



Antiquity Now

MACALESTER COLLEGE
CLASSICAL MEDITERRANEAN AND
MIDDLE EAST DEPARTMENT
NEWSLETTER

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To celebrate reading a story about a Roman banquet, intermediate Latin students hosted their own. We didn't recline to dine for very long, but our shoes stayed comfortably off. Clockwise from the top left are shown scholar/diners Emma Dasziewicz, Tinsley Glenn, Sam Kasman, Zinnia Schwartz, Josie Otter, Andrew Polk and Amy Vandervelde. Photo taken by Beth Severy-Hoven.

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The Greek Prose class, and Classical Mediterranean and Middle East professors, in t-shirts with the class slogan, "Our name is legion for we are many." Kneeling: Andy Overman and Beth Severy-Hoven Standing, left to right: students Franki Gillis, Charlotte Houghton, Kayleigh Kaminski, Sophia Jones, and Nanette Goldman.



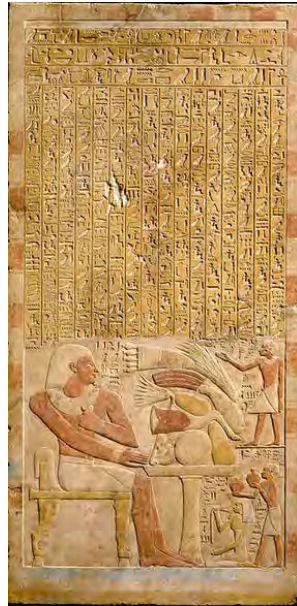
ANTIQUITY NOW is an update and review of activities and opportunities in the Macalester College Classical Mediterranean and Middle East Department. Each edition shares student and faculty news in respect to publications, internships, new classes, study away and research abroad, and highlights alumni who continue to do important and interesting things around the globe.

Department Fall Highlights

Fall Events

Yum Yum Yum Yum Yum

Classics Department events in Fall 2018 included Welcome Back and Pre-registration lunches. We capped the semester with senior capstones in Art Commons 102 on December 4, then on December 10, our long-standing tradition of Classics Department Senior Celebration Dinner with all of the senior majors and professors at Herta's house, and finally our decades-old tradition, The Classics Cookie Party on in the Old Main 4th floor lounge on December 13.



"C" IS FOR COOKIE!

"C" IS FOR CLASSICS!!

"C" IS FOR CLASSICS COOKIE PARTY!!!

COME TO THE CLASSICS COOKIE PARTY
FOR COOKIES AND CAMARADERIE.

Senior Capstone Conference

The Classical Mediterranean and Middle East Department Senior Capstone Presentations, where our seniors gave talks on their senior capstone research, were on December 4.

Classics Senior Seminar Conference
Presenters and Topics:

Emily Parker

"Carl Blegen: Philanthropy in Archaeology"

Colin Churchill

"Foreign Interference
in Lebanon"

Amy Pelz

"Perceptions of Family Planning in Jordan"

Jacques Libresco-Puckett

"An Horatian Guide to Reading
Shakespeare's Falstaff"



New Topics Courses Offered in the Classical Mediterranean and Middle East Department

CLAS 294-01 SPAN 494-01 Hyphenating Identities: Multiculturalism in Al-Andalus and the Americas Wessam Elmeligi and Ernesto Ortiz Diaz

This course reflects on the way multiculturalism has been defined and evolved in two different but intertwining contexts: al-Andalus (8th-15th centuries) and the contemporary Americas (20th-21st centuries). We will study the cultural influences of Moorish Iberian peninsula on 20th and 21st century American and Latin American cultures by analyzing literature, film, visual arts, and music produced by Arab-American and Arab-Latin American artists. The course is divided into two parts. The first part covers Andalusia, the Medieval cultural hub, with readings from key literary and philosophical texts of the period. The second part of the class focus on contemporary American and Latin American works that can be understood with the backdrop of Islamic Spain and Portugal. Issues of multiculturalism, immigration, race, and ethnicity are central to the course. This course will be co-taught in English.



CLAS 294-03 Trauma and Drama Brian Lush

Trauma and Drama will focus upon the lasting psychological injuries depicted and explored in ancient Greek tragedy and epic poetry. Greek drama and epic poetry raise timeless and crucial questions about the effects of martial aggression and the toll that it takes upon both the victims of warfare and the combatants that suffer and inflict violence. We will pursue targeted readings of Homer, Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides and Aristophanes, as well as explore the growing body of scholarship around how these authors respond to the aftermath and consequences of war. We will also seek systematically to draw connections between modern-day understandings of combat trauma and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and injuries endured by familiar figures in the Greek mythic tradition (such as Achilles, Ajax, Medea, Odysseus, and Hecuba). The primary goal of these efforts will be to open new avenues of understanding between the distant past of ancient Greece and the present, as well as to foster a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by victims of war, systematic violence and institutional betrayal.



