



UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS
GRADUATE PROGRAM



PRACTICALITIES

1. Requirements
2. Funding

PhD REQUIREMENTS

1. Ninety credits in courses approved by the Department as applicable toward an advanced degree. At least half of these credits (which include dissertation credits) must be at the 500-level or above.
2. A series of written exams:
 - Translation exams on Greek and Latin literature (3hrs, no dictionary). Reading list in each **language guide the student's preparation for these exams.**
 - Two modern languages, German and French or German and Italian (two hours, dictionary allowed).
 - Two special author/ special field exams, one from the Greek world, one from the Roman world.
3. An oral general examination on Greek and Roman history, literature, and related subjects (your choice of Greek or Roman Art and Archaeology, Philosophy, or Linguistics), 2 hours.
4. **A dissertation approved by the student's Supervisory Committee, and an oral examination on the dissertation (the defence).**

MA REQUIREMENTS

EITHER: 36 credits in courses and seminars approved by the Department as applicable toward an advanced degree and a research paper. At least 18 of the total 36 credits must be at the 500-level or above.

OR: 27 credits in courses and seminars approved by the Department as applicable toward an advanced degree and an MA thesis (9 credits). At least 18 of the total 36 credits must be at the 500-level or above.

IF YOU ARE ADMITTED WITH FUNDING:

- During your first year you will have either the (Classics Department) **Jim Greenfield Graduate Fellowship** or another UW fellowship (usually the Top scholar award) or a Research Assistantship.
- For the rest of your graduate study you will have:
 - Teaching Assistantships to commence the fall of the second year, **renewable, in a regular support package, up to a total of six years' support;**
 - At the dissertation stage, two teaching-free dissertation quarters supported by the Greenfield fund.
- There are multiple fellowships to apply for at the university level.



THE FUN STUFF

1. Courses you can take
2. Hanauer seminars
3. Simpson Center
4. Summer programs
5. Conference travel
6. McDiarmid Lecturship

SOME RECENT SEMINARS IN OUR DEPARTMENT

GREEK 520 A (15478) Seminar: **Alcibiades**. TTH 2:30-4:20pm. Prof. Christopher Waldo
They love him. They hate him. **They can't live without him.**Examining the depictions of Alcibiades in Aristophanes, Plato, Plutarch, Thucydides, and various other authors, we will interrogate ancient ideas about celebrity, gender, and power.

Latin 520 A Seminar: **Modern approaches to teaching ancient languages**. MW 2:30-4:20pm
Catherine Connors

In this course we will explore various strategies for approaching teaching Latin and ancient Greek by combining scholarly discussion of various methods of language pedagogy with practical exercises in devising exercises for lively task-based language instruction.

GREEK 520: **Slavery in Greece**. MW 2:30pm - 4:20pm. Prof. Deb Kamen

In this graduate seminar, we will explore the institution of slavery in ancient Greece. Topics will include the definition(s) of slavery; the slave supply; the legal and social status of enslaved people; the economics of slavery; the treatment of enslaved people; sex, gender, and slavery; the agency and resistance of enslaved people; manumission; and literary and artistic representations of enslaved people and slavery.

LATIN 520: **The Neoterics**. TTh 2:30-4:20. Prof. James Claus

We will read A.S. Hollis' Fragments of Roman Poetry to explore the literary portfolios of Roman poets of mid-First Century BCE and then conclude with a reading of Catullus' liber to see how his literary output compared with his contemporaries.

Latin 510 (Roman Historians): **Tacitus' Nero**. MW 2:30-4:20 SLN 16252 Prof. Alain Gowing

Nero! Tacitus! What's not to like? In this graduate reading class, we will read (in Latin) highlights from the surviving portion of Tacitus' account of the emperor Nero (AD 54-68) -- namely, Books 13-16 of the Annales.

LATIN 520 A Seminar: **Greek and Roman Comedy**. TTh 3:30pm - 5:20pm **Prof.** Catherine Connors

Greek and Roman comedies offer lively and thought-provoking points of departure for discussing a wide range of relatively ordinary people's experiences of ancient life, including issues of status, gender, family life, legal systems, and cultural life. Our readings in Greek and Latin will be drawn from Menander's *Dyskolos*, Plautus' *Amphitruo* and Terence's *Adelphoe*. We will also practice reading sight passages from other comedies.

