

Antiquity Now

Macalester College Classics Department Newsletter

Spring 2017



Classics Alumnus, Rick Lechowick, with Professors Jim Laine (Reli) and Andy Overman (Clas) pause to pose, while playing bocce ball in St Paul.

Macalester College Classics Students Put Their Educations to Work

Welcome to **ANTIQUITY NOW**

ANTIQUITY NOW is an update and review of activities and opportunities in the Macalester College Classics department. Students and faculty have a lot to share with respect to publications, internships, new classes, study away and research abroad, and our alumni continue to do important and interesting things around the globe. So *ANTIQUITY NOW* provides a way for us to stay in touch and on top of what's new in *Antiquity*. Thanks to Herta Pitman our multi-gifted Department Coordinator for pulling *ANTIQUITY NOW* together. And many thanks to all the faculty, students and graduates of Macalester Classics who make the department such a lively and rewarding place to be. *ANTIQUITY NOW* is a publication of the Classics department which comes out twice a year.



Save These Dates:

Thursday, April 13

Pre-registration Student Lunch, 11:45 am-12:45pm,
Old Main 4th Floor Lounge

Monday, May 1

End-of-the year Picnic,
4:30-6:00 pm, Briggs House,
1644 Summit Avenue

Every Thursday

Arabic Conversation Hour,
noon -1:00 pm, at the Arabic
House, 176 S. Vernon Street

Friday, April 20 (for those
who need visas) **or Oct 5**
"January in Rome"

Application Deadlines

Find more information and
links to forms here:

<https://www.macalester.edu/academics/classics/studyaway/january/> - /0

Inside this issue you'll find:

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 - Catie Bonesho
 - Rebecca Boylan Moorman
 - Daniel Picus
 - Max Edwards
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Investigating Archaeology on Spring Break



Photos

- second breakfast in the field
- pottery reading
- Professor Overman excavating as a storm approaches
- students touring the renovated Crusader tunnels in ancient Acco
- some of the students at the historic St George's Cathedral in Jerusalem

New Archaeology Project takes Shape with Macalester Students on Spring Break

Macalester students, with Professor Andy Overman, began a new archaeological project with the University of Cologne in Germany, Hebrew University in Jerusalem, and the Israel Museum over Spring break. The students are identifying and excavating a Roman army camp from the Second Century. Probably dating from the time of the Emperor Hadrian.

Participants Annika Sanora, '18, Karin Stevens, '17, and Emily Noyes, '19, describe their experiences.

Annika:

Spending my spring break in Israel excavating alongside Mac peers and some incredible German students was one of the best experiences I've had in my 20 years. Having never been abroad or studied archaeology in my life, the trip was more memorable, educational, and entertaining than I could've ever imagined.

Karin:

Excavating with the Macalester team in Tel Shalem, Israel, was one of the most excellent of my college experiences. The trip really had it all: great people, a beautiful location, new friends, both igneous and sedimentary rocks, and a true sense of discovery.

Emily:

The trip to Israel with Prof. Andy Overman, and the Classics department was one of the most influential experiences I have had while at Macalester. We spent time learning about the history and culture of Israel by visiting such places as Caesarea, Jerusalem, and our own site at Tel Shalem. Even though I struggled a bit with trying to read labels looking for GF food in the grocery store (I speak no Hebrew/Arabic), every bit of this experience was phenomenal and I would recommend getting involved in a dig to anyone with an interest in Archaeology or even just Israeli/Middle Eastern culture.

