



# Classics Newsletter

NOVEMBER 1, 2011

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 2

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## NEWS

### Iraqi Doctors Lunch



Every seat was filled at the Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> lunch.

On Wednesday, October 19, the Classics Department and the Middle Eastern Students Association hosted a lunch and lecture with 10 medical professionals from Najaf, Iraq, in the Fourth Floor of Old Main. It was an informal opportunity for students interested in Arabic and the Middle East to speak with the doctors in Arabic and English, learn more about the health and medical situation in Iraq today, and participate in the cultural exchange of the Sister Cities program between Minneapolis and Najaf. The visitors were in Minneapolis for a 17-day visit. They were a part of the Sister Cities delegation from Najaf, Iraq. They gave presentations on health and medical care in Iraq, developed working relationships between universities and medical organizations in Minnesota and Najaf, and learned from specialists in their fields. To learn more about the Iraqi American Reconciliation Project visit their website at <http://reconciliationproject.org/>

### Registration for Spring 2012 Starts on November 14

Come to the **Classics Department Pre-registration Lunch** Thursday, November 10 Learn about Classics' course offerings for spring and eat pizza. At noon in the Old Main 4<sup>th</sup> floor lounge.

### Here is the Classics schedule for Spring 2012

|  |                       |                   |
|--|-----------------------|-------------------|
| CLAS 122-01 The Roman World                      | TR 03:00-04:30 pm     | Jeffrey Pearson   |
| CLAS 123-01 Introduction to Archaeology          | MWF 03:30-04:30 pm    | Jeffrey Pearson   |
| CLAS 127-01 Wom/Gend/Sex Greece/Rome             | TR 09:40-11:10 am     | Beth Severy-Hoven |
| CLAS 129-01 Greek Myths                          | MWF 08:30-09:30 am    | Brian Lush        |
| CLAS 212-01 Elementary Latin II                  | MWF 02:20 pm-03:20 pm | Jeffrey Pearson   |
| CLAS 212-L1 Elementary Latin II Lab              | T 10:00 am-11:00 am   | Jeffrey Pearson   |
| CLAS 214-01 Elementary Arabic II                 | MWF 09:40 am-10:40 am | Antoine Mefleh    |
| CLAS 235-01 Elementary Greek II                  | MWF 10:50 am-11:50 am | Brian Lush        |
| CLAS 235-L1 Elementary Greek II Lab              | R 03:00 pm-04:00 pm   | Brian Lush        |
| CLAS 294-01 Martyrdom Then/Now                   | TR 09:40 am-11:10 am  | Susanna Drake     |
| CLAS 294-01 Martyrdom Then/Now                   | TR 09:40 am-11:10 am  | Paula Coeey       |
| CLAS 301-01 Research Forum:<br>Crisis Literature | MWF 01:10 pm-02:10 pm | Nanette Goldman   |
| CLAS 332-01 Intermediate Latin: Poetry           | MWF 02:20 pm-03:20 pm | Nanette Goldman   |
| CLAS 338-01 Intermediate Hebrew II               | MWF 12:00 pm-01:00 pm | Nanette Goldman   |
| CLAS 342-01 Intermediate Arabic II               | TR 09:40 am-11:10 am  | Antoine Mefleh    |
| CLAS 342-L1 Intermediate Arabic II Lab           | T 08:30 am-09:30 am   | Antoine Mefleh    |
| CLAS 362-01 Intermediate Greek: Poetry           | TR 01:20 pm-02:50 pm  | Beth Severy-Hoven |
| CLAS 362-L1 Intermediate Greek: Poetry Lab       | TBA                   | Beth Severy-Hoven |
| CLAS 485-01 Advanced Arabic                      | MWF 10:50 am-11:50 am | Antoine Mefleh    |
| CLAS 485-L1 Advanced Arabic Lab                  | W 12:00 pm-01:00 pm   | Antoine Mefleh    |

### Classics Office

Old Main, room 311

651-696-6376

Fax: 651-696-6498

### Office Hours

Weekdays 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### Classics Website

<http://www.macalester.edu/classics/>

### Description for Classics 301: Research Forum, Crisis Literature

What characterizes literary responses to collective or individual crises? This course will lead us down a path of investigation of ancient literature, primarily poetic, generated out of national or private catastrophe. We start in the east, the Mesopotamian civilization of the 3rd millennium B.C.E. and move through time and space, culminating in classical Arabic elegy and lament. This course will be framed by a variety of questions, foremost of which is what is crisis literature. Other questions of import focus on stylistic features of the genres, nature of the intended audience, the topoi of sorrow, gendered rhetoric, portrayal of the enemy/source of crisis, ritual function of the literature, concepts of self/group, intertextuality and referential language, to name but a few. We will use as our primary sources English translations of the Akkadian, Sumerian, Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek, Latin

[We're also on Facebook. Check out the "Friends of Macalester Facebook" page.](#)

Quote of the issue:

"Trapped in a totalitarian world controlled by their father, fifty daughters hurtle down a path of deception and murder."

and Arabic texts. This course has been approved in an earlier semester as meeting the general education requirement in Writing, and it will be submitted for approval again.