GREEK 520 Seminar: **Greek Curse Tablets**. MW 2.30–4.20. Prof. Alex Hollmann

Texts we will read in Greek include the so-called magical papyri (instructions and templates for magical praxis) and a selection of tablets, including an exclusive look at some soon to be published lead tablets from late antique Caesarea Maritima in Roman Palestine and from Antioch in Syria.

GREEK 520 A: **The Idea of Sappho**. Prof. Christopher Waldo.

Sappho, known in antiquity as the “tenth Muse,” has been a source of fascination for the past two and a half millennia. This seminar endeavors to examine our obsession with the poet from the island of Lesbos. Starting with an exploration of her extant fragments, we will also investigate receptions of Sappho in the works of authors like Michael Field (aka. Katharine Harris Bradley and Edith Emma Cooper), Theresa Hak Kyung Cha, and Harryette Mullen.

GREEK 520 A Seminar: The Odyssey. TTh 3:30pm - 5:20pm Prof. Olga Levaniouk

We will try to strike a balance between looking at the (countless) questions specific to the *Odyssey* and considering the poem as a manifestation of the broader phenomenon of oral traditional poetry in the Ancient Greece.

CL LI 501: **Historical Grammar of Greek and Latin**. MW 3:30-5:20 **Prof.** Olga Levaniouk

Most of us will have to teach Greek and/or Latin at some point in our lives, if we have not already. Suppose you have an inquisitive undergraduate who wonders why Latin does not have an aorist, or why mi-verbs in Greek are such a bother. What do you say? The goals of this course are two. The first is to provide you with the basic facts of the (pre)history of the two languages. The second is to open a door into the exciting world of historical linguistics.

CL AR 541 A: Seminar in **Greek and Roman Art**. Prof. Sarah Levin-Richardson
Vision and Viewership in Roman Culture

In this graduate class, we examine how the ancient Romans discussed their relationship with vision and art.

CL AR 461 A: **Gender and Sexuality in Classical Art and Archeology**. Prof. Kate Topper

Examines gender and sexuality in the visual and archaeological records of Greece and Rome, with a focus on topics such as the body, clothing, the gaze, homoeroticism, sexual labor, gendered spaces, and transgressive genders and sexualities.

CL AR 447 A: **The Archaeology Of Early Italy**. Prof. Valeria Riedemann Lorca

Study of the principal archaeological sites of early Italy, including Etruria, Sicily, southern Italy, and archaic Rome up to the Republican period. Attention given to the material remains and their relationship to the Etruscan, ancient Sicilian, and early Roman civilizations.

CL AR 444. **Greek and Roman Sculpture** Prof. Kate Topper

History and development of Greek sculpture and sculptors, their Roman copyists, and Roman portraits and sarcophagi. Emphasis on Greek sculpture of the fifth century BC.

SOME COURSES OUR STUDENTS HAVE RECENTLY TAKEN IN OTHER DEPARTMENTS

ARCHY 512 (10458) **Looting and Loss**: TTh 1:30-3:20. Prof. Stephanie Selover

Explores the history and context of the recent politicization, looting, and destruction of archaeological and cultural sites in the Middle East and beyond, set against the background of museums, antiquities laws, and the ethical considerations of modern archaeologists.

NEAR E 509 **Death And Afterlife In The Ancient World** (3). Prof. Kathryn McConaughy Medill

Explores human yearnings, obsessions, fears, and aspirations associated with death and afterlife by examining major political, military, social, economic, religious, literary, artistic, and architectural phenomena directly connected to the way ancient cultures, such as Egypt, Mesopotamia, Israel, and the Levant, have conceptualized death.

NEAR E 502 A: **Religions of the Ancient World**. TTh 1:30-2:50. Prof. Scott Noegel

A comparative exploration into ancient religious customs, rituals, and beliefs (ca. 3000-500 BCE). Foci will be on the peoples of Mesopotamia, Egypt, Syria, and Israel. Topics covered include conceptions of worship and divinity, sacred space and time, and the types and roles of priesthoods, divination, prayers, and afterlife beliefs.

RELIG 502: **Religion in Comparative Perspective**. MW 1:30-3:20 SLN 20013. Prof. Joseph Marino

A study in comparative hell description. Explores theories, literary accounts, and visual depictions of hell and other unfortunate destinies in multiple contexts. Emphasizes Buddhism, secondarily Ancient Mediterranean religions and early Christianity.