FACULTY REPORTS



Images:

at left, illustration of Sinuhe from an old book by Wessam Elmeligi's father, and reproduced in his story on the Loft Literary Center website.

at right, cover of the journal in which an article by Professor Overman and two alumni appears.

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Summer Trip of Family Legacy and Ancient Egyptian Lore

Professor Wessam Elmeligi posted an essay, "[Exploring Fairytales: My Father's Legacy.](#)" on the Loft Literary Center website, about his experience during his summer visit to his hometown, Alexandria, Egypt. There he rediscovered children's books written and illustrated by his father from the 1950s to the 1970s. The books reflected the transition Egypt and many countries in the Middle East and North Africa region were going through and the role that ancient history and mythology played in defining his father's generation.

Overman Publishes in "Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology and Heritage Studies" with Two Alumni

Professor Andy Overman published an article with two graduates, Michael Kreher '16 and Erin Gibbs '09, about the Macalester archaeological site at Omrit, Israel in the *Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology and Heritage Studies* titled, "Archaeology, Conservation, and Public Engagement at Omrit: A Case Study." The article is the cover story of the most recent issue.

Arab Film Festival Awards Announced

Professor Elmeligi served on the jury committee for the Best Narrative Feature Film Award at the Arab Film Festival, organized by Mizna and the Film Society Minneapolis Saint Paul. The prize was announced by Professor Elmeligi at the Saint Anthony Main Theatre, following a discussion about the featured films, and was awarded to *Wajib*, directed by Annemarie Jacir. Students in our Arabic classes received vouchers from the department to attend the festival as part of Arabic program activities.

ALUMNI REPORTS

We've have news from some alumni.

Annika Sanora '18 is attending law school at the Mitchell Hamline School of law. She tells us, "The fellowship I will be participating in is very creatively titled the Mitchell Hamline Fellowship and the degree I will earn is a JD without any specialization at this time."

Zoe Bowman, '16 received a full-tuition scholarship to Northeastern University Law School in Boston for public interest work.

Evelyn Adkins '06 reports that she has started a new position as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Classics at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, OH, and is very excited about her new job and about living in Cleveland, which has an excellent Classics community.

Delia Walker-Jones '17 received a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant (ETA) grant. ETA grants place Fulbrighters in classrooms abroad to provide assistance to the local English teachers. ETA's help teach English language while serving as cultural ambassadors for the U.S. The age and academic level of the students varies by country, ranging from kindergarten to university level. She was excited to return to Tajikistan where she will work in a high school.

She tells us, "I'm based in Dushanbe, Tajikistan for the next year as a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant. It's the capital city, so I have plenty of things to do and lots of resources! I'm teaching at the American Space, which is a type of community center funded by the US Embassy that offers free English classes, Wi-Fi, books, computers, even iPads and a 3-D printer. I'm mostly running classes for teaching English, but I'm also given pretty free rein to do other classes as I like--so I've been running a girl's technology club and a tour guiding club as well, teaching students about mapping and data analysis and learning lots about the history and languages of Tajikistan. I'm excited about the possibilities, and I love working with young people here--there is so much energy and wonderful projects going on. I've also been doing lots of hiking and rock climbing in my spare time. Tajikistan is such a beautiful country with spectacular mountains; I'm very happy to be here."

Delia Walker-Jones is pictured below, with some of her students.



Opportunities in Classics on the "Opportunity Update" Page

Our department is often asked to share information from other organizations. We consolidate that information on our ["Opportunity Updates" section of our website](#). The Opportunity Updates listings are the place to find calls for papers (C), internships (I), job opportunities (J), grad programs (G), volunteering opportunities (V), fellowships (F), research/project opportunities (R), scholarships (S), learning opportunities (L), networking opportunities (N), workshops (W), events (E), study away notices (A), and more. The listings are usually updated several times every week.

Find opportunities like these:

(E) Arabic Calligraphy Workshop

A beginner's Arabic calligraphy workshop led by Professor Wessam El Meligi. (took place in November).