Prerequisite: One of the following or permission of the instructor: CLAS 121 Greek World, 121 Roman World, 127 Women, Gender & Sexuality in Ancient Greece and Rome, 129 Greek Myths, 145 Pagans, Christians & Jews, 135 India & Rome; RELI 100 Introduction to Islam, 120 Hebrew Bible, 121 New Testament.



### The New Classics Web Site has Arrived

The Classics Department web site makeover is complete. It's a great first place to go with all your questions about the major. It's full of useful and interesting information and features. There are stories about recent grads; links to forms, syllabi, and even a page called "where to start"; and a calendar of upcoming events. [Find it all here](#)



### Kate Petersen on the Home Page

Classics major Kate Petersen '11 spent her summer at the Israel Museum, restoring artifacts from Herod's palace. An interview and a video about her experience are featured on the Macalester homepage. You can see the stories by [clicking here](#).



### Brian Lush's Article will be Published in *Classical Journal*

Professor Brian Lush's article, "Irony and the Rejection of Imagined Alternatives in Euripides' *Alcestis*" has been accepted for publication in *Classical Journal*. Please join us in congratulating him.

### Cleopatra Field Trip

On October 5 an intrepid group of Classics explorers ventured to the Fitzgerald Theater in downtown St Paul to hear author Stacy Shiff talk about her latest book, *Cleopatra: A Life*. Thanks go to Jeff Pearson for organizing the outing.



### Classics Students Present at Research Poster Sessions

Senior Classics majors Lindsay Morehouse and Grace Erny participated in the Research Poster Session on October 14. They shared information about their summer experience helping Professor Andy Overman develop an upper-level seminar for the Macalester Classical Archaeology curriculum. On October 22, another senior major, Machal Gradoz participated in the "Students in Archaeology: Poster Presentation of Recent Fieldwork" hosted by the Minnesota Chapter of the Archaeological Institute of America, in recognition of National Archaeology Day. Her poster highlighted the Macalester Classics Department's Archaeological excavation at Omrit, Israel. If you missed these sessions and would like to see the posters, you can find them on the wall outside Old Main room 313.

### Students Interning at Ramsey County Historical Society

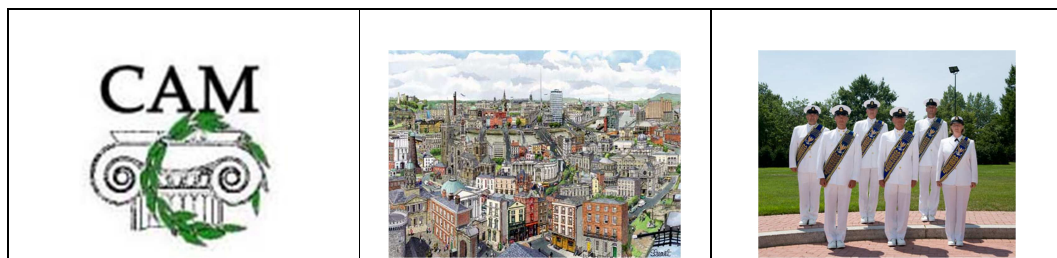
Jenny Wollner, a Classics (Archaeology) Major, has been researching under Mollie Spillman, curator of the Ramsey County Historical Society. She, and classmate Julianne Ragland, have been completing internships with the RCHS, which operates out of the Landmark Center in Saint Paul. Jenny is pursuing her interest in Museum Studies by aiding in artifact relocation, exhibition design, and artifact research. Since the Historical Society is relatively small, the interns benefit from more freedom to choose projects and a well-rounded experience in museum studies and public history. Jenny hopes to continue to aid in artifact research for the rest of the semester, as well as assisting with inventory of artifacts at Gibbs Farm in January. Julianne has been transcribing Gibbs family letters, among other projects.