ENGL 510 A (14218) History Of Literary Criticism And Theory IV: **Trauma and Testimony**
Prof. Gillian Harkins

DIS ST 535 A / ENGL 568 **A Graduate Seminar in Disability Studies** MW 11:30-1:20
Prof. Stephanie Kerschbaum

ENGL 555 A: **Trans Studies: Temporality and Historicity**. MW 1:30-3:20pm
Prof. Stephanie Clare

GWSS 500 **A Feminist Social Theory**. Prof. Chandan C. Reddy

GWSS 502 A: **Cross Disciplinary Feminist Theory**. Prof. Bettina Judd

ENGL 559A: **Ecocriticism: A Seminar in the Public Humanities**
Prof. Jesse Oak Taylor

ENGL 599A: **Premodern Textualities**. Prof. Paul Remley

TXTDS 503 **Archives, Data, And Databases**. Prof. Anna Preus

GERMAN 592: *Speaking for Others: advocacy and representation*. T 1:30-4:20. Prof. Ellwood Wiggins

The plight of the most oppressed is often only given voice by others, more privileged, speaking for their interests. This structure of advocacy is very clear in the German word *Fürsprache* (speaking for), and is the literal root of the Latin *advocatus*, from which our English term derives. But what does it mean to speak for another? Who has that right? Who can—or should—speak for whom? What ethical and epistemological challenges does advocacy entail?

In this course, we will explore these questions through readings in literature and rhetoric.. Authors may include: Gorgias, Aeschylus, Aristotle, Quintilian, Shakespeare, Hobbes, Büchner, Nietzsche, Kafka, Arendt, Spivak, Mallik, Rekda

Discussion in English. Reading of texts in original languages (Greek, German, English) is encouraged, but not required. All texts available in English translation.

Our students have also taken classes in Sanskrit, Old English, Italian, Scandinavian folklore, Linguistics, and more.

JOFF HANAUER GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP FOR EXCELLENCE IN WESTERN CIVILIZATION

Several of our recent and current students won the Joff Hanauer Graduate Fellowship for Excellence in Western Civilization.

Last year, as Hanauer fellows, Jonathan Clark and Lauryn Hanley took part in a bi-monthly seminar led by Professors Jason Groves and Sabine Wilke, Joff Hanauer Distinguished Professor for Western Civilization. The goals of this program are to foster creative and critical work in the Western cultural tradition and to help prepare teachers from different disciplines who have well-reasoned convictions about the place of Western civilization in the curriculum of an American liberal arts institution.

THE WALTER CHAPIN CENTER FOR THE HUMANITIES

- Talks, including [Katz Distinguished Lectures](#)
- [Barclay Simpson Scholars](#) (recently won by Kaitlyn Boulding)
the Barclay Simpson Scholars Program consists of 1) biannual summer fellowships for five to six doctoral students to pursue public-facing projects, and 2) a prize to honor exceptional faculty contributions to scholarship in public.
- [Going Public: Reimagining the PhD](#)
podcast dedicated to exploring public scholarship and publicly engaged teaching in the humanities.
- [Digital Humanities Summer Fellowship](#)
program of summer fellowships for faculty and graduate students, sponsoring of visiting speakers in the broad domain of digital humanities, partnership with the UW Graduate Certificate in Textual and Digital Studies and the University Libraries
- [Microseminars](#)
microseminars at the graduate level that reflect its commitments to crossdisciplinary research; these courses are typically one-credit, credit/no credit, allowing students to fit them into regular departmental coursework (recently taught by Prof. Levin-Richardson in conjunction with Saidiya Hartmans' **visit**)
- [Society of Scholars](#) (fellowship supporting a quarter of teaching-free research)
Each year, approximately eight faculty and three dissertation research fellowships support members of the Society of Scholars. Scholars in year-long residence at the University of Washington may be invited to participate as well. The group meets biweekly throughout the year to discuss their research in progress.

THE ROME PROGRAM



Building on the Department of Classics' 30+ year tradition of taking students to Rome, eight undergraduates and two graduate students joined Prof. Levin-Richardson in Early Fall (mid-August to mid-September) for 1,000 years of Roman history in four weeks. Our graduate students took leading roles, with Lauryn Hanley sharing her expertise of Etruscan culture at the National Etruscan Museum in the Villa Giulia, and Laura Harris guiding us through tombstones and other inscriptions at the National Roman Museum at the Baths of Diocletian.