Fall 2017 Classics Schedule

CLAS 111-01 Elementary Latin I	Beth Severy-Hoven	9:40-10:40 MWF
CLAS 111-L1 Elementary Latin I Lab	Beth Severy-Hoven	3-4pm Tu
CLAS 113-01 Elementary Arabic I	Wessam El-Meligi	9:40-10:40 MWF
CLAS 113-L1 Elementary Arabic 1 Lab	Wessam El-Meligi	10-11 Tu
CLAS 113-L2 Elementary Arabic 1 Lab	Wessam El-Meligi	3:30-4:30 F
CLAS 115-01 Elementary Greek I	Nanette Goldman	1:10-2:10 MWF
CLAS 115-L1 Elementary Greek 1 Lab	Nanette Goldman	1:20-2:20 Th
CLAS 115-L2 Elementary Greek 1 Lab	Nanette Goldman	3-4pm Th
CLAS 122-01 Roman World	Beth Severy-Hoven	Noon-1 MWF
CLAS 194-02 Frenemies: The Caliphate and Byzantine Empire in Late Antiquity	Andy Overman and Wessam El-Meligi	1:20-2:50 TTh
CLAS 202-01 Sanskrit and Religion in India	James Laine	MWF 10:50-11:50
CLAS 231-01 Intermediate Latin I: Prose	Brian Lush	10:50-11:50 MWF
CLAS 237-01 Intermediate Hebrew I	Nanette Goldman	Noon-1 MWF
CLAS 241-01 Intermediate Arabic I	Wessam El-Meligi	10:50-11:50 MWF
CLAS 241-L1 Intermediate Arabic Lab	Wessam El-Meligi	F 3:30-4:30
CLAS 260-01 Intro to Ancient/Medieval Art	STAFF	MWF Noon-1
CLAS 294-01 Iberian Frontiers: Convivencia and Conflict, 711-1492	Rebecca Church	MWF 9:40-10:40
CLAS 294-02 Trauma and Drama (FYC)	Brian Lush	9:40-11:10 TTh
CLAS 485-01 Advanced Arabic	Wessam Elmeligi	2:20-3:20 MWF
CLAS 490-01 Senior Seminar	Andy Overman	9:40-11:10 TTh

Coming in Spring 2018, Classics 101, Course Name TBD

In Spring 2018 Classics will offer a new introductory course, Classics 101, which will survey the histories and societies of the various groups in the Mediterranean and Middle East who spoke Arabic, ancient Greek, Hebrew and Latin. We are currently in search of a name for the course. So far popular suggestions include: Before East and West: Classical Periods of the Mediterranean and Middle East; Moses, Cleopatra, Constantine, Muhammad; The Beginnings of Globalism: The Classical Mediterranean and Middle East. Or, you might name this course. If you have ideas about what we should call Classics 101, send them to us, and we will consider your suggestions.

This is the course description:

Why are Arabic, Greek, Latin and Hebrew taught in the same department at Macalester? What were the relationships among speakers of these languages in the past? How did Judaism, Christianity and Islam develop among them? Why are Greek and Roman traditions sometimes seen as in tension with Christian or Arab traditions -- and has that always been the case? Come learn about the deep connections among these languages, religions and peoples. Readings include selections from Genesis, Exodus, Homer's *Iliad*, Herodotus' *Histories*, Euripides' *Bacchae*, Plato's *Symposium*, Vergil's *Aeneid*, the Gospels, Josephus' *Jewish Wars*, the Qur'an and Arabian Nights. Historical figures include Moses, Darius, Cyrus, Pericles, Alexander, Jesus, Cleopatra, Augustus, Perpetua, Constantine, Imru Al-Qays, Muhammad, Fatima, Aisha and Omar.

Upcoming Events

Almost Every Thursday

Arabic Conversation Hour, noon-1:00 pm, Arabic House, 176 S. Vernon Street

Thursday, April 13

Pre-registration Student Lunch, 11:45 am-12:45pm, Old Main 4th Floor Lounge

Monday, May 1

End-of-the year Picnic, 4:30-6:00 pm, Briggs House, 1644 Summit Avenue

Classics Senior Capstone Presentations

Senior capstones presentations this academic year took place on December 6, 7 & 8, 2016. Our students shared their research on a wide array of projects:

"To See the Face of God: Depictions of the Divine in Revelation" by Kyle Ronchetto

"Utilizing Technology to Read Ancient Texts" by Rae Dane Hohle

"How We See the World: Societal Perspectives Through Ancient Maps" by Alysha Alloway

"The Gaza Strip: Israel, Hamas, and Constant War" by Ruth Kendrick

"A New Constantine" by Ben M. Shields

"Views of Rome in Athenian Inscriptions" by Connor Q. North

"Exchange of Empires: A look at Silla and Sassanid Kingdoms" by Bo-Sung J. Kim

"Learning from the Wise Fool: Nasreddin Hodja, Dialogue, and Ambiguity" by Robert Lin

"Eudaimôn Arabia: Flyover Country" by Karin N. B. Stevens

"Language of Images: Parsing the Roman Aphrodite" by Kelsey Coia



"C" IS FOR COLISEUM, AND COOKIES, AND CLASSICS!!!

