

Antiquity Now

Macalester College Classics Department Newsletter

Fall 2015



Arabic breakfast at Shish.

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 and comes out twice a year.



Dates to Remember:

December 17
Classics Cookie Party
3:30-5:00 at the Alumni House

January 5-19, 2016
January in Rome.

January 21
Spring Classes begin

March 9, 2016
St Olaf's biannual Latin Comedy performance at Macalester

Inside this issue you'll find:

- The Study Away Experience
Students share stories about their time abroad.
- Alumni News
- Classics Courses for Spring
- Study Away with Classics
January in Rome 2016
Classics Summer Archaeological Conservation Field School in Omrit, Israel, Summer 2016
- Omrit 2015 Photo Album
- Department News
Brian Lush Awarded Tenure
Classics at the Opera
Celebrating Classics
Arabic House Report
Senior Capstone Research Projects
Opportunity Updates

The Study Away Experience

Study away is required of all Classics majors. Our students may fulfill the requirement to study away with semester, summer or January programs. To learn more about studying away in Classics visit the [“Study Away” page of our web site here.](#)

Students who have recently returned from semester study away, or are currently abroad, tell about their experiences.

Delia Walker-Jones

Delia Walker-Jones is spending fall semester in Dushanbe, Tajikistan. She has an internship there with a USAID project, the Quality Reading Project, and she says, “it’s been great to dip my toes in the development world.” She hopes to find a similar project next spring or summer. When we got an email from her in October, the Iranian nuclear arms deal was in the news. At the time Delia said, “The developing Iran deal has been very exciting to follow-- all the American Farsi speakers here are eagerly anticipating Iran opening up. Many of the other Americans on my trip are from West Point, and it’s been interesting to see the extent to which the American military has been anticipating this deal.”

Delia writes and posts photos about her travels at her blog, which can be found here:

<https://deliatravel.wordpress.com/>

Delia on horseback, enjoying the view in Tajikistan.



Alumni News



Emilie Minnick, '06

After graduating in 2006 with majors in Classics and Anthropology, Emilie has become a Humanitarian Aid Worker with the American Refugee Committee.

In November, she wrote:

It's so fantastic to hear that Arabic is flourishing. Obviously being able to study Arabic during my time at Macalester has made a huge and lasting impact on my life. I think since 2005 I have lived in at least 6 Middle Eastern countries! I am currently in Lebanon, I have been here for about 2 years. Beirut is such a wonderful and exciting city, of course with the occasional tragedy as we had last week. It is still very safe though and the Lebanese don't let it get them down too much, they love partying here :).

I am actually leaving Lebanon at the end of the year to move to Jakarta, Indonesia. Also with UNICEF, but trying something new to work on the development side of things. I will be working on a long-term project to try to address child marriage there. It will be a change from working in refugee emergencies, but to be honest I am tired and it can be hard and frustrating work, rarely seeing any change despite all the effort we put in. In the last few days I have also seen so much negative media coverage on refugee resettlement to the US so was happy to see today that the mayor of Minneapolis is excited to invite more refugees to resettle there!



Irene Gibson, '15

Irene wrote an opinion piece titled *“On terrorism: My perspective as an American living and working in the Middle East”* that appeared in the Dec. 4 issue of the Mac Weekly. Read it here:

<http://themacweekly.com/2015/12/on-terrorism-my-perspective-as-an-american-living-and-working-in-the-middle-east/>

New Course Offered in Spring 2016

Professor Andy Overman

CLAS 294-01 Early Arab and Persian Empires 200BCE-950CE

Cross-listed with HIST 294-17 From the Rise of the Seleucids to the Abbasid Caliphate, this course focuses on the rise and transformation of Arab and Persian empires and city-states between 200 BCE through the founding of Baghdad (762) to the close of the second great Islamic caliphate, the Abbasids in c. 950. This period in the religious, cultural and political history of the Middle East, Levant and Persian region east to at least the Zagros mountains, is an extremely productive and formative period, yet is largely overlooked or neglected altogether in our histories and analyses of the millennium between c. 250 BCE – 950 CE. In many respects the developments and effects of this period have wide ranging implications for our contemporary world. So we will attempt to acquaint ourselves with this period, and the players and powers that shaped it.



Classics Courses for Spring 2016

class number	class name	teacher	days	time
123	Intro to Archaeology	Overman	TR	8:00-9:30
129	Greek Myths	Lush	MWF	8:30-9:30
145	Pagans, Christians and Jews	Overman	TR	9:40-11:20
212	Elem Latin II	Severy-Hoven	MWF	8:30-9:30
214	Elem Arabic II	El-Meligi	MWF	9:40-10:40
235	Elem Greek II	Lush	TR	3:00-4:30
294-01	Early Arab and Persian Empires	Overman	TR	1:20-2:20
294-02	The Crusades	Bradley	MWF	3:30-4:30
332	Int Latin: Poetry	Goldman	MWF	Noon-1:00
338	Int Hebrew II	Goldman	MWF	3:30-4:30
342	Int Arabic II	El-Meligi	MWF	10:50-11:50
362	Int Greek: Poetry	Severy-Hoven	MWF	9:40-10:40
485	Adv Arabic	El-Meligi	MWF	1:10-2:10
487	Adv Reading in Greek	Goldman	MWF	1:10-2:10