SUMMER PROGRAMS AND TRAVEL ABROAD

Over the recent years, our students and recent graduates have:

- spent a year at the American Academy at Rome
- spent a year at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens
- attended a regular **summer session at the ASCSA**
- attended **summer seminars at the ASCSA**, including:
 - The Archaeology of Caves in Greece: Cult and Life through the Ages
 - Locating Ancient Gender and Sexuality.
- attended several courses at the **Leiden University Summer School in Language and Linguistics**, including:
 - Introduction to Papyrology
 - Mycenaean Greek
 - Minor Languages of Anatolia: Lycian and Phrygian

CONFERENCES

Conference presentations by our students are too many to list! Many present at CAPN, CAMWS, and elsewhere. **We typically fund all conference travel to present a paper or to participate in a panel.** Here are some papers and panels from the Society for Classical Scholarship over last two years (current grads and very recent PhDs in red):

SCS-40: **Joshua Andre Zacks, Grand Valley State University (UW Classics PhD '22), Aegina's Philoxenia: Poets and Trainers in Pindar's Nemean 5 and Bacchylides 13**

SCS-10 Hesperian Transformations: Classics and the Luso-Hispanophone World (Organized by Hesperides; Julia Hernández, New York University; Erika Valdivieso, Yale University; Adriana Vazquez, University of California at Los Angeles (UW Classics PhD '17))

SCS-34: Greek Historical Narratives (Andrew Scott, Villanova University, Presiding)
Mary McNulty, University of Washington (Classics PhC)/Tufts University, "Dying With:" Self-Starvation and Women's Grief in Appian's Proscription Narratives

SCS-19: Mentoring in Classics (Organized by the Committee on Gender and Sexuality in the Profession; Caroline Bishop, Texas Tech University; and Zoe Stamatopoulou, Washington University in St. Louis)
Deborah Kamen, University of Washington (faculty, Classics), Lambda Classical Caucus on Mentoring
Suzanne Lye, University of North Carolina; Eunice Kim, Furman University (UW Classics PhD '17), and **Cassandra Tran (Wake Forest University), Women's Classical Caucus on Mentoring**

SCS-41: Emma Brobeck, Washington & Lee University (**UW Classics PhD '21**), **The Poetics of Dust in Martial's Panegyrics of Domitian and Trajan**

SCS-43: Hellenistic and Roman Mime (Organized by the Committee on Ancient and Modern Performance; Melissa Funke, University of Winnipeg (**UW Classics PhD '13**); **C.W. Marshall**, University of British Columbia)

SCS-59: Allison Das, Kinkaid School (Houston, TX) (**UW Classics PhD '15**), **Primum Non Nocere: Dispatches and Diagnoses from the Academic Body**

SCS-76: Grace Funsten, Loeb Classical Library Foundation (UW Classics PhD '22), Augustan Elegy and CIL 6.5302: Literary Dynamics in Vigna Codini III

SCS-1: Guy Rahat, University of Washington (graduate student, Classics), **Revisiting Otho: Otho as an Anti-Nero in Tacitus' Histories**

SCS-12 (hybrid): Translation (organized by Hesperides). Organizers: Adriana Vazquez, University of California, Los Angeles (**UW PhD '17**) and **Erika** Valdivieso, Yale University
Matthew Gorey, Wabash College (**UW PhD '17**), (**Pseudo-**)Classics in Translation—The Case of Antonio de Guevara

SCS-15: Jonathan Clark, University of Washington (graduate student, Classics), *Pone or Pelle Hederam? Ecohorror in Propertius*

SCS-41: Emma Brobeck, Washington and Lee University (**UW PhD '21**), **A Catalogue of Genres: Defining Epic and Elegy in Fasti 3**

SCS-18: Essential Digital Classics (organized by the Digital Classics Association)
Chiara Palladino, Furman University, and **Anna Muh**, University of Washington (graduate student, Classics), *Translation Alignment and Machine Learning for Classical Languages*

SCS-58: Slavery: Sarah Levin Richardson, University of Washington (UW faculty, Classics), President Sarah Brucia Breitenfeld, Davidson College (**UW PhD '22**), **Theodora's Little Child: Enslaved Motherhood in Classical and Hellenistic Greece**

SCS-56: Edward Nolan, National Taiwan University (**UW BA '12**), **Pliny the Younger: Code-switching and Humor**

SCS-61: Colin Shelton, University of Arizona (UW PhD '11), and Allison Das (UW PhD '15), Kinkaid School, ChatGPT vs. AP Exam vs. Classicist: Wrestling with Innovative Pedagogy in the Age of the Metaverse

Awards Ceremony and Presidential Address : Yurie Hong, Gusatvus Adolphus College (UW PhD '07), Winner, SCS Award for Excellence in Teaching at the College Level

SCS-69: Melissa Funke, University of Winnipeg (**UW PhD '13**), **The Sicilian Character of Sophron's Mimes**

UW GRADUATES WIN AWARDS!

