



21

22

DEPARTMENT OF
CLASSICS
NEWSLETTER
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

Chair's Note

Marianne Hopman



As I write these words, Fall 2022 classes are in full swing. We are happily back to in-person teaching and events, and the return to a close-to-normal academic life makes it possible to dispassionately take stock of the previous twelve months.

There is no denying that pandemic-related developments made 2021-2022 a challenging year. After an exciting return to campus in the Fall, a spike of cases due to the omicron variant in January, followed by another uptick in May, seriously disturbed our teaching and learning environment. By the Spring quarter, students and faculty alike were physically and mentally exhausted. Yet as I look back, I am impressed by how much was accomplished, and by the dedication and creativity of faculty who went out of their way to offer students a top educational experience despite the challenging circumstances.

Classics faculty continued to offer a range of courses in Greek and Roman languages and cultures informed by cutting-edge approaches to ancient texts and material remains. Their and the students' creativity was

on display in June at our annual Classics Expo and Awards Ceremony, when students presented academic papers, video essays, creative translations, and even a Disney-like animation on topics including Greek and Roman literature, inscriptions, as well as Chicago classicizing monuments (pages 8-9).

A landmark was reached over the Summer with the first iteration of our new short-term program in Athens, offered in partnership with the Global Learning Office (page 3), and whereby fifteen students took two four-week long courses in Athens, the one offered by Dr. Ryan Platte and the other by a local instructor. Such a program had long been earmarked as a departmental desideratum; making it happen took years of careful planning, and the result did not disappoint. On their return, participants raved about the experience, which they described as a highlight of their undergraduate career. We look forward to taking another group to Greece in summer 2023.

While our undergraduate program is flourishing, we have been receiving exciting news from recent NU Ph.D.s who were affiliated with Classics during their graduate studies. In 2021-2022, Evan Dutmer was promoted to Senior Instructor in Ethics and Curriculum Leader at the Culver Academies. Katie Hartsock received tenure at Oakland University; her second poetry collection, *Wolf Trees*, is forthcoming in 2023, as is Jordana Cox's first book, *Staged News: The Federal Theatre Project's Living Newspapers in New York, 1935-9*.

Important developments happened on the faculty front as well. Reginald Gibbons received the Fuller Award for lifetime achievement as a writer and literary citizen from the Chicago Literary Hall of Fame (page 12). Ryan Platte was promoted from Associate to full Professor of Instruction, a well-deserved promotion that reflects his many successes as Director of the Greek language program, lead faculty of the summer program in Athens, and steering committee member of the Global Antiquities group (page 10). A global search for a new faculty specializing in ancient science, technology, and medicine culminated with the successful hiring of Dr. Nick Winters, a scholar of the history of science, particularly of ancient Greek mathematics, whose rare double training in Physics (M.S. Physics, University of Illinois at Chicago, 2012) and Classics (Ph.D. Classical Studies, Duke University, 2020) puts in a unique position to build strong ties between the humanities and STEM fields. The recipient of a prestigious National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship, Dr. Winters is spending the 2022-2023 academic year working on a book on Greek mathematical schools at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens; he will start teaching at Northwestern in September 2023.

As I step back from my role as department chair, I am excited to pass the baton to Professor Sara Monoson, a seasoned administrator who I know will take the department in new and exciting directions over the next three years. Onward!

Department Spotlight:

ATHENS STUDY ABROAD: ANCIENT CULTURE AND MODERN CITY

This summer the Department of Classics debuted our own study abroad program in Greece, "Athens: Ancient Culture and Modern City." Developed with Northwestern's Global Learning Office, this program brought fifteen students to Greece for one month to take two courses. One course, "People and Places of Ancient Greece," was co-taught by Professor Ryan Platte (Northwestern) and Professor Jonah Radding (The University of Chicago). Students learned in person about significant archaeological sites that they had only read about before, including the Acropolis of Athens and ancient Mycenae. They also visited important sites that are rarely encountered in literature, such as on the island of Aegina and its the Temple of Aphaia, dedicated to a figure perhaps not worshipped anywhere else. Professor Monoson led a tour of the ancient Agora of Athens. They learned how the Agora intertwined with the life of Socrates. The second course, "Antiquity and Modern Greek Identity," was taught by Greek academic Rosa Vasilaki. Students studied the complex legacy of antiquity in later periods of Greek history. Through this they became familiar with contemporary Athens and developed a more holistic understanding of Greece. Students lived in the Pangrati neighborhood, near the National Garden and the Panathenaic Stadium, a neighborhood rich with history, and full of bakeries. The first running of the program went swimmingly, and Professor Platte is very grateful to the students who made it such a success.