Classics Upcoming Study Away Programs

5



Classics Summer Archaeological Conservation Field School in Omrit, Israel, Summer 2016

The Field School is a unique opportunity to get trained in the field by some of the world's leading conservators of ancient art and artifacts. We are trained in the ancient, and still used today, techniques of saving wall paintings, ancient plaster and stucco, conserving architectural elements, and stabilizing buildings. There is no other program like it in the Mediterranean world. Macalester runs this program with the Israel Antiquities Authority just for Macalester students. Professors Andy Overman and Nanette Goldman lead the field school. We also have evening lectures and events. We travel the country visiting important sites ancient and modern. The program helps connect the ancient with the contemporary politically and culturally. To learn more about the Field School contact Andy Overman: overman@macalester.edu

January in Rome 2016

Twenty-two travelers will spend two weeks in Rome to participate in Classics 155-01, "January in Rome: The Art, Archaeology & Topography of Ancient Rome." The course is 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.

"January in Rome" will be offered again in 2018.



4

Omrit 2015 Photo Album



The Omrit group: Andy Overman, Jack Reece, Chanen Hanson, Kelsey Coia, Duncan Griffin, Nanette Goldman, Ben Shields, Cora Trout, Erin Gibbs



From left to right: At Tel Hai College, Omrit students seal the plaster fluting on the columns. At Omrit students work on consolidating and saving the art at the site —slow, meticulous, urgently critical work to save the architecture. In the Rockefeller labs, Erin Gibbs and Chanen Hanson clean and repair mosaics.



The Omrit team strikes a pose at the conclusion of a good, long day in northern Israel.

An article about the experience of one Omrit participant, Ben Shields, appears on the Macalester College web site here: <http://www.macalester.edu/news/2015/12/learning-in-israel/>





Professor Brian Lush has been Awarded Tenure

We are very pleased that Professor Brian Lush has been awarded tenure.

Faculty, students and staff made a strong case presenting his excellent teaching, scholarship and service, and he was awarded tenure on that basis. The department is particularly lucky, because Brian is a great colleague — consistently good-natured and considerate of others.

Classics at the Opera

In October, a group attended Strauss' comic opera 'Ariadne auf Naxos' at the Ordway in St Paul. Many of the attendees were students in Nanette Goldman's "Tenors in Togas" course. For those who did not have that good fortune, Nanette provided a reading about the opera specific to the discipline of Classics. You can read it here: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/41234371>)

She also provided a link to a later, more famous treatment of the story of Ariadne and Theseus, the one she likes best. Nanette tells us, "It is found in a section of the Roman author Catullus' poem #64, lines 50-264. I've included a link to the whole poem. You can scroll down to the appropriate lines. Like the operatic version of Ariadne auf Naxos that [they saw at the Ordway], this Catullan version is also a story within a story."

The link to the poem is here:

<http://www.stoa.org/diotima/anthology/cat64.shtml>



Above: Some of the participants from the 2014 "January in Rome" class enjoyed a mini-reunion at the Classics Department's September "Welcome or Welcome Back to the Classics Department!" lunch.



Above: November 11 lunch for majors, minors, faculty and friends of the Classics Department.



Celebrating Classics

Left: Celebrating everyone's accomplishments at the Classics Senior Seminar dinner.

Arabic House

Arabic language students have had the opportunity to extend their Arabic language learning by living in Arabic language student housing since September 2014. The program relocated to 176 Vernon this fall.

Students who are interested in living at Arabic House in 2016-17 must apply during Residential Life's language house application period (late February-early March), using the "Application for Residence in the Macalester College Arabic House" which can be found at [Classics' Arabic web page here](http://www.macalester.edu/classics/arabic/).

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



A Report from the Current Arabic House Residents

This semester, a few Arabic language students had the opportunity to live in the newly established Arabic house, located at 176 Vernon. The house enforces the rule of only allowing the Arabic language to be spoken at all time amongst the residents. Since we moved in, all of us started working on changing the design of the house. From posters in Arabic on the walls, to signs that label things in Arabic designed by students, we have worked hard to making it our new home as well as a great learning experience. At the house, we have two meals every week to eat food cooked by a student who will explain the ingredients and what they cooked. These meals are a great chance for us to challenge ourselves and immerse us into a fast-paced learning process equivalent to that of living abroad.

The house is open to any students interested in learning the language or getting familiar with Arab and Middle Eastern cultures. We have created bi-weekly Arabic conversation hours and hosted multiple events organized by the Middle Eastern North African Association (MENAA) varying from poetry nights to henna drawing.

Please feel free to come visit us, join us at our dinners, and contribute to making the experience worthwhile for all!

Bassem El Remesh '16, David Goldstein '16, Kayla Sivak Ried '16, and Hope Salameh '18.