(V) & (F) Two Opportunities in Jordan, Shared by Micaela Sharp '19

1. Benaat Connect: (Girls only) Lets English language learners teach English and learn Palestinian dialect Arabic through online Skype sessions twice a week! The sessions are held in a large refugee camp women's center. For more information please visit <https://banaatconnect.org/>

2. MENAR Fellowship: The Middle East and North Africa Regional (MENAR) Fellowship Program was founded in 2011 with the objective of offering one-year post-graduation fellowships to top graduates of American colleges at leading organizations across the Middle East and North Africa region. For more information visit <http://www.menarprogram.org/overview/>

(S) Minority Scholarships in Classics and Classical Archaeology

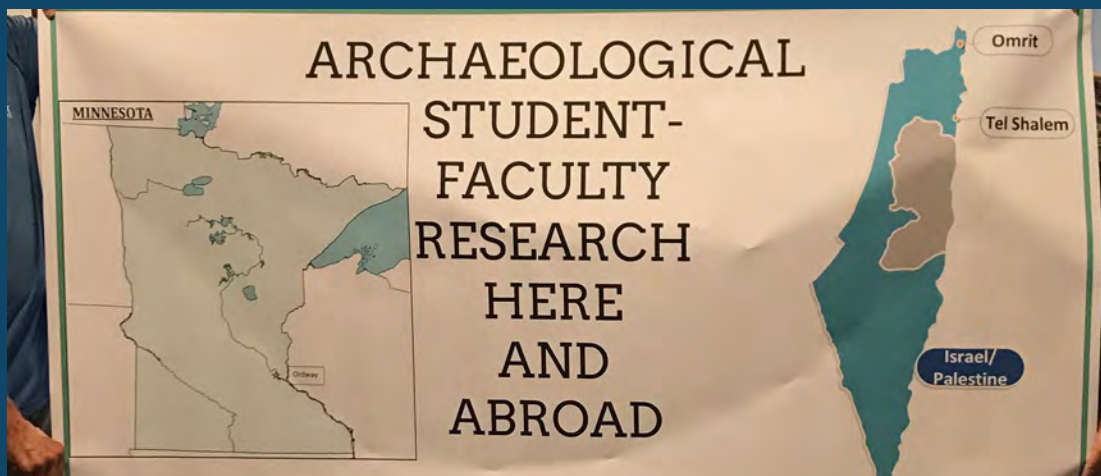
The Committee on Diversity in the Profession of the Society for Classical Studies (SCS) invites applications from minority undergraduate students from across North America for scholarships to be awarded for Summer 2019. Please see their [scholarship website](#) for more details.

(V) Tutoring for Individuals Affected by Conflict

Paper Airplanes, is a nonprofit that provides free, one-on-one language and skills learning for individuals affected by conflict (primarily Syrian refugees). They are seeking individuals to serve as personal tutors for 12-16 week sessions conducted via Skype and other video conferencing platforms. Tutors are able to make a tangible difference in conflicts that often seem distant and challenges that seem insurmountable. They offer first hand experiences with the region and languages you might be studying, and the chance to learn about the Syrian Conflict, develop teaching and leadership skills, become involved in refugee advocacy, and build relationships across geographical distance. The [application](#) and more information can be found at their [website](#).

[Find more opportunities by visiting Classics Opportunity Updates here.](#)

<https://www.macalester.edu/classics/studentopportunities/>



Classics Helps Launch Mac Campaign

Classics helped launch the Macalester Capital Campaign earlier last semester by presenting faculty-student research in material culture. Kayleigh Kaminski, who helped present Classical and Mediterranean and Middle East archaeological research abroad at the launch, is pictured at the event with Professors Overman and Goldman.



Summer Archaeology and Conservation Opportunity

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN WORKING AT MACALESTER'S ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE OMRIT?

We are planning to take a group of 10-12 students to northern Israel to conduct targeted excavations and conservation work on the Omrit Temple Complex early this summer. The project will run for about three weeks in the early part of June. We will be trained in on conservation methods, work to preserve the monumental architecture and art of the Roman-Herodian period Temple Complex, tour the country and study other historical sites and excavations. There will be an informational meeting the first week of March. Announcement of the meeting will be via email and the Mac Daily. You can speak with Professors Overman or Goldman about this and look for the meeting announcements.

PHASE II OF THE HISTORIC MACALESTER and TEL-HAI EXHIBIT OF THE OMRIT TEMPLE UNVEILED

In an innovative collaboration between Macalester and Tel Hai Academic College in northern Israel, the Omrit temple complex excavated by Macalester students over twenty years is being permanently exhibited on the new Tel Hai campus. The first phase of dramatic exhibit was opened in 2017 (see *Antiquity Now*, Fall 2016). And the sketches for phase II of the exhibition were unveiled just weeks ago. The large architectural elements from one the Roman Temple, Corinthian Capitals and Pilasters, will be displayed and integrated into the entrance of a new outdoor theater outside of the new library at Tel Hai which houses phase I of the exhibition. (see the proposed Sketches below)