Students and faculty at the Lions Gate at Mycenae.



Students at the Hephaisteion in Athens.

CUAB UPDATE

In 2021-2022 the Classics Undergraduate Advisory Board (CUAB) revived itself after a long pandemic and a return to in-person events. With the help of Peter Seymour, outgoing CUAB President and now Northwestern graduate, they successfully replenished their numbers with aggressive recruitment work after a high graduation rate the previous year. Ranks are now filled with students who love the Classics and want to create a welcoming environment in the department. Lots of planning for this year and brainstorming for next occurred, centering on how the group would reintroduce itself to the freshly in-person Northwestern community. This year, in addition to assisting with departmental promotional work, the group's activities culminated in a board game night where students enjoyed pizza and played games from ancient civilizations, including ancient Greece and Rome. Next year CUAB, led by Haley Mailender, Weinberg senior, intends to host several events that have been planned this year. From movie nights to cooking events, be sure to keep CUAB on your radar!

Undergraduate Spotlight:

Classics Major Greta Lunder

Lunder is finishing up her undergraduate degree at Northwestern and took part in an exciting archeological dig in summer 2022. Read more to hear about what she's learned in Classics classes, her time in Athens, and where she sees herself post-graduation.

Tell us a little about yourself and a fun fact.

I am a senior majoring in archaeology, which is a subset of anthropology and Classics. I was born and raised in New York City, but all my family lives in England. Fun fact: I'm a scuba diver. It's a great hobby; I do it whenever I get the chance. The last time I went was off Long Island. The water isn't great but if you love diving it's just fine!



Greta at the National Archaeological Museum.

What made you decide to major in archaeology?

My college story is a little bit complicated. I started out at Rice University in 2018 as a physics major and I ended up hating it. I took an archaeology class because it seemed like a cool way to fulfill a requirement. We did a lot of fun activities like sorting pottery and pretend surveys. The only thing I remember from that time is both hating my physics class and loving my archaeology class. I decided I was going to do something crazy by dropping physics entirely and instead spend my time studying for my archaeology class. After a break from Rice University, I decided to transfer schools. I said, "You know what? Wipe the slate clean, I'm going to go with archaeology; it's clearly what I'm good at and what I like." So, I enrolled at Northwestern, and I just started out right away with archaeology. It's worked out well so far and I've never looked back.

What advice would you give to a student who is considering Classics as their major?

I would say just do it! It's a very interesting major but it's not rigorous in terms of credit hours, so you're not going to stress about adding it as a second major. Classics has completely enriched my college experience. I would say if you're

thinking about studying Classics, take Professor Platte's 260 "Classic Mythology" and see if you love it. You might as well fill your electives with ancient Greek and Roman myths and history. These themes and courses are so interconnected with the modern world.

What is your favorite thing that you've studied in a Classics class?

I really enjoyed writing my paper for Professor Darden's class on Helen of Troy. For the course I wrote about the historical accuracy of the *Iliad* and investigated if the Trojan War was real, historically speaking. I took a middle line between yes and no by incorporating elements of truth through historical events, and elements of fiction like imagination and poetry into my research and paper. I really enjoyed writing that paper because I dove deep into Aegean archaeology. I became enamored by this interesting topic and hope to bring some of that in my senior thesis.

Tell us more about the Agora dig in Athens that you are on this summer. How did you discover this opportunity and what you have been doing there?

I found out about the dig through Professor Platte who suggested that I apply. The one dig I had been on before was underwater and it

was a field school that combined academics and work. The Agora dig is just work, which sounded perfect for the experience I was hoping to gain before committing lots of time and money to archaeology in graduate school. It's also a prestigious dig that has been going on for over nine years. I was so excited just to apply that I couldn't believe it when I got the acceptance email.

For eight weeks, I worked with about thirty other students and archaeologists on site. As fun as it was, it was difficult work with an early wake-up time and long days in the blazing sun. It was hard to be upset with the early alarm as I walked under the acropolis on my way to the Agora. It's an incredible moment to have to yourself while the city is still quiet because it's only 6:00 a.m.

My task was to help with digging across the path from the main Agora. Some of the things I saw here I truly can't believe. There's an unbelievably well-preserved temple to Hephaestus that I freaked out over because the ceiling is intact with incredible metopes, this never happens.

At one point, we were at the Byzantine level going into the late Roman era. What we were looking for was the *Stoa Poikile* (painted porch). There are only ancient descriptions of it, so it would have been an incredible find. Day-to-day we were mostly finding everyday pottery that's not painted or glazed. Some other highlights we came across

were a fibula, bone pins, some coins, and an inscription. I did dig up some painted pottery which was a very exciting find for me.

