klein

Anne T. and Robert M. Bass Professor in the School of Humanities and Sciences and Professor of Anthropology and of Biology

1 Curriculum Vitae available Online

CONTACT INFORMATION

Mobile phone
 Richard G. Klein

Tel (650) 575-5643

Bio

BIO

Richard G. Klein researches the archeological and fossil evidence for the evolution of human behavior. He has done fieldwork in Spain and especially in South Africa, where he has excavated ancient sites and analyzed the excavated materials since 1969. He has focused on the behavioral changes that allowed anatomically modern Africans to spread to Eurasia about 50,000 years ago, where they swamped or replaced the Neanderthals and other non-modern Eurasians.

After earning his undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan, Mr. Klein went to the University of Chicago to pursue his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees. Following receipt of his doctorate, he taught at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Northwestern University, the University of Washington, and for 20 years at the University of Chicago. He came to Stanford from Chicago in 1993.

Mr. Klein has served on numerous editorial and advisory boards, he has edited The Journal of Archaeological Science since 1981, and he co-chairs the Grants Committee of the L.S.B. Leakey Foundation. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and of the National Academy of Sciences.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Professor, Anthropology
- Professor, Biology

BOARDS, ADVISORY COMMITTEES, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Co-Chair, Leakey Foundation Science and Grants Committee (1995 present)
- Member, American Association of Physical Anthropologists (1966 present)
- Editor, Journal of Archaeological Science (1981 present)
- Member, National Academy of Sciences (2003 present)
- Fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences (1992 present)

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- Ph. D., University of Chicago, Anthropology (1966)
- M. A., University of Chicago, Anthropology (1964)
- B. A., University of Michgain, Anthropology (1962)

Research & Scholarship

CURRENT RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY INTERESTS

My primary interest is in the co-evolution of anatomy and behavior in human evolution. My research is mainly on ancient animal remains as indicators of early human ability to make a living. I have analyzed more than 100 assemblages of animal fossils, primarily from southern African archaeological sites dating between 700,000 years ago and the historic present. I am currently directing excavations at a site 70 km NNW of Cape Town that dates from the Last Interglacial interval, between roughly 115,000 and 70,000 years ago. The animal remains show that the inhabitants exploited coastal resources much less efficiently than people who occupied the same coast during Present Interglacial (Holocene). The change in foraging efficiency probably occurred about 50,000 years ago and it helps explain the simultaneous expansion of anatomically modern humans from Africa to Eurasia, where they replaced the Neanderthals and other non-modern Eurasians.

PROJECTS

• Modern Human Origins - Stanford University and the Iziko Museum of South Africa

Teaching

COURSES

2023-24

• Data Analysis for Quantitative Research: ANTHRO 116, ANTHRO 216 (Aut)

2022-23

- Data Analysis for Quantitative Research: ANTHRO 116, ANTHRO 216 (Aut)
- Human Origins: BIO 8N (Win)

2021-22

- Data Analysis for Quantitative Research: ANTHRO 116, ANTHRO 216 (Aut)
- Human Origins: BIO 8N (Win)

2020-21

- Data Analysis for Quantitative Research: ANTHRO 116, ANTHRO 216 (Aut)
- Human Origins: BIO 8N (Win)

GRADUATE AND FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM AFFILIATIONS

• Biology (School of Humanities and Sciences) (Phd Program)

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

• Profile of Svante Pääbo: 2022 Nobel laureate in physiologyor medicine. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America Klein, R. G.

2023; 120 (1): e2217025119

 Mammoths and Neanderthals in the Thames Valley: Excavations at Stanton Harcourt, Oxfordshire (Book Review) JOURNAL OF ANTHROPOLOGICAL RESEARCH

Book Review Authored by: Klein, R. G. 2022; 78 (2): 223-224

• VISITS TO A CLIFF CAVE AMIDST CLIMATE CHANGE: THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF SPRING CAVE, WEST COAST OF SOUTH AFRICA SOUTH AFRICAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL BULLETIN

Jerardino, A., Halkett, D., Klein, R., Girten, K.

2021; 76 (215): 109-124

 Middle Stone Age marine resource exploitation at Ysterfontein 1 rockshelter, South Africa. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America

Klein, R. G.

2021; 118 (31)

• A fossil history of southern African land mammals (Book Review) SOUTH AFRICAN JOURNAL OF SCIENCE

Book Review Authored by: Klein, R. G.

2020; 116 (1-2)

Population structure and the evolution of Homo sapiens in Africa. Evolutionary anthropology

Klein, R. G.

2019

• Who We Are and How We Got Here: Ancient DNA and the New Science of the Human Past (Book Review) CURRENT ANTHROPOLOGY

Book Review Authored by: Linderholm, A., Horsburgh, K., Vander Linden, M., Klein, R. G., Bandelt, H., Kirch, P. V.

2018; 59 (5): 655-62

• Arrival routes of first Americans uncertain Response SCIENCE

Braje, T. J., Rick, T. C., Dillehay, T. D., Erlandson, J. M., Klein, R. G.

2018; 359 (6381): 1225

• Finding the first Americans. Science (New York, N.Y.)

Braje, T. J., Dillehay, T. D., Erlandson, J. M., Klein, R. G., Rick, T. C.

2017; 358 (6363): 592-594

• Francis H. Brown (1943-2017) IN MEMORIAM EVOLUTIONARY ANTHROPOLOGY

Cerling, T. E., Klein, R.

