

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY EDWARDSVILLE

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Allison Thomason

To hear this episode in its entirety, tune in to Segue at 9 a.m. this Sunday, July 28, on WSIE 88.7 FM The Sound and siue.edu/wsie.

When asked about her path to Historical Studies at SIUE, Thomason said her journey was “quirky”. She approached the study of history as an archaeologist and art historian, specifically studying ancient Mesopotamia, the modern Iraq.

She became interested in the “cradle of humanity”.

She studied ancient languages for the Master's degree she earned in Chicago, eventually pursuing the PhD in Art History.

Thomason certainly did not follow any traditional path. She was interested both in tracking history through the language study of ancient manuscripts and through the physical study of art objects from antiquity.

War in modern day Iraq brought loss and damage to many artifacts, bringing the preciousness of the artifacts into sharper focus. Thomason's colleagues are involved in preservation and reconstruction wherever possible.

The Historical Studies department has a monthly brown bag lunch series where department personnel catch everyone up on current and ongoing projects.

The Department offers many opportunities for students to do “real world” historical study, including projects on local Madison County history.

For more information about the SIUE Historical Studies Department, tune in to Segue at 9 a.m. this Sunday, July 28, on WSIE 88.7 FM “The Sound” and siue.edu/wsie.

The College of Arts and Sciences also provides archived copies of Segue episodes from our website: <http://www.siue.edu/artsandsciences/CTprevart.html> .