What are your long-term career goals?

I am hoping to get my Ph.D. I really loved the dig I was on in Athens, but I also love museum work and think I want to gain more experience in that world. While I enjoy field archaeology and being out there digging, long term I see myself working inside a

museum researching classical art and putting together exhibits to help educate the public on the things I love.

I'm currently looking at classical art and archaeology master's and Ph.D. programs to see what's out there. I've found a few potential schools and I'm planning to just send my application out and see if anyone wants me! From there we'll see what happens, my only goal is to continue working with antiquities.



Greta and a colleague on site at the Agora using a total station.



This year in **GLOBAL ANTIQUITIES**

This research group represents scholars dedicated to the study of antiquity regardless of regional specialization. The steering committee is Mark McClish (Religious Studies), Ryan Platte (Classics), and Taco Terpstra (Classics).

The Global Antiquities group had a successful year in 2021-22, despite ongoing struggles with COVID-19-related difficulties. In the Fall, they organized a faculty visit to the exhibition *Who Says, Who Shows, What Counts: Thinking about History with the Block's Collection* at Northwestern's Block Museum of Art. The exhibition put on display over fifty works, a selection from the Museum's permanent collection inviting critical thinking about history. Among them was a photo of an ancient Greek temple in a landscape whose caption was written by one of the Global Antiquities Steering Committee members.

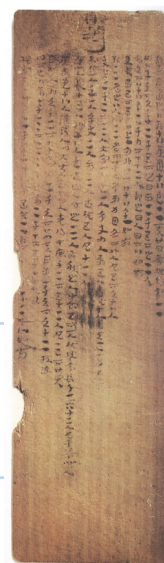


During the Winter, Global Antiquities hosted a talk by Anna Darden, titled "The Snakes of Athens: Imagery and Legitimacy in Euripides' *Ion*." The talk highlighted Professor Darden's expertise and ongoing research into fifth-century BCE Athenian tragedy as a visual medium.



A second winter event was a visit by Dr. Flint Dibble, a zooarchaeologist and Marie Curie postdoctoral fellow at Cardiff University. Dr. Dibble presented a paper on his work as a co-curator of the exhibition *Hippos: The Horse in Ancient Athens* at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens. The event, titled "Horse Sacrifice at Phaleron? Interpreting Ancient Greek Horse Burials," was held on Zoom and attracted a large audience from both sides of the Atlantic.

The Spring Quarter also saw two Global Antiquities events. The first was an in-person visit by Professor Griet Vankeerberghen, a sinologist at McGill University. Professor Vankeerberghen gave a paper titled "Mobility and the Consolidation of Empire: The Case of a Local Official during Late Western Han," focusing on divinatory texts from a Han-era tomb. The second spring event was a Zoom talk by Professor Jennifer Finn from Loyola University, titled "The Last Plans of Alexander, Reconsidered." It was based on a chapter from her most recent book, *Contested Pasts: A Determinist History of Alexander the Great in the Roman Empire*.



These events—from the history of Han China to the archaeology of ancient Greece and Rome to the use of ancient architecture in contemporary art—showcase the wide diversity of interests catered to by the Global Antiquities group. Events are free and open to the public.

Selected Department Events:

SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE: JUDITH HALLETT



Kreeger-Wolf Distinguished Visiting Professor Judith Hallett finally made it to Northwestern in May 2022, after COVID-19 delayed her original plans for May 2020. Her lecture, "Latin Literary Portrayals of Phoenician Female Speech and their American Legacy: Plautus' *Phoenicium*, Vergil's *Dido*, Emma Lazarus, and Ruth Bader Ginsburg," drew connections across time to connect two fictional "Phoenician" women to two American Jewish women from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, Emma Lazarus and Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

During her stay on campus, Professor Hallett also paid a visit to Professor Weintritt's course, "The Young Achilles." Drawing on her extensive research on marriage, motherhood, and gendered speech in ancient Rome, Professor Hallett delivered special remarks on a question that the class had been ruminating on all quarter: how would Romans have reacted to Thetis' repeated interventions on her son's behalf in Statius' *Achilleid*? Students were also able to pitch their paper ideas to Professor Hallett and received feedback in office hours.

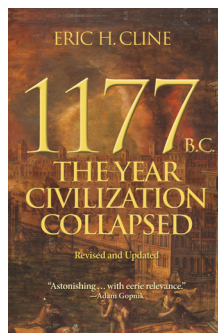
“

"It was an honor to have met Professor Hallett, who, in addition to answering questions during a designated class period, was kind enough to meet in a separate meeting for deeper discussion. The insight she provided proved invaluable when I wrote my final paper on fatherhood in the *Achilleid*, using techniques and sources she suggested. I am grateful to both her and Professor Weintritt for providing these opportunities."