## Greek Tragedy Abounds in the Twin Cities

At least five different theatrical companies in the Twin Cities are producing Greek tragedy shows this season. Here is a list of shows we know of:

- Big Dance Theater's production of *The Supernatural Wife* based on poet Anne Carson's translation of Euripides' *Alkestis* at The Walker Art Center November 17-19. More info at: <http://calendar.walkerart.org/canopy.wac?id=6265> Consider joining our group to attend on November 17 for just \$10. To learn more see the *The Supernatural Wife* item under "Events" in this newsletter.
- The Guthrie Theater's staging of *The Burial at Thebes* closed on November 6.
- The Frank Theater's play *Ajax in Iraq*, now through Nov 27. More info at: <http://www.franktheatre.org/frank/currentproduction/currentproduction.html>
- Savage Umbrella's *The Ravagers*, based Aeschylus's play *The Suppliants*, through November 19. See the item under "Events" in this newsletter about Professor Brian Lush participating on November 12 in a community panel for this play.
- Ten Thousand Things theater company's readings of *Ajax* on Nov 28 and Dec 5. More info at, <http://www.tenthousandthings.org/tow>

## Bits and Pieces



The Classical Association of Minnesota (CAM) meeting was on October 29. Nanette Goldman attended.

Andy Overman is ensconced in Dublin working on the Seleucids in Upper Galilee.

Be sure to join most of our 31 majors and 11 minors at our November 10 Pre-Registration Lunch at noon in the 4<sup>th</sup> floor lounge. There will be pizza and planning and pals. Oh my!

## EVENTS

### Brian Lush to Participate in a Panel at *The Ravagers* Performance

Savage Umbrella is opening *The Ravagers*, based Aeschylus's play *The Suppliants*, in November. Professor Brian Lush will participate in a community panel on November 12.

#### SHOW INFORMATION

Trapped in a totalitarian world controlled by their father, fifty daughters hurtle down a path of deception and murder. *The Ravagers* explores what happens when one daughter discovers herself at the precipice between obedience and resistance. Inspired by the *The Suppliants*, *The Ravagers* is a world premiere play by Blake E. Bolan with Laura Leffler-McCabe, collaboratively created with Savage Umbrella.

Performances are:

November 4-6<sup>th</sup>, 10-14<sup>th</sup> and 17-19<sup>th</sup> at the historic Hollywood Theater, 2815 Johnson St. NE

All shows at 7:30pm. Tickets \$12-20, sliding scale (no one turned away for lack of funds)

You can purchase tickets [here](#) Email [savageumbrella@gmail.com](mailto:savageumbrella@gmail.com) for reservations

#### SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY

##### COMMUNITY PANEL:

On Saturday, November 12th they're hosting a one-night only post-show panel discussion, discussing manipulation, control and dissent. Panelists include [Brian Lush, associate professor of Classics at Macalester College](#), playwright and director Blake Bolan, and more.

The panel will take place following the 7:30 performance on Saturday Nov. 12 (approx 9:45pm).

The panel itself is free and open to the public - people who didn't attend that evening's performance are more than welcome to come. They'd love for you to join them. If you are interested in attending the panel but will not be at the show, please RSVP to [savageumbrella@gmail.com](mailto:savageumbrella@gmail.com).

### Join Classics at *The Supernatural Wife*

Classics is acquiring discounted tickets to the November 17 performance of Big Dance Theater's production of *The Supernatural Wife*, with a pre-performance reading by poet Anne Carson. The play is based on Anne Carson's translation of Euripides' *Alkestis*. We will meet at 5:30 in Old Main room 009 for a pre-show pizza dinner and discussion and leave for The Walker Art Center at 6:00. Tickets will be \$10 each. More info about this event will be sent in a separate e-mail. More info about the

show can be found at: <http://calendar.walkerart.org/canopy.wac?id=6265>

### **Arab Film Fest**

The 7<sup>th</sup> Twin Cities Arab Film Fest runs November 10-13 at The Heights Theater in Columbia Heights. To see the schedule go to <http://mizna.org/arabfilmfest11/>.

### **Arabic Calligraphy Workshop**

There will be an Arabic Calligraphy Workshop on November 15 at 8:00 pm in Carnegie room 06. The workshop will be given by Edwin Ballarian, a local artist. The workshop is targeted to Arabic students, but others are welcome.

### **Arabic Lunch**

Arabic students are invited to gather at noon on Tuesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> in the Old Main 4<sup>th</sup> floor lounge for a fall semester Arabic lunch.

### **Department Events**

- Nov 10 Classics Department Pre-registration Lunch  
Learn about Classics' course offerings for spring and eat pizza (first four students to call Herta with their preference can pick a pizza.) At noon in the Old Main 4<sup>th</sup> floor lounge.
- Dec 6 Classics Colloquium  
Hear seniors present on their capstone projects. Old Main room 009, starting at 7:00 pm.
- Dec 9 Classics Cookie Party  
Classics and cookies. What more do we need to say? Starts at 4:00 in the Old Main 4<sup>th</sup> floor lounge.
- Mar 9 Peeps Dioramas Due  
Details to come
- Mar 23 PeepsShow 2012  
Details to come

## **OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Project for Peace Grants**

Spend the summer of 2012 carrying out a grassroots project for peace, with the help of a \$10,000 grant from the Davis Projects for Peace.

