

Duncan MacRae

Department of Ancient Greek and Roman Studies
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EMPLOYMENT

University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, CA. From July 2016.

Associate Professor of Ancient Greek and Roman Studies (formerly Classics), 2020-

Assistant Professor of Classics, 2016-2020

Co-Director, Berkeley Center for the Study of Religion, 2023-.

Faculty Affiliate: Graduate Group in Ancient History and Mediterranean Archaeology, Berkeley Center for Jewish Studies, Berkeley Center for the Study of Religion, Del Chiaro Center for the Study of Ancient Italy.

University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH. From August 2012 to June 2016.

Assistant Professor of Classics, 2013 – 2016.

Visiting Scholar, 2012 – 2013.

EDUCATION

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. 2013.

PhD Ancient History.

Trinity College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland. 2007.

BA (Hons) Classics.

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Legible Religion: Books, Gods and Rituals in Roman Culture. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press. 2016.

Reviews: *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2017.02.03 (Driediger-Murphy); *Choice: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries* 54 (2017) 878 (Johnson); *Classical Review* 67 (2017) 178-180 (Hunt); *Classical Journal* 2017.06.01 (Wendt); *Acta Classica* 60 (2017) 191-194 (Miano); *Religious Studies Review* 43 (2017) 277 (Holland); *sehpunkte: Rezensionen Journal für Geschichtswissenschaften* 17.9 (Rüpke); *Reading Religion: A Publication of the American Academy of Religion*, October 6, 2017 (Roubekas); *Journal of Roman Studies* 107 (2017) 371-372 (Santangelo); *Mouseion* 14 (2017) 459-462 (Ascough); *History of Religions* 58 (2018) 94-96 (Van Nuffelen); *Journal of Roman Archaeology* 31 (2018) 618-625 (Mackey); *Augustiniana* 68 (2018) 329-333 (Vessey); *Magic, Ritual, and Witchcraft* 14 (2019): 484-487 (Smart).

Roman Futures: An Essay in Cultural History. In progress.

Religion in the Roman World. In progress. Under contract, Cambridge University Press for “Key Themes in Ancient History” series.

Articles and Notes

“Reading the Roman-Jewish Treaty in 1 Maccabees 8: Narrative, Documents, and Hellenistic Historical Culture,” *Hermathena* 200/201 (2016 [2022]): 73-93.

“*Ludibrium Paulinae*: Historiography, Anti-Pagan Polemic, and Aristocratic Marriage in *De excidio Hierosolymitano* 2.4,” *Journal of Late Antiquity* 14.2 (2021): 229-256.

“The Date of the Proem of Valerius Flaccus’ *Argonautica*: New Epigraphic Evidence from Naples,” *Classical Philology* 116.1 (2021): 119-125.

“The Freedman’s Story: an accusation of witchcraft in the social world of early imperial Roman Italy (CIL 11.4639),” *Journal of Roman Studies* 108 (2018): 53-73.

“The Laws of the Rites and of the Priests’: Varro and late Republican Roman Sacral Jurisprudence,” *Bulletin of the Institute of Classical Studies* 60.2 (2017): 34-48.

“Late Antiquity and the Antiquarian,” *Studies in Late Antiquity* 1.4 (2017): 335-358.

“*Invitus Invitam*: A window allusion in Suetonius’ *Titus*,” *Classical Quarterly* 65.1 (2015): 415-418.

Book Chapters

“On Capitoline Time: The Pasts and Futures of Roman Space,” *The Spatial Turn in Roman Studies*, edited by Maxine Lewis and Amy Russell, under review.

“How Did Roman Temples Think? The Agency and Knowledge of Archaic and Republican Temples,” *City of Lights*, edited by Marta Garcia-Morcillo and James Richardson, Rome: Quasar, forthcoming.

“Devotio,” *Prayer in the Ancient World*, edited by Daniel K. Falk and Rodney A. Werline, Leiden: Brill, forthcoming.

“The Predictions of P. Nigidius Figulus,” *Nigidius Figulus: Roman Polymath*, edited by Katharina Volk, Leiden: Brill, 2024: 51-65.

“Roman Hegemony and the Hasmoneans: The Construction of Empire,” *The Middle Maccabees: Archaeology, History, and the Rise of the Hasmonean Kingdom*, edited by Andrea M. Berlin and Paul J. Kosmin, Atlanta: SBL Press, 2021: 331-345.

“Simon the God: Imagining the Other in Second-Century Christianity,” *Geneses: A Comparative Study of the Historiographies of the Rise of Christianity, Rabbinic Judaism, and Islam*, edited by John Tolan, Abingdon: Routledge, 2019: 64-86.