— Kane Layng, Senior Classics Major

”

FEATURED LECTURES



DEMETRA KASIMIS

"The Intimacy of Conspiracy: Democratic Erosion and the Problem of the Oikos"

ERIC CLINE:

"1177 BC: Revisiting the Late Bronze Age Collapse"

GLENN MOST:

"From Athens to China and Back: A Western Student of Ancient Greece Looks at the Chinese Classical Tradition"

CLASSICS EXPO + MURLEY AWARDS CEREMONY

JUNE 2022

The Department was delighted to hold its fourth annual Classics Expo and Murley Awards Ceremony in person again on June 3rd. The Expo included a wide range of projects grouped in four categories: material culture, research papers, creative translations, and digital storytelling.

From Professor Terpstra's research seminar, "Classics in the Digital Age," came a showcase of final projects submitted by Ace Chisholm, Grace DeAngelis, and Garrett Louie, who illustrated the process of studying ancient inscriptions and its value for students of Classics.

From "The Foundation of Rome Through Legends and Objects," DeAngelis presented her research paper "*Coniunx Dignissima Augusti et Quirini: Tracing Livia in Rome's Foundational Women*" which is forthcoming in the Stanford University Undergraduate Classical Journal *Aisthesis*, while Jordan Vaughn shared her fascinating study of Circe's representation on a 17th-century print by Giovanni Castiglione in the Block Museum collection which she compared with the Homeric source text in Professor Hopman's "Gender and Homecoming in Homer's *Odyssey*."

Out of Professor Byros' "Latin 201-3" came Kate Feldstein's creative translation of Catullus 50 which turns the thrilling poetry-writing session between Catullus and his friend Licinius Calvus into a modern musical jam session.

The last three projects provided examples of the integration of digital storytelling into the Classics curriculum. From Professor Tataranni's "Witch Crafting: Gender and Magic," Julia Sexton presented her Disney-like animation of Apuleius' *Metamorphoses* 3. 21 in which the soon-to-be ass Lucius witnesses the witch Pamphile at work in her macabre laboratory. The Expo ended with the screening of two videos produced in "Ancient Rome in Chicago" by Chisholm ("Chicago's Itinerant Spirit of Music") and Michael McHugh ("The Memory of Chicago: Graceland Cemetery").



Students at the Classics Expo

On June 3rd, the Department held the annual Murley Awards Ceremony in person. The Murley Awards are presented in honor of Joseph Clyde Murley, a Northwestern Classics Professor from 1921 to 1957. Congratulations to all Prize recipients!



Julia Sexton's Disney-like animation of Apuleius' *Metamorphoses*



Julia Sexton



RECIPIENTS

The Joseph Clyde Murley Prize for Excellence in First-Year Latin

Natalie Peterson

The Joseph Clyde Murley Prize for Excellence in Second-Year Latin

Monica Lund

The Joseph Clyde Murley Prize for Excellence in First-Year Greek

Maggie McKenna

The Joseph Clyde Murley Prize for Excellence in Second-Year Greek

Garrett Louie

The Joseph Clyde Murley Prize for Excellence in Greek and Latin

Grace DeAngelis

The Joseph Clyde Murley Prize for Undergraduate Achievement by a Classics Major

Grace DeAngelis

The Joseph Clyde Murley Prize for Undergraduate Achievement by a Classics Minor

Callie Stolar

The Joseph Clyde Murley Prize for Undergraduate Research in Classical Literature and Culture

Jordan Vaughn

The Classical Association of the Middle West and South Award

Greta Lunder

Outstanding Performance by a Graduate Teaching Assistant

Robin Pokorski

Faculty Spotlight:

Professor Ryan Platte



What initially piqued your interest in the study of Greek literature and culture? How did this become the subject you knew you wanted to pursue?

I suppose it started in high school when I became interested in English literature. I had an incredible love of Milton and Chaucer. It seemed like everything in Milton was a reference to Greco-Roman antiquity and it felt like you needed to know Latin and Greek to understand what was happening in the text. Chaucer allowed me to do some historical linguistic stuff in a very elementary way, fostering my taste for that.

I was very lucky to have an instructor at my high school who taught me Latin as there was no Latin program. He did graduate work in Latin, so he taught it to me as an independent study. When I went to college, I thought I was going to pursue a Ph.D. in English literature, but after taking Latin and Greek courses, I realized I didn't want to stop. I decided instead to use the literary analysis I learned in literature courses and apply it to Classics so I could continue working with these languages that I didn't want to give up.