Senior Capstone Research Projects

Classics seniors presented on their capstone research December 9-11. Their impressive work spans a great variety of Classics topics.

The Daughters of Oedipus and their Rebellion against Society, **Katherine Reilly**, Omaha, NE

Power and Wealth in Gallo-Roman Society: The Rustic Calendar Mosaic of Saint-Romain-en-Gal, **Cora Trout**, Columbia, MO

Digital Humanities and the Classics: An Expandable On-line Resource Guide, **Duncan Griffin**, Fort Worth, TX

Identity and Continuity in Transylvania: The Role of Daco-Roman History and Ideology in Romania, **Emma Scagnelli**, Aurora, CO

Looking West: Chinese Sources on the Roman-Byzantine World, **Zhanying Cao**, Nanjing, China

Blood Antiquities: Systematic Destruction of Cultural Heritage for Power and Economic Gain in the Near East, **Michael Kreher**, San Francisco, CA

The Death of Germanic Paganism: Christian Conversion of Germanic Peoples in Post-Roman Northern Europe, **Anders Voss**, Duluth, MN

A Close Reading of David and Jonathan's Relationship in the Tanakh: A Biblical Bromance, **Michelle Coblens**, Portland, OR

The Failure of the Roman Military Institutions to Impose Linguistic Imperialism in Roman Britain, **Thomas Eich**, Walkertown, IN

Application of Computer Technology in Field Archaeology with Case Studies in GIS Mapping and 3D Infrared Scanning, **Jack Reece**, Boulder, Colorado/Vancouver, British Columbia

Invention & Immigration: Diffusion of Agricultural Techniques in Hellenistic, Roman, & Byzantine Israel, **Ella Heaton**, McKenzie, ND

Public Archaeology and Conservation Methods: The Case of Horvat Omrit, **Chanen Hanson**, Silver Bay, MN

Translation and Analysis of: "Syrian Refugees in Europe and Around the World," in *Four Million Refugees: The Demographic Explosion: Will Syria Remain? Will Lebanon Escape?*, **David Goldstein**, Brookline, MA

Dear Ovid: Love Advice from Ovid to a Young Roman, **Trey Muraoka**, Honolulu, HA

On the Road to a Republic: Translating Egypt's 1923 Constitution, **Kayla Sivak-Reid**, San Diego, CA

Adapting to a Protracted Refugee Crisis: Analyzing the Humanitarian Response to the Syrian Refugee Crisis in Jordan, **Zoe Bowman**, Eau Claire, WI

HOME - ACADEMICS - CLASSICS - STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

Student Opportunities

We offer stimulating and challenging classes, but learning opportunities for students extend well beyond the classroom. Our students study abroad, pursue internships, and participate in a variety of research experiences. These activities can be undertaken during the semester, over the summer, or during January. Consult with your adviser early and often to find the best opportunities for your interests and long term plans.





FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES **STUDY AWAY** **JOBS & INTERNSHIPS**

OPPORTUNITY UPDATES

Calls for papers, internship opening notices, recruiting, grad and study away program notices and more; in reverse order, with the most recent notices at the top:

12/2/2015 Macalester Alum Phillip Sellow Lecture on the Oxyrynchus Papyri
 Thursday, December 10, 2015 at 6pm: Philip Sellow, "Resurrecting Early Christian Lives: Digging for Papyri in a Digital Age," in the John B. Davis Lecture Hall in the Ruth Stricker Dayton Campus Center. [Learn more about the lecture at this blog](#) or [See This Poster](#). And [here's a fun Radiolab podcast](#) about it, and the [Ancient Lives crowdsourcing website](#) for anyone who wants to try their hand at helping translate the fragments!

11/30/2015 Three Local Documentaries about Iraq Premiering at Macalester Dec. 7
 The Iraq and American Reconciliation Project (IARRP) will premiere three new short documentaries on December 7, 2015, 7:30 p.m., in the Ruth Stricker Dayton Campus Center at Macalester

Opportunity Updates

We've added an "Opportunity Updates," feature to our web site where you can look for all those nice-to-know things that our department is often asked to share with our students. You'll find calls for papers, internship opening notices, recruiting, grad and study away program notices, and more. It all can be found at <http://www.macalester.edu/academics/classics/studentopportunities/>, under the heading "Opportunity Updates" towards the bottom of the page. Opportunities are listed with the most recent opportunity at the top of the list.

In the last month, opportunities have been posted for a Long Term Latin Substitute Position at Nova Classical Academy, Paideia Institute 2016 Summer Programs In Living Latin and Greek, a World Without Genocide Internship, and a Summer Field School in Jordan.

Calling Latin Alums!

See this posting from our Opportunity Updates that might speak to you.

Long Term Latin Substitute Position at Nova Classical Academy

Nova currently has a number of job opportunities available, including that of Lunch Monitor and **Long Term Latin Substitute**. If you are interested in working with an amazing team that tirelessly supports our students, as well as those who directly impact them and the larger learning community, please contact Melissa Hernandez at mhernandez@novaclassical.org for next steps. Referrals are also welcome.