WHO DOESN'T FONDLY REMEMBER THE CLASSICS COOKIE PARTY? WE HOSTED THE (AT LEAST) 17TH ANNUAL CLASSICS COOKIE PARTY, WITH COOKIES AND CAMARADERIE ON 12-12-2016. WE MADE THE COOKIES. YOU ATE THEM! IF YOU'VE NEVER BEEN TO ONE, DON'T DESPAIR, YOU CAN COME TO THE NEXT ONE, ALREADY SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 14, 2017.

January in Rome, 2018

The Classics Department will offer Classics 155: The Art, Archaeology & Topography of Ancient Rome in January 2018

Students will join Professors Beth Severy-Hoven, Nanette Goldman, Andy Overman, and Brian Lush for the program, with travel dates January 3-17. The approximate cost of the program is \$2900, and includes airfare, accommodations, local transportation, site and museum admissions, books, breakfasts and dinners.

APPLICATION DEADLINES –APRIL 20, FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS WHO WILL NEED A VISA MUST USE THIS EARLY DEADLINE TO ALLOW ENOUGH TIME FOR THE VISA APPLICATION PROCESS. OCTOBER 5TH IS THE DEADLINE FOR OTHERS.

Course Description:

A survey and tour of the major spaces, surviving monuments and artifacts of the city of Rome from the earliest occupation of the Palatine around 1000 BCE to the first major Christian buildings in the 4th century CE. Students learn architectural building techniques, systems of dating based on types of stone and brickwork, problems in identifying surviving buildings, the iconography of Roman political sculpture, and issues of Roman copying and reuse of original Greek art. We consider the incorporation of Roman monuments into subsequent architecture, including Fascist political (re)use of archaeology, as well as problems of conservation in the context of the modern city. Finally, visits to the excavated cities of Pompeii and Ostia make visible the lives and activities of those lost in the literary record, including women and slaves. (2 credits)

Links to the "JANUARY IN ROME" 2018 DATES, PROGRAM DETAILS, and APPLICATION, and pictures from past trips, can be found here: <https://www.macalester.edu/academics/classics/studyaway/january/-/0>

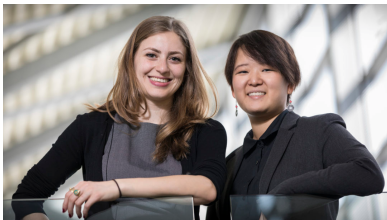
Current Classics Students are Going Places

We're getting news about our students' awards and plans for after graduation. Read more about some of our outstanding students, including what some of our future alumni will be doing next.

Jacob Sawyer, '18, has been awarded a Manson Stewart Undergraduate Award from the Classical Association of the Middle West and South (CAMWS). CAMWS makes Manson Stewart Undergraduate awards to a limited number of outstanding young Classicists, who are at the sophomore or junior level at a CAMWS college or university. The recipients are selected from nominations made by faculty at member schools. Jacob will use to the funds that accompany the award to study Advanced Greek at the CUNY Latin/Greek Institute over the summer.

Connor North '17 will begin a MA in Classical Archaeology at Colorado University, Boulder this fall, following in the footsteps of a few other Macalester Classics alumni. Connor says, "I owe a ton to my fantastic department at Macalester!!!"

Kyle Ronchetto '17 will be attending Concordia Seminary in St. Louis working towards a Master of Divinity. It is a four-year program - one year of which will be spent on Vicarage, which, he explains is that he will "work in a church and send progress reports back to the seminary - at the end of which I will be ordained as a pastor in the LCMS (Lutheran Church Missouri Synod)." He has already passed the entrance exams which included both a Hebrew exam and a Greek exam. That, he says, "means I will have a little more free room in my schedule and will not take their one-semester crash course in Greek & Hebrew, for which I can thank our wonderful classics faculty."