What are some of your favorite topics and readings within Classics?

Homer and lyric poetry are at the top of my list. I have an advanced class on Greek lyric poetry, which I love because Greek lyric is written in a variety of genres and dialects. That's one of the really special things about studying and teaching the ancient

Greek world—every region of ancient Greece had its own version of the Greek language. But this dialectic diversity can also make it challenging for students to move from one genre to another. Students work exclusively on the dialect of ancient Athens for their first couple years. This advanced class on Greek lyric poetry allows me to introduce students to different regional dialects and give them access to new genres.

In your opinion, which classical topic or text should everyone engage with at least once in their lifetime and why?

I think there's something really special to be learned from studying ancient myth texts because they show the difference between a story we think we know and the story in its original form. Sometimes those things are quite different. People often don't know the sources from which familiar myths come; the version they know is not a perfect reflection of what the myth was in antiquity and may obscure the complexity of the original myth.

Tell us how you bring classical topics into dialogue with contemporary thought in your teaching?

In my first-year seminar class, we study representations of ancient Greece and Rome in contemporary film and culture; much of the material is just recently released. Since the students have lived through the moments when the materials we're studying were popular, they feel authorized to think and talk about them. That's been a

great course that's covers all sorts of material, like Wonder Woman and the depictions of Amazons across time, as well as Lil Nas X music videos.

Can you tell me why you were interested in designing a travel course to Greece?

When I was an undergraduate, it was only by going to Greece and actually standing in the places I studied—realizing what's behind me when I turn this way or that and what I see when I walk a little bit that way—that all that abstract information I studied in class became fixed in my head. There's really no good way to replicate that experience besides going there in person.

What is a fun fact about yourself that people may like to know?

Most people who know me eventually realize that I have a profound interest in American traditional song, or folk music—specifically in how the music is handed down from person to person. I've published a little on it and it shows up in the way that I think about ancient Greek song.

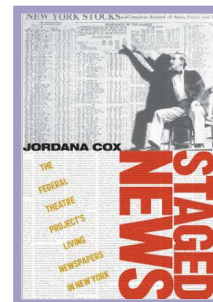
CLASSICS CLUSTER

ALUMNI NEWS

Jordana Cox

Interdisciplinary Ph.D. in Theatre and Drama, 2015

Cox's first book, *Staged News: The Federal Theatre Project's Living Newspapers in New York*, will be published by the University of Massachusetts Press in February 2023, co-launching the "Journalism and Democracy" series.



Dutmer was promoted to Senior Instructor in Ethics and Curriculum Leader in the Department of Leadership Education at the Culver Academies. He published four articles in the *New England Classical Journal* and *Teaching Classical Languages*. He also received a Pedagogy Award from the Society for Classical Studies, featured in the Culver May 2022 Newsletter, for the development of an outreach project at the local library, Culver Ancient Schoolroom.

Evan Dutmer

Ph.D. in Ancient Philosophy, 2019



Culver Academies lead three elementary school students through an immersive Latin reading activity at the Culver Ancient Schoolroom event at the Culver Union Township Public Library, modeled on the Reading Ancient Schoolroom.

Katie Hartsock

Ph.D. in Comparative Literature, 2015

In 2022, Hartsock was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor of English at Oakland University, where she teaches creative writing and literature courses, as well as classical mythology in translation. Her poems have recently appeared in publications such as *Kenyon Review*, *Ecotone*, *The Threepenny Review*, *Poetry*, *32 Poems*, *The New Criterion*, and *Beloit Poetry Journal*, and her second poetry collection, *Wolf Trees*, will be published in early 2023 by Able Muse Press. She lives in Ann Arbor, MI, with her husband, the novelist Jonathan Geltner, and their two young sons. In the winter of 2023 she will teach a graduate workshop as a visiting writer in the Zell Writers Program at the University of Michigan.

Lodewyck received tenure in 2020 at North Central College in Naperville, IL, where she serves as Head of Acting. She recently published in *Chicago Stages: A Century of Theater and Performance* and the upcoming *Humanities and Human Flourishing: Theatre and Performance Studies* volume. As a performer, her recent commercial and television work

Laura Lodewyck

Interdisciplinary Ph.D. in Theatre and Drama, 2015

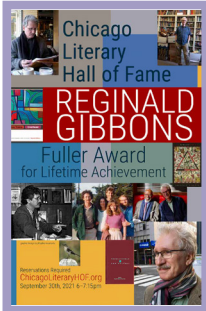


includes *Motorola*, the Wisconsin Lottery, and *Chicago Med*. At North Central, she teaches courses in both practice and theory, and directs in the departmental season, including works that reflect Classical Receptions.

