

CERAMICS & SOCIETY

Sinopoli gives several case studies using ceramics to reconstruct production and exchange, ceramic consumption and socio-political organization. As you go through the readings, here are several questions to consider:

- How would you identify a ceramic production location/facility in the archaeological record?
- Consider the strengths and drawbacks of using standardization measures, skill, labor investment, for characterizing the organization of ceramic production.
- Compare and contrast the methods for studying Neolithic Beaker, Harrapan, Roman, and Halaf ceramic production as outlined by Sinopoli.
- Compare and contrast the analytic methods and approaches for investigating ceramics and social relations of Pollack, Braun, Hodder and Miller.
- Compare and contrast how Feinman, Johnson, and Costin, et al., used studies of ceramic production to understand political organization.