You design the project, and make it happen with community partners locally or anywhere in the world. Students may apply as an individual or as a group, and at least one grant will go to a Macalester student or group. Proposals are due January 17, 2012 for review by a campus committee. The national committee will announce winning proposals in mid-March 2012. Contact Karin Trail-Johnson to discuss your ideas. More information on the [IGC website](#).

### **Submit your Work to *Tapestries***

*Tapestries* is journal run by students looking for new meanings and explorations of identity. We're interested in publishing many voices through all forms of media, including your videos, pictures, academic papers, and other creative works. We accept from students of all majors and concentrations. The process for publishing in *Tapestries* involves submitting to a student-only editorial board that completes the blind peer-review process and responds to the submitter with suggestions for revision. Our editorial board allows undergraduate students to participate in a process similar to one they may experience in publishing after undergrad.

Last May's journal is available at: <http://www.macalester.edu/tapestries>

There are deadlines for rounds of submissions and all submissions are accepted online. If you have any questions, please e-mail [tapestries@macalester.edu](mailto:tapestries@macalester.edu)

### **Call for Papers for an Undergraduate Classics Journal**

Here is a call for submissions for the spring 2012 issue of *Ephemeris*:

Denison University's annual journal of classical ruminations, artistic endeavors, translations, and scholarly pursuits, craves your contributions. Had this Fall 2011 issue as many mouths as the hydra and had you two brilliant submissions per gaping maw, it might possibly (but probably not) be satisfied. So! We the editors beseech you to send us the fruits of your labors that we might disseminate them (in classy packaging!) among the potentially interested.

If you are not sure whether your material is relevant, here is a brief look at submissions to last spring's edition:

<http://denisonephemeris.wordpress.com/>

Because this is an on-line publication, we are open to considering multimedia submissions. For guidelines for submission, please consult: <http://denisonephemeris.wordpress.com/submission-process/> . Please send submissions by March 15, 2012 to Angelica Wisenbarger, Student Editor ([wisenb\\_a1@denison.edu](mailto:wisenb_a1@denison.edu) <mailto:[wisenb\\_a1@denison.edu](mailto:wisenb_a1@denison.edu)>)

Ephemeris is an Open Access publication; authors who publish in *Ephemeris* agree to have their work licensed under a Attribution-NonCommerical (CC BY-NC) Creative Commons License.

## Archaeological Internship at Fort Snelling

Please find below information about an internship at Fort Snelling working with their archaeological collections. Now is a great time to be thinking about doing a spring internship for credit. Come chat with Beth Severy-Hoven or your adviser to find an opportunity helpful for your goals and interests.



*The Minnesota Historical Society is a private, non-profit educational and cultural institution established in 1849 to preserve and share Minnesota history. The Society collects, preserves and tells the story of Minnesota's past through interactive and engaging museum exhibits, extensive libraries and collections, educational programs and book publishing.*

**Title:** Archaeological Collections Management Intern

**Department:** Archaeology

**Supervisor:** Head of Archeology

**Hours:** TBD; dependent on number of credits. Archeology offices are located at Fort Snelling Historic Site in Saint Paul

**Timeframe:** Spring 2012 (January-May)

**Status:** Unpaid, a limited number of [stipends](#) are available to students from underrepresented communities

**Project Summary:** Archaeology interns will assist in managing archaeological collections currently stored in the Department's facility at Fort Snelling Visitor's Center. Tasks will include inventory, organization, re-housing and some detailed analysis of portions of the collections.

**Student Qualifications:** Undergraduate junior, senior, or graduate students. Must have completed at least a field school course and a lab methods course.

**Ideal degrees:** Anthropology or Archaeology

**Student Responsibilities:**

Students will be responsible for establishing a schedule that will allow them to complete the number of hours required for the credits they will receive, and adhering to the schedule. They will be responsible for conducting their work according to the instruction provided by the internship supervisor and reporting any problems they encounter.

For most interns, their final product will be an accurate, detailed inventory of one or more archaeological collections. In some cases, these may include some analysis of the collection or one or more sub-assemblages within it.

**Knowledge intern is expected to gain:**

The internship will provide opportunities for interns to gain an understanding of the principles and practice of archaeology, especially with regard to curation and conservation of archaeological materials. Knowledge is gained via time spent inventorying existing artifact collections, identifying conservation issues and arranging for appropriate treatment, synthesizing catalog data and preparing summary reports on collections. Training in MHS collections procedures will be provided on-site.

**To apply please visit [www.mnhs.org/intern](http://www.mnhs.org/intern) for more information about the program and application process.**