Iphigenia Among the Taurians, North Central College, 2017. Carter Sherman, Miranda Keating, Marissa Olavarria, Samantha Lambert, Mikayla Detwiler, Michaela Foulkrod, Katie Rose Ford. Scenic Designer Sully Ratker, Lighting Designer Will Coeur, Costume Designer David Cordero.

FACULTY

NEWS



Gibbons' novel *SWEETBITTER* will be reissued in a new paperback edition in 2023. He is working on translations and—more loosely—what he calls "renditions" (his most recent book of poems is *RENDITIONS*), of Hellenistic poems. In Fall 2021, he received, from the Chicago Literary Hall of Fame, the Fuller Award for lifetime achievement as a writer and literary citizen.

Reginald Gibbons

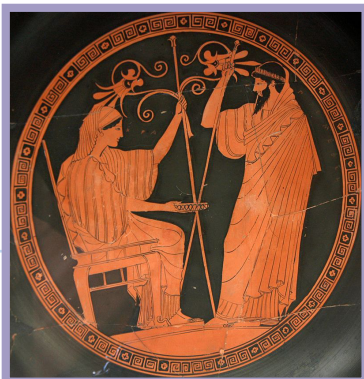
Frances Hooper Professor of Arts and Humanities (English; Classics)

Ann Gunter

Professor of Art History, Classics, and in the Humanities

Northwestern's return to campus in 2021-22 brought a welcome return to in-person class meetings. Gunter taught undergraduate courses in Art History, Classics, and the Humanities, including a new offering devoted to the comparative study of ancient empires. She was privileged to advise Bailey Pekar's honors thesis examining in detail the Greek government's gift of plaster casts of ancient Greek sculptures to the 1893 World Colombian Exposition. This fascinating study, which unearthed significant new archival material elucidating the history and reception of the casts, also won its author the Department of Art History's prestigious J. Carson Webster Prize for Distinguished Honors Thesis.

While the duties of Department Chair inhibited extensive research activity, Gunter made progress on a book project exploring the visual and material culture of the Neo-Assyrian Empire (ca. 900-612 BCE) and its interaction with neighboring regions, including the Aegean Sea area. A paper presented in 2018 at an international conference in Padua on "Making Peace in Antiquity" was published this year in the conference proceedings. She worked on a contribution to the proceedings of a conference in Verona held in January 2022 on the theme "Shaping Boundaries in the Eastern Mediterranean Area in the First Millennium BC." Gunter has also been invited to author a volume on artistic styles for a new Cambridge University Press book series devoted to the Mediterranean Iron Age.



After a productive and replenishing research leave in Switzerland, Marianne Hopman was thrilled to return to in-person interactions in September 2022. She enjoyed working with advanced Greek

students in the course "Gender and Homecoming in the *Odyssey*" in the Fall. In the spring she developed a new course on "Athenian Tragedy, Then and Now"

Hera and Prometheus. Tondo of an Attic red-figured kylix painted by Douris, 490-480 BCE.

Marianne Hopman

Associate Professor of Classics

that catered to Classics and Theatre students and included collaborative, performance- and

research-based projects. In her capacity as department chair, she oversaw the promotion of Professor Platte to the rank of Professor of Instruction, and she chaired the faculty search that resulted in the hiring of Professor Winters, an ancient mathematics scholar, as Assistant Professor of Classics. She continued working on her monograph on the fifth-century BCE play, *Prometheus Bound*, and she wrote a related chapter on the practice of prognosis (medical forecasting) forthcoming in a collective volume on *Anchoring Innovation* (Brill, 2023).

Richard Kraut

Professor of Philosophy

(Oxford University Press) was the subject of an "Author-Meets-Critics" session at the 2022 Central Division meeting of the American Philosophical Association. His most recent paper, "Thucydides versus Plato?" was presented at Cornell University for a conference on the themes of Tyrants, Demagogues, Thucydides, and the Republic.

Richard Kraut completed his work as co-editor of the second edition of *The Cambridge Companion to Plato*, which will appear in the fall of 2022. The first edition of this collection appeared in 1992. His co-editor, David Ebrey, formerly taught at Northwestern, and is joining the faculty of the University of Barcelona. Kraut's 2018 book, *The Quality of Life*



While on research leave in 2021-2022, Monoson's major projects were developing an archive of modern works across media that engage in "summoning" Socrates and composing a creative work that recounts the conduct of the trial of Socrates from the vantage point of a juror. In addition, she worked with undergraduate students (through the Undergraduate Research Assistant Program) and a Classics Research Assistant to ready The Boshier Collection for research and teaching access. Monoson participate in the new study abroad program in Athens in July. She will resume teaching ancient political philosophy in Fall 2022. And, she looks forward to building on recent leadership successes when she begins a three-year term as department chair in September 2022.