“Mercury and Materialism: Images of Mercury and the Tabernae of Pompeii,” *Tracking Hermes, Pursuing Mercury*, edited by John F. Miller and Jenny Strauss Clay, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2019: 193-208.

“The Two Gentlemen of Trachonitis: A Story of Violence in Galilee and Rome (Josephus, *Vita* 112-113, 149-154),” *Strength to Strength: Essays in Honor of Shaye J. D. Cohen*, edited by Michael Satlow, Providence: Brown Judaic Studies, 2018: 219-234.

“*Diligentissimus investigator antiquitatis?* 'Antiquarianism' and historical evidence between Republican Rome and the early modern Republic of Letters,” *Omnium annalium monumenta: Historical Writing and Historical Evidence in Republican Rome*, edited by Christopher Smith and Kaj Sandberg, Leiden: Brill, 2018: 137-156.

Reviews, Occasional Essays and Encyclopedia Entries

“Review: Jonathan J. Price and Katell Berthelot (eds.), *The Future of Rome: Roman, Greek, Jewish and Christian Versions*,” *Journal of Roman Studies* 112 (2022): 332-333.

“Review: Claudia Moser, *The Altars of Republican Rome and Latium: Sacrifice and the Materiality of Roman Religion*,” *Religious Studies Review* 48.2 (2022): 265-266.

“Review: Frédéric Chapot (ed.), *Les récits de la destruction de Jérusalem (70 ap. J.-C.): Contextes, représentations et enjeux, entre Antiquité et Moyen Âge*,” *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2021.05.21 (2021): <https://bmcr.brynmawr.edu/2021/2021.05.21/>

“Review: Lindsay Driediger-Murphy, *Roman Republican Augury: Freedom and Control*,” *Classical Philology* 115.3 (2020): 592-596.

“Review: Hannah Cornwall, *Pax and the Politics of Peace: Republic to Principate*,” *Religious Studies Review* 45.1 (2019): 67.

“Review: Daniele Miano, *Fortuna: Deity and Concept in Archaic & Republican Italy*,” *Acta Classica* 61 (2018): 215-219.

“Review: Claudia Moatti, *The Birth of Critical Thinking in Republican Rome*,” *Gnomon* 90.5 (2018): 416-419.

“Review: Jörg Rüpke, *On Roman Religion: Lived Religion and the Individual in Ancient Rome*,” *Religious Studies Review* 43.4 (2017): 398.

“Thucydides 1.22,” *Lines of Enquiry: Favourite Lines from Classical Literature*, Dublin: Trinity College Dublin Press, 2017: 72-73.

“Glycera’s Goddess (Horace Ode 1.30),” *Albert’s Anthology*, Cambridge, MA: Department of the Classics, Harvard. 2017: 107-108.

“Review: Jörg Rüpke, *Religion in Republican Rome: Rationalization and Ritual Change*,” *American Journal of Philology* 134.3 (2013): 510-514.

“Review: Gallia, A.B. *Remembering the Roman Republic: culture, politics and history under the Principate*,” *Mnemosyne* 66.2 (2013): 353-356.

“Sulpicia, Augustan poet,” “Sulpicia, Flavian poet,” “T. Vestricius Spurinna” and “Cornelius Fuscus,” *The Encyclopedia of Ancient History*, edited by R. Bagnall, K. Brodersen, C. Champion, A. Erskine and S. Huebner, Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012.

“Review: James H. Richardson and Federico Santangelo (eds.), *Priests and State in the Roman World*,” *Journal of Religion in Europe* 5.4 (2012): 528-530.

RECENT PAPERS DELIVERED (last 5 years only)

(* = invited lectures)

*Invited respondent for a review panel on Monika Amsler, *The Babylonian Talmud and Late Antique Book Culture* (Cambridge UP 2023). Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, San Diego, November 2024.

*“Roman Oaths Between Theology and Ethics.” *How it All Works: Ritual in the Ancient Mediterranean*, University of Michigan – Ann Arbor, May 2024.

*“Becoming Oracular: The Italian Case.” *Historical Culture in Iron Age Italy*, Mario Del Chiaro Center, UC Berkeley, April 2024.

*Invited Panelist for “Thinking out Loud: Re-constructing “Classics” in a California Context.” *Shifting Frontiers XV: Romans in New Worlds*, UC Santa Barbara, September 2023.

*“The Future By the Book: Prediction and the Materiality of Text in Roman Culture.” Yan P. Lin Center for the Study of Freedom and Global Orders in the Ancient and Modern World, McGill University, February 2023.