Refugee Responder Story Features Current Classics Students

Bo Kim '17 (Seoul, South Korea) and **Farah AlHaddad** '17 (Damascus, Syria) spent their junior years on different continents, each working with refugees. A story about their work can be found online here:

<https://www.macalester.edu/news/2017/03/refugee-responders/>

The New Classics Alumni Lecture Series



Rick Lechowick with children at a Yezidi Refugee camp



Rebecca Boylan Moorman, Catie Bonesho, and Brian Lush

Classics has started a new Classics Alumni Lecture Series. We host alumni for periodic events, so they can share information about what they are doing now with our current students. The first of these events was with **Rick Lechowick '04** on December 8th, and the second was with **Catie Bonesho '09** and **Rebecca Boylan Moorman '14** on March 3rd. The third event was with **Daniel Picus '10** and **Max Edwards '13**. Daniel and Max participated in a panel called "The Future of Jewish Studies in America" in celebration of Barry Cytron of the Religious Studies department, who is retiring. Daniel and Max double-majored in Classics and Religious Studies, so this was a bonus "Classics Alumni Lecture Series" opportunity.

The story that follows about **Rick Lechowick** was drawn from the event flier and a [Macalester College web story that can be found here](#).
by Maisie Rossi '20

On December 8th, for the Classics Alumni Lecture Series Talk "From Macalester to Mosul," Rick Lechowick spoke about his journey since graduating from Macalester. Rick highlighted his work with the Yezidis in northern Iraq, who have recently been victims of genocide, with many of the women experiencing sexual enslavement and human trafficking at the hands of the Islamic State. Rick discussed the difficulties and rewards of activism and aid-work in conflict zones and emphasized the potential for positive change within Yezidi society. Part of this change entails teaching Yezidi women English, sewing, and computer skills, so they can enjoy greater independence and earn a living for themselves.

Rick majored in Classics and Religious Studies at Macalester and earned an MA in International Relations from Johns Hopkins University-SAIS, specializing in Conflict Management, International Law and Organizations, and International Economics. He is currently finishing an MA in Theology at Uppsala University, with a focus on Religion in Peace and Conflict. His thesis is entitled "Genocide as a Catalyst for Cultural Change."

At our March 3 Alumni Lecture Series event **Cate Bonesho '08** and **Rebecca Boylan Moorman '14** are now both students at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Cate is earning a PhD in Hebrew and Semitic Studies, and Rebecca is pursuing a PhD in classical philology. For our Alumni Lecture Series they spoke about their projects.

Cate's talk was on "Aesthetics of Empire on Palmyrene Aramaic and Latin Bilingual Inscriptions"

Bilingual Latin and Palmyrene Aramaic inscriptions found throughout the Roman Empire consistently demonstrate their adherence to the conventions of inscriptional genres and material presentation. The material presentation of a bilingual inscription indicates which text was intended to be visually primary, that is, which is meant to be seen most prominently. An analysis of the material presentation can assist in the reading of the text: the presentation illuminates the relationship between the Latin and Palmyrene texts and how Palmyrenes viewed themselves within the larger Roman Empire. Rebecca's talk was on "The Words and the Bees: Senecan Perspectives on Encolpius as Narrator" The misadventures of Encolpius, hero of the *Satyricon*, have attracted the derision of scholars far and wide. At various parts throughout the novel, Encolpius seems to demonstrate a comical lack of understanding and ineptitude, at one point falling back in fright at the image of a painted dog. However, a Senecan perspective of proper literary assimilation will serve to resuscitate Encolpius as narrator, revealing him to be at least an intelligent or learned narrator, if not a reliable one.

On April 4, when Religious Studies held events in honor of Barry Cytron's retirement, Classics took advantage of the opportunity to invite our students to bonus Alumni Lecture Series events with Alumni **Daniel Picus, '10** and **Max Edwards, '13** who participated in a panel discussion, "The Future of Jewish Studies in America, and joined majors and minors in a lunch conversation.