S. Sara Monoson

Professor of Classics and Political Science

Ryan Platte

Professor of Instruction of Classics

For Platte this was a very rewarding year, both in terms of teaching and program building, and an important transitional year, as we returned to in-person instruction. He was pleased to be able to bring skills learned during last year's online teaching into the physical classroom as he taught "Classical Mythology," the first-year Greek sequence, and an advanced class on Greek lyric poetry. This year also saw the first running of the long-awaited study abroad program, "Athens: Ancient Culture and Modern City," for which Platte served as director. This program brought fifteen students to Athens for a month of classes in June and July to learn about ancient Greek history and culture through the study of archaeological sites. It also introduced students to the study of classical reception in more recent Greek history. The program was a great success and is now poised to be an annual offering. Platte also continued his work as Director of Undergraduate Studies and again served on the steering committee of Global Antiquities, organizing events that unite scholars of antiquity regardless of regional specialization. Finally, Platte was incredibly honored this year to receive a promotion to the rank of Professor of Instruction and looks forward to serving in this position for many years.

For Platte this was a very rewarding year, both in terms of teaching and program building, and an important transitional year, as we returned to in-person instruction. He was pleased to be able to bring skills learned during last year's online teaching into the physical classroom as he taught "Classical Mythology," the first-year Greek sequence, and an advanced class on Greek lyric poetry. This year also saw the first running of the long-awaited study abroad

In Fall 2021, Francesca Tataranni enjoyed a productive quarter of research leave during which she furthered her work on the reception of Vergil's *Aeneid* in the U.S. She presented the results of her research at an international conference on "Dido Unbound: the Queen of Carthage before, in, and after Vergil" which was organized by the Vergilian Society at the Villa Vergiliana in Cuma, Italy (only

Francesca Tataranni

Professor of Instruction of Classics



Clip from the video "One Dark Wall" - CA Davis

half a mile from the cave of the Sibyl!). After almost two years of remote instruction, in Winter 2022 Tataranni was thrilled to be back in the classroom with her new Latin course on "Witch Crafting: Gender and Magic in Latin Literature." As part of her commitment to advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in Classics, she participated in several initiatives organized by Northwestern's Searle Center for Advancing Learning and Teaching throughout the year and joined the department's newly established DEI committee. In the spring, she was invited to talk about the relevance of studying Latin today at the Minnetonka High School in Minnesota.

Taco Terpstra

Associate Professor of Classics

ancient) history its proper place in the debate about the economic rise of Europe. A number of chapters he wrote for conference volumes are slated to appear in the coming academic year. In 2021-2022, Terpstra taught his large Roman history survey as well as the Classics research seminar. Students in both classes did great work. To his delight, some of his seminar students gave a presentation at the Classics Expo and Award Ceremony in June, showcasing their wonderful research projects.

Taco Terpstra had a sabbatical term in Fall, which he used for an archaeological research trip to Italy (Sardinia and Campania). In the months to come, he will work on articles based on the data collected during that trip. He will also continue to work on a new book project, which aims to give Roman (and more generally



This past year was Wallace's first of two in a Northwestern program called phased retirement. He began at Northwestern in 1991.

After thirty-one years of research and teaching, nine authored, co-authored or edited books, some 100 scholarly articles, and twenty reviews, he still confronts

Robert Wallace

Professor of Classics



four unfinished monographs, on Thucydides, Sophokles, Plato as a writer, and once again the origin of Greek democracy, plus various unfinished articles. These four major topics have been principal subjects of his teaching for some years, and teaching this material to Northwestern students has proved inspiring. He thanks the kindness of several Classics chairs for assigning him teaching directly related to his research. In addition, this past year he lectured in Thessaloniki on Greek gender relations from Homer through the end of the classical period, and in Athens and Rethymno (Crete) on Plato as a writer.