*“The Predictions of P. Nigidius Figulus.” *Nigidius Figulus*, Columbia University (held online), April 2022.

“The Farmer and the Faenerator: Anticipation and Affect in Horace Epode 2.” *Roman Anticipations: Material, Cognitive and Affective Histories of the Roman Future*, SCS/AIA Annual Meetings (held online), January 2021.

“Assembling the Capitoline Future.” *The Spatial Turn in Roman Studies*, Durham University (held online), December 2020.

RECENT AND MAJOR FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Associate Professor Fellowship, Townsend Center for the Humanities, UC Berkeley	2022-2023
Loeb Classical Library Fellowship (declined)	2022-2023
Regents Junior Faculty Fellowship, UC Berkeley	2019
Visiting Professorship, LMU München	April-July 2018
Mellon/American Council for Learned Societies Dissertation Completion Fellowship	2012-2013

TEACHING

University of California, Berkeley, Department of Classics/Ancient Greek and Roman Studies (2016-)

Undergraduate teaching:

Latin 122: Augustine, *Confessions*

AGRS 10B: Introduction to Ancient Rome

Classics 130P: Ancient Times: Time and History in Greek and Roman Cultures

Classics 121: Ancient Religions (awarded \$1000 UCB Arts + Design Creative Discovery Grant)

Classics/AGRS 28: Greek and Roman Mythology (taught four times)

Latin 100: Republican Prose (taught three times)

Graduate teaching:

Classics 220B: Latin Epigraphy (seminar)

Classics 375: Graduate Pedagogy (taught twice)

Classics 239: Roman Republican Past (seminar)

Classics 239: Voting the Divine (AHMA seminar, co-taught with Susanna Elm)

Latin 202B: Survey of Latin Literature (taught three times)

Classics 239: Josephus (AHMA seminar, co-taught with Daniel Boyarin)

Classics 239: Polytheism in Rome (seminar)

Graduate Student Instructor Supervision

Supervision of Latin 1, Latin 2, Greek 1, Greek 2, Greek 100 instruction.

University of Cincinnati, Department of Classics (2013-2016)

Undergraduate teaching:

- Greek History (Lecture class, taught twice)
- Roman History (Lecture class, taught three times)
- Roman Historiography: Livy (Advanced Latin class).

Graduate teaching:

- Roman Historical Problems (Graduate survey, taught twice)
- Roman Historical Documents (Epigraphy and legal texts)
- Religion in Republican Rome (seminar)
- Augustine's Rome (seminar).

Harvard University, Department of the Classics (2009-2012)

Instructor:

- Greek: Grammar Review and Reading (Antiphon and Thucydides)
- Classics Junior Seminar: Egypt in the Greco-Roman World
- Latin: Beginning Latin
- Graduate Student supervision (for Greek language exams).

Teaching Fellow:

- Roman Culture and Civilization
- General Education: Institutional Violence and Public Spectacle: the case of the Roman Games
- General Education: Rome of Augustus.

THESIS ADVISING

Doctoral

University of California, Berkeley

Committee Chair:

Darcy Tuttle (AHMA, In Progress).

Kyle Ralston, "*Der Spiegel des Weltenlaufes: Figures of Rome as Figures of History in Goethe, Humboldt, and Kant.*" (Comparative Literature, co-chair with Prof. Karen Feldman, PhD, 2024).

Committee Member:

Yesenia Brambila (Classics, In Progress).

Cesca LaPasta (Classical Archaeology, In Progress).

Nathan Levine (Classics, In Progress).

Zhengyuan Zhang (AHMA, In Progress).

Elizabeth Keyser (AHMA, In Progress).

Sam Stubblefield (History, In Progress).

Joshua Benjamins, “Augustine’s Romans: Reshaping Masculinity, Empire, and Social Order after 410 AD.” (Classics, PhD 2022).

Adam Littlestone-Luria, “Community and Capital: The Aristocratic System of Power in the Age of Cicero.” (History, PhD 2020).

Morgan Hunter, “The Palladion and National identity.” (Classics, PhD 2019).

University of Cincinnati

Committee Member:

David Schwei, “The Empire Strikes: The Making of the Roman Imperial Currency” (PhD, 2016).

Kyle Helms, “The Pursuit of Eloquence: Publicly Supported Rhetorical Education in the High Roman Empire” (PhD, 2016).

Kristina Neumann, “Surviving Empire: The Transformation of Roman Antioch.” (PhD, 2015).

Masters

University of California, Berkeley

Committee Chair:

Darcy Tuttle (AHMA, MA 2021).

Committee Member:

Elizabeth Fajardo (AHMA, MA In Progress).

Christian Hall (AHMA, MA 2022).