MAC@NITE Featured “Bring it on Homer with Professor Brian Lush

On March 25, Mac@Nite spent the night with Brian Lush, celebrating Homer's *Odyssey* and Greek tradition and language. Attendees had a chance to get a free copy of the *Odyssey*, and read it in groups, in English, and in the original Greek. They enjoyed Greek and Homeric trivia, and authentic Greek food from The Naughty Greek restaurant.



Students enjoyed Greek food, good company, Classics-themed pub trivia, and reading aloud from Homer's *Odyssey* in English and ancient Greek in the Loch on Saturday, March 25. Photo by Brian Lush

Professor Wessam El-Meligi Publishes Graphic Novel

Professor Wessam El-Meligi published his first graphic novel last year. *Y and Y*, is about two children in a war-torn city. Although written in English, the novel was originally inspired by a writing activity in Arabic class. It is published by Seshat Press and is available at Common Good Books and Amazon.



Alumni Reports

Jason Schlude '02 and Ben Rubin '02 co-edited “**Arsacids, Romans and Local Elites: Cross-Cultural Interactions of the Parthian Empire**” which is available for pre-order here:

<http://www.oxbowbooks.com/dbbc/classical-civilizations/greece-rome/rome-the-roman-provinces/arsacids-romans-and-local-elites.html>

Katy Whiting '11, worked on the *Teaching Arabic* Video Collection. It is a collection of videos aimed at teaching Arabic to students in K-12 classrooms. Find it here:

<https://www.learner.org/libraries/tfl/arabic/overview/video.html>

Joey Frankel '14 is finishing his Masters degree in Classical Archaeology at Colorado University, Boulder. He is currently trying to decide if he will earn a PhD at Penn, Berkeley or Michigan -- he got into all of them!

Ben Shields '16 is in New York working as a freelance editor and writer and as a reader for the *Paris Review*.

Kelsey Coia '16 is working as a Conservation Intern at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem.

Erin Gibbs '09 is Head Preservationist at Grand Tetons National Park in Wyoming.

Kate Larson '05 is Chief Glass Curator at the Corning Museum in New York.

Grace Erny '12 is pursuing her PH.D. in Classics at Stanford.

Abbey Tofte '09 who is opening up her own Gallery soon in Grand Marais, MN.

David Goldstein '16 is a defense analyst with the US Defense Intelligence Agency.

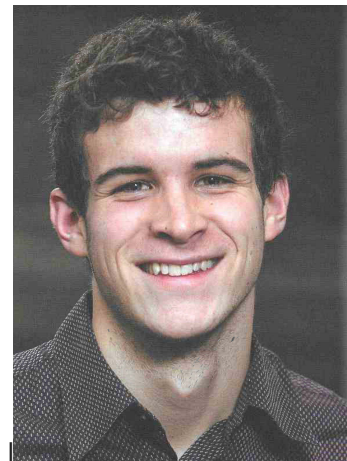
David Goldstein attributes much of his success to his opportunities and experiences at Macalester. He is now an analyst with the U.S Defense Intelligence Agency, a direct result of the Boren summer program scholarship that allowed him to travel to Morocco to study Arabic and Islamic art. His study of Arabic began the summer after high school, when he travelled to Morocco through the U.S. State Department's National Security Language Initiative for Youth. His wonderful experience there convinced him to continue studying Arabic at Macalester, with a Middle Eastern Studies and Islamic Civilization concentration.

David kept up with his Arabic at Macalester by taking a translation class in religious studies, leading the Middle Eastern Students Association, and being a part of Mac Hope, where he translated letters exchanged between American students and their correspondents in Syria and Iraq. He says that his classes and opportunities at Macalester have assisted him with his job today, as he feels “uniquely able to synthesize information and to think outside the box.”

The story above was drawn from a longer “Macalester Now” article. By Maisie Rossi '20



Abby Tofte, and her family visited the department on March 30.



David Goldstein

Congratulations to our alumni on their superb accomplishments.

Are you wondering what other Classics alumni are doing with their Classics degrees? Check out more about the adventures of our grads at the “After Macalester” page of our web site here:

<http://www.macalester.edu/academics/classics/aftermacalester/> Alumni, please let us know how you are, and what you are doing now. We are always interested in hearing from you, and would love to include you in our alumni news. Send your news to Herta Pitman at pitman@macalester.edu.