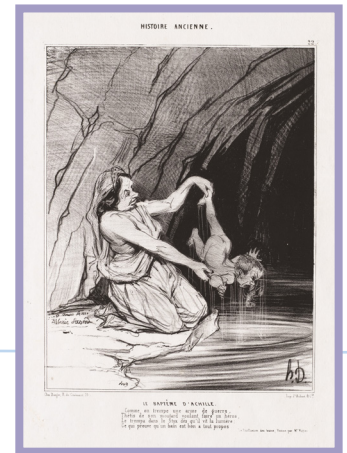
Jennifer Weintritt

Assistant Professor of Classics

After spending most of the year on maternity leave with her son Davis, Jennifer Weintritt had a triumphant return to the in-person(!) classroom with her course, "The Young Achilles," in the Spring Quarter. She also conducted an independent study with Ethan Lipka, a classics-intrigued Political Science senior, on how the study of slavery in the ancient Mediterranean has changed over the last century.

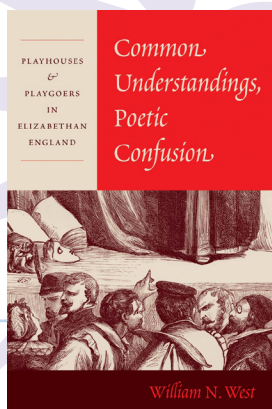
On the research front, she brought a new theoretical angle, seriality, to her book project in a chapter for a conference volume ("And the Will of Zeus was Fulfilled: Prophecy and Seriality in the Epic Cycle and the *Aeneid*") and two conference papers. She'll spend the summer putting these new ideas into her book manuscript with the help of her research assistants, Audrey Henry and Emmeline Murphy. Finally, she closed out the spring with the good news that the *American Journal of Philology* has accepted her article on the Epic Cycle's reception in scholia.

The Young Achilles tends to be a source of comedy, like in this sketch of The Baptism of Achilles by Honoré Daumier (1842) held at the Block Art Museum.



FACULTY AWARD SPOTLIGHT: WILLIAM WEST

West's book, *Common Understandings, Poetic Confusion: Playhouses and Playgoers in Elizabethan England*, was awarded the 2022 Callaway Prize for the Best Book on Drama and Theatre by New York University.



Cover of West's book *Common Understandings, Poetic Confusion: Playhouses and Playgoers in Elizabethan England* (University of Chicago Press, 2021).

Thank you, Donors!

American Online Giving Foundation, Inc.
Ms. Shannon M. Bahler
Mr. Maanas H. Bhatt
Mr. Leo Fredrick Carlson-Tessler
Ms. Myrene Conner and Mr. Robbin Conner
Ms. Amy L. Curtis
Ms. Elizabeth R. Egan
Ms. Peri Francesca Ehlman
Ms. Mary Lyde Esposito
Dr. Eleftherios Gdoutos
Ms. Alexandra Kalliopi Gdoutou
Hon. Scott R. Geddes
Mr. Adam Joseph Greenstein
Ms. Mia Isabel Hodges
Ms. Kennedy Reese Jasso
Ms. Maryellen Karas LaJeunesse
Mrs. Susan C. Louie and Mr. Kendall B. Louie
Ms. Kelly Burgess Mayer
Mr. Gregory J. O'Leary
Mr. Jeff Olthouse and Ms. Mina Lee Marien
Mr. Demetri Michael Pavlatos
Ms. Lisa Pegnato
Dr. John J. Peradotto
Ms. Samantha Auerbach Schalop
Mrs. Eliana Schmidt and Mr. Guilherme Schmidt
Ms. Isabella Silva Schmidt
Ms. Britta Agnes Heisley Stoeckel
Mrs. Marissa Solomon Sutker and Mr. Jake Sutker
Mr. Cole McQuilkin Tingley
Ms. Mary Pearsall Torgoman
Mrs. Rose Vainikos and Mr. Leon M. Vainikos
Ms. Shelby M. Walchuk
Mr. Dawei Wang
Ms. Monica M. Weed and Mr. Frank D. Smith
Ms. Amy Zhongling Zhou



Giving to Northwestern

As a Department, we accomplish a great deal in partnership with campus friends. Additionally, we are grateful to alumni and other friends who make individual contributions to support our programming, from lectures and symposia to undergraduate research travel. If you would like to make a gift to the Department, the easiest way to do so is to give online at <https://classics.northwestern.edu/about/donate.html>. You may designate the Department of Classics as the direct recipient of your gift. Thank you for your continued support of the Department of Classics.

Visit Our Website

www.classics.northwestern.edu

Credits

Editors

Mel Keiser
Elizabeth Upenieks
Marianne Hopman

Design

Sawyer Sadd

Cover Image

Francesco Xanto Avelli da Rovigo, *Plate (tagliere)*, 1539.

Northwestern | Classics

Kresge Centennial Hall, Room 4-305,
1880 Campus Drive
Evanston, IL 60208
847-491-3230
classics@northwestern.edu