Abigail Hoskins (AHMA, MA 2019).

Undergraduate

University of California, Berkeley, Department of Ancient Greek and Roman Studies

Reader: “The Cave: An Exploration of Relative Power in Liminal Space”; “Western Anatolia or Eastern Greece? Navigating Identity in the ‘Archaic’ Borderlands”; “The limits of palatial power: The distribution of political influence in Late Bronze Age Messenia”; “Controlling the Narrative: Re-Examining Myths of Armenia’s Conversion to Christianity”.

University of Cincinnati, Department of Classics

Supervisor: “The Cultural Context of Christian Apology: The Apologies of Justin Martyr, Tatian, and Tertullian As Second Sophistic Texts” (winner of Classics Department Best Capstone Essay Prize).

Harvard University, Department of the Classics

Assistant supervisor (with Professor K. Coleman): “Roman Governors and Religion” (winner of Thomas Hoopes Prize at Harvard College); (with Professor A. Henrichs): “*Corpus Hermeticum 7*”.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

University of California, Berkeley

Department of Classics/Ancient Greek and Roman Studies

Nemea Center Advisory Committee (2023-)
Faculty Equity Advisor (2020-2022, 2023-)
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee (Chair, 2020-2022, 2023-)
Faculty co-advisor for undergraduates (2019-2020, Spring 2021)
PhD Committee (Fall 2018)
Graduate Admissions and Fellowships Committee (2018-2019)
MA Committee (Fall 2016, 2019-2020, Spring 2022, Fall 2022, 2023-2024)
Sather Committee (2016-2017, Fall 2022)

Graduate Group in Ancient History and Mediterranean Archaeology

Ancient Language Exam Committee (2022-)
Committee on Permission to Proceed (2021-2022)
Executive Committee (2020-2022, 2023-)
Faculty Equity Advisor (2018-2021)
50th Anniversary Conference Committee (2017-2018)
Gruen Prize Committee (2016-2017, 2023-2024)

Berkeley Center for the Study of Religion

Co-organizer (with Profs. S. Elm and E. Mackil) of “Voting the Divine: Collective Decision Making and Religious Authority between Polytheism and Monotheism,” a strand of the Berkeley Project in Public Theology and Democracy, funded by Henry Luce Foundation (2021-2023).

Berkeley Center for Jewish Studies

Executive Committee (2023-)
Program Committee (Chair, 2022-)

Campus-wide

Senate Library Committee (LIBR) (2023-)
Ad Hoc Committee, Target of Excellence search waiver, Department of Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures (2023)
Hebrew Bible Search Committee, Department of Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures (2020-21, 2021-22)

University of Cincinnati

Department of Classics

Graduate Studies Committee (2015-2016)
Search Committee for Visiting Assistant Professors (2015)
Search Committee for Department Head (2014-2015)
Outreach Committee (2013 to 2016; Chair, 2015-2016)
Troy Publication Committee (2014-2015)

Tytus Fellowship Committee (2013-2014)

Examiner for graduate ancient and modern language sight exams and diagnostic exams (2013 to 2016)

Service to the Profession

Editorial Board, *Classical Antiquity* (2023-).

Session Chair, Historiography and Biography, Society of Classical Studies Annual Meeting (2022).

Selection committee for NEH fellow at *Thesaurus Linguae Latinae*, Society of Classical Studies (2020).

Membership Committee, Society of Classical Studies (2017-2020).

Reviewer, *Arctos - Acta Philologica Fennica*, *Arethusa*, *Classical Antiquity*, *Classical Quarterly*, *Classical World*, *Jewish Quarterly Review*, *History of Humanities*, *Numen*, *Papers of the Langford Latin Seminar*, *Religion in the Roman Empire*, *TAPA*; Oxford University Press, Routledge, University of California Press, University of Texas Press, Cambridge University Press.

OUTREACH

Outreach talks

Talk to UCB Classical Forum (April 2021)

Video presentation on ancient religions, Berkeley History and Social Science Project (2020)

Pre-performance talk for Silk Road Ensemble, Cal Performances (May 2019)

Talk to students at Berkeley Greek and Latin Summer Workshops (2017, 2019, 2020, 2023)

Pre-performance talks at Cincinnati Shakespeare Company (Julius Caesar) (2016)

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Cincinnati (x3) (2015, 2016)

Cincinnati Art Museum Docents (x2) (2014)

Popular writing

“Religion in Ancient Rome: What did they believe?” *History Extra* (*BBC History Magazine Website*),

October, 2015: <http://www.historyextra.com/article/international-history/religion-ancient-rome-what-did-they-believe>