2017; 26 (6): 245-48

• Counting and miscounting sheep: genetic evidence for pervasive misclassification of wild fauna as domestic stock SOUTHERN AFRICAN HUMANITIES

Horsburgh, K., Moreno-Mayar, J., Klein, R. G.

2017; 30: 53-69

• Shellfishing and human evolution JOURNAL OF ANTHROPOLOGICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Klein, R. G., Bird, D. W.

2016; 44: 198-205

• Issues in human evolution. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America

Klein, R. G.

2016; 113 (23): 6345-7

• Shellfishing and Human Evolution Journal of Anthropological Archaeology

Klein, R. G., Bird, D. W.

2016; 44: 198-205

• Issues in Human Evolution Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences

Klein, R. G.

2016; 113: 6345-6347

• The Middle and Later Stone Age faunal remains from Diepkloof Rock Shelter, Western Cape, South Africa JOURNAL OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SCIENCE

Steele, T. E., Klein, R. G.

2013; 40 (9): 3453-3462

Archaeological shellfish size and later human evolution in Africa PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA

Klein, R. G., Steele, T. E.

2013; 110 (27): 10910-10915

Stable carbon isotopes and human evolution. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America

Klein, R. G.

2013; 110 (26): 10470-10472

• An early date for cattle from Namaqualand, South Africa: implications for the origins of herding in southern Africa ANTIQUITY

Orton, J., Mitchell, P., Klein, R., Steele, T., Horsburgh, K. A.

2013; 87 (335): 108-120

• Two Holocene rock shelter deposits from the Knersvlakte, southern Namaqualand, South Africa SOUTHERN AFRICAN HUMANITIES

Orton, J., Klein, R. G., MacKay, A., Schwortz, S., Steele, T. E.

2011: 23: 109-150

• Preface to the special issue-Early-Middle Pleistocene Palaeoenvironment in the Levant JOURNAL OF HUMAN EVOLUTION

Klein, R

2011; 60 (4): 319-319

• The abundance of eland, buffalo, and wild pigs in Middle and Later Stone Age sites JOURNAL OF HUMAN EVOLUTION

Weaver, T. D., Steele, T. E., Klein, R. G.

2011; 60 (3): 309-314

HILARY JOHN DEACON 1936-2010 In Memoriam SOUTH AFRICAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL BULLETIN

Klein, R. G.

2010; 65 (191): 109-110

• Comment on the Paleoenvironment of Ardipithecus ramidus SCIENCE

Cerling, T. E., Levin, N. E., Quade, J., Wynn, J. G., Fox, D. L., Kingston, J. D., Klein, R. G., Brown, F. H. 2010; 328 (5982)

A Howiesons Poort tradition of engraving ostrich eggshell containers dated to 60,000 years ago at Diepkloof Rock Shelter, South Africa PROCEEDINGS
OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Texier, P., Porraz, G., Parkington, J., Rigaud, J., Poggenpoel, C., Miller, C., Tribolo, C., Cartwright, C., Coudenneau, A., Klein, R., Steele, T., Verna, C. 2010; 107 (14): 6180-6185

 Morphometric identification of bovid metapodials to genus and implications for taxon-free habitat reconstruction JOURNAL OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SCIENCE

Klein, R. G., Franciscus, R. G., Steele, T. E.

2010; 37 (2): 389-401

 Darwin and the recent African origin of modern humans PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Klein, R. G.

2009; 106 (38): 16007-16009

• MOGAPELWA: ARCHAEOLOGY PALAEOENVIRONMENT AND ORAL TRADITIONS AT LAKE NGAMI, BOTSWANA SOUTH AFRICAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL BULLETIN

Robbins, L. H., Campbell, A. C., Murphy, M. L., Brook, G. A., Mabuse, A. A., Hitchcock, R. K., Babutsi, G., Mmolawa, M., Stewart, K. M., Steele, T. E., Klein, R. G., Appleton, C. C.

2009; 64 (189): 13-32

• The Human Career: Human Biological and Cultural Origins

Klein, R. G.

University of Chicago Press.2009

• Out of Africa and the Evolution of Human Behavior EVOLUTIONARY ANTHROPOLOGY

Klein, R. G.

2008; 17 (6): 267-281

• Intertidal shellfish use during the Middle and Later Stone Age of South Africa ARCHAEOFAUNA

Steele, T. E., Klein, R. G.

2008; 17: 63-76

• Going strong, and growing JOURNAL OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SCIENCE

Rehren, T., Grattan, J., Klein, R. G.

2008; 35 (2): 213-213

• Obituary - F. Clark Howell (1925-2007) JOURNAL OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SCIENCE

Klein, R. G., Butzer, K. W. 2007; 34 (9): 1552-1553

• The mammalian fauna associated with an archaic hominin skullcap and later Acheulean artifacts at Elandsfontein, Western Cape Province, South Africa JOURNAL OF HUMAN EVOLUTION

Klein, R. G., Avery, G., Cruz-Uribe, K., Steele, T. E.

2007; 52 (2): 164-186

• The Ysterfontein 1 Middle Stone Age site, South Africa, and early human exploitation of coastal resources PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Klein, R. G., Avery, G., Cruz-Uribe, K., Halkett, D., Parkington, J. E., Steele, T., Volman, T. P., Yates, R. 2004; 101 (16): 5708-5715

• Paleoanthropology. Whither the Neanderthals? Science

Klein, R. G.

2003; 299 (5612): 1525-1527

• Whither the Neanderthals? SCIENCE

Klein, R. G.

2003; 299 (5612): 1525-1527