UW Classics PhD students Sarah Brucia Breitenfeld and Grace Funsten win awards for the best graduate student **papers of 2021 from the Women's Classical Caucus and the Lambda Classical Caucus**, respectively!

WCC Best Pre-PhD Paper Award:

Sarah Brucia Breitenfeld, "**While she was drunk, many others had sex with her. Reexamining Violence in Dem. 19.196-98 and [Dem.] 59.33-35,**" **presented at CAMWS 2021**

LCC Graduate Student Paper Award:

Grace Funsten, "**The Mens and the Mentula: A Philosophical Reading of Maximianus' Hymn to the Penis,**" **presented at SCS 2021**



McDIARMID LECTURSHIP

In 2000-2001 the Department of Classics initiated a series of lectures in honor of former Professor John McDiarmid and his wife Mary. As part of the lecture series, each visitor not only gives a public lecture but also offers a separate seminar/workshop for our graduate students to discuss trends in the field of Classics and current issues pertinent to our discipline. The visits have been both successful and highly popular, particularly as **the graduate students choose the speaker and run the event with the assistance of our graduate program coordinator.**

Selection of the speaker involves nominating the candidates, narrowing down the list, and voting—all done by the graduate students. The event itself involves several occasions for interacting with the speaker, both during the seminar and over meals.

Recent McDiarmid speakers include: Dan-el Padilla Peralta, Edith Hall, Nandini Pandey, Emily Wilson, Leslie Kurke.

A full list of speakers and more information can be found [here](#).



DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION

We prioritize:

- mentoring (TA support; informal lunch talks with feedback; mock job interviews; practice job talks; individual meetings with the Graduate Program Coordinator, working closely with the faculty)
- accessibility (the Graduate Student Accessibility Fund aims to make the department more accessible for research and teaching needs; we cooperate with the [Disability Resources for Students](#) office on learning needs)
- working with the Office of Graduate Student Equity & Excellence and applying for dedicated funding for qualifying students
- focusing on diversity, equity, and inclusion in our teaching and scholarship; see for example:

Prof. Waldo in Perspectives ("[In Classics, a Different Take on Race](#)") discussing his class "Race and Identity in Antiquity" and his work for the [Asian and Asian American Classical Caucus](#).

Prof. Levin-Richardson on the roots of her research—growing up as a lesbian teen in North Carolina—in a conversation about "[Sex and History](#)" hosted by the Society of Fellows of the American Academy in Rome.

Our faculty, graduate students, and alums have taken leading (and sometimes foundational!) roles in the key DEI-related groups of our discipline, including the [Asian and Asian American Classical Caucus](#), the [Lambda Classical Caucus](#), and the [Women's Classical Caucus](#), among others.

We regularly host DEI-related talks and events. Some recent highlights include:

Clara Bosak-Schroeder (Illinois) spoke on "Breast and Bees: excerpts from The Seven Wonders Project" which blends creative nonfiction and scholarship to investigate how modern and contemporary artists from marginalized standpoints are reimagining ancient Mediterranean monuments.

Arum Park (University of Arizona) spoke about her work for the Asian and Asian American Classical Caucus

Suzanne Lye (the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) spoke on her work for the Women's Classical Caucus

Greg Taylor held zoom workshop for faculty and graduate students on “Race, Bias, and Dissonance.”

A scenic view of a rocky coastline. The water is clear and blue, with a rocky shore in the foreground. A semi-transparent text box is overlaid on the water.

ALUMNI

People who have studied Latin, Greek, Classical Studies and Classical Archaeology at the University of Washington have gone on to work in fields including education, law, journalism, business and entrepreneurship, and the sciences. [UW Classics Ph.D.s are teaching at institutions across the U.S. and Canada.](#)

For more on their adventures see our [alumni](#) page and the next slide.

SOME LINKS TO THINGS OUR GRADUATES ARE DOING

[Eunice Kim and Adriana Vazquez serve on the Women's Classical Caucus Steering Committee](#)

[Naomi Campa co-chairs Lambda Classical Caucus](#)

[Matthew Gorey published a book on Vergil and Lucretius, Atomism in the Aeneid, Oxford University Press](#)

[Melissa Funke is one of the co-authors of the podcast "Peopling the Past"](#)

[Kaitlyn Boulding and Lauryn Hanley organized the Textile Studies Graduate Research Cluster with funding from the Simpson Center](#)