

ANTIQUITY NOW



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مرحباً بكم! • שלום עליכם •**

Antiquity Now is the official newsletter of the Macalester College Classical Mediterranean and Middle East Department, featuring and highlighting students, staff, opportunities, and the future endeavors of the department. For more information about CMME at Macalester, visit our website at <https://www.macalester.edu/classics/>

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WELCOME!

A WELCOME FROM DEPARTMENT CHAIR NANETTE GOLDMAN

Welcome Spring! The 2024-2025 academic year is winding down and it's time to reflect on our busy and exciting semester. From January in Rome to Commencement, the weeks have been filled with both hard work and celebration. You'll read about many highlights in the following pages. We're especially proud of our senior majors. They presented exceptional research in their capstones and honors projects. We are also delighted to call attention to Macalester's newest Jefferson Award recipient, our own Beth Severy-Hoven. What well-deserved campus recognition. Congratulations Beth!



Andy has been on sabbatical traveling the world. His tour stops included the Maghreb, Al Andalus, and the Silk Road. Brian has been busy devising wildly popular courses for our students; the high-demand Greek Myths, and next up - Classics in Film.

We extend expressions of deep gratitude to our two visiting professors, Johnathan Hardy and Kelly Tuttle. In addition to a course on the Art and Archaeology of Ancient Iran, Johnathan taught a cutting-edge course on the use of GIS in archaeology. For the past two years Kelly has done a superlative job guiding our students through the Arabic language sequence. This spring she brought to the curriculum a course on early Islamicate manuscripts, one of her areas of nationally recognized expertise. The courses of both professors have received great acclaim, and our students are extremely fortunate to have learned from them.

Reunion is June 5th – 8th. We will have some special departmental events on Friday, June 6th. Please let us know if you'll be here so we can keep you updated on the schedule. We are very eager to see you and hear your news. Hope to see you very soon.

-Nanette Goldman



SPRING 2025 COURSE SPOTLIGHTS

ARCHAEOLOGY AND GIS: DIGITAL METHODS, NETWORKS, AND DATA ANALYSIS IN ARCHAEOLOGY

CLAS 194 with Professor Johnathan Hardy



Students “in the field” outside of Humanities

This semester students in the Archaeology and GIS class learned the critical methods and theory behind the use of digital tools in archaeology. The course featured two days of classroom instruction and one day of lab or 'field work' each week. The classroom portion covered the theoretical foundations of that week's lab supplemented by a group reading discussion of relevant scholarly literature. The labs used

real archaeological data from sites around the Mediterranean and Western Asia, exposing the students to the, at times frustratingly obscure, data practices of archaeology. Students started the semester learning how to design a field survey in GIS software, interpret and analyze multispectral satellite imagery, and perform statistical and spatial analyses on archaeological data. Throughout this portion of the course emphasis was placed on creating accurate and interpretable maps, an important skill for disseminating archaeology to the public. During the latter half of the semester the course shifted focus and 'zoomed in' to individual monuments, structures, and excavation trenches. After learning the theory behind the Harris Matrix and completing a few practice examples, the class went into the 'field' and documented the stratigraphy of the sculpture court between the Theater and Humanities buildings. Students were then introduced to the world of 3D design, where they created 3D models from hand-drawn site plans in SketchUp and performed 3D photogrammetry on objects around campus. The semester finished where it started, circling back to field survey, but this time the students were the ones creating the data using the QGISField mobile app.



ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY OF ANCIENT IRAN

CLAS 294 with Professor Johnathan Hardy



Professor Hardy with students on a class visit to the Mia



Starting at the great migration of Indo-Iranian peoples from Central Asia and ending at the fall of the Sasanian empire in the 7th century CE, students in the Art and Archaeology of Ancient Iran were ushered through 5,000 years of history shaped by the Iranian peoples and empires. Some highlights from the class included a deep dive into the Elamite holy city of Al-Untash-Napirisha (modern Chogha Zanbil, Iran) and its ziggurat; the fiery demise of Tepe Hasanlu and the mystery around its attackers; and the engineering behind the largest freestanding arch in the world (until the completion of the St. Louis Arch), the Taq-e Kesra in Iraq. The class visited the Minneapolis Institute of Art in March where they got first hand experience examining material they saw in class. Following discussion of bronze casting techniques in the ancient world through an examination of the 'Herakles of Mesene' and the 'Shami Bronze', students got to experience the excitement (and danger!) of bronze casting thanks to the Sculpture class led by Lela Pierce.



HEAR FROM STUDENTS ABROAD!

Emily Hodson '26 has spent this spring semester in Rome, Italy! Here's what she had to say about the experience:

I've spent the past semester continuing my studies in archaeology at the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome, where I've had the opportunity to visit all the incredible monuments and sites the city offers. From the remains of an aqueduct in a luxury department store's basement to the Roman forum, The Centro offers an incredible hands-on experience with the broad expanse of Roman history from the Etruscans and Oscans to the Byzantine Empire and beyond. This experience has been life-changing, both in and out of the classroom, as I've learned never to order a cappuccino after 11:30 am and how to construct and conserve traditional Roman mosaics in the Centro's incredible material heritage conservation course. However, the greatest highlights of the experience have been the incredible site visits that take us outside Rome and even out of Italy. The Centro has been kind enough to take us on two trips to Campania and an incredible adventure across the Adriatic to Split, Zadar, and Pula, Croatia (Ancient Dalmatia) to experience the breadth of the Roman Empire and the varied cultures that made their homes within its borders. Granted, despite all the fun I've had doing my best not to butcher the Italian language, I am looking forward to getting back on campus, fixing my sleep schedule, and ordering my Dunn Bros cappuccinos at ALL hours of the day.



Emily with Byzantine mosaics at San Vitale in Ravenna



Ned on a trip to Wadi Rum in March

Ned Keyse '26 has spent this spring semester in Amman, Jordan. Ned wanted to highlight the warm welcome he received and the abundance of kindness and generosity he's experienced during his stay there. He is living with a host family and taking varied classes at the Sijal Institute including a cooking class and two different Arabic language classes. Ned has been immersed in Arabic and has learned that language learning is definitely a process, and be quite difficult at times. However, after three months, he's starting to see results! Ned's blog can be found [here](#) if you'd like to hear more from him about his time in Jordan!

JANUARY IN ROME RECAP



This winter, students embarked on a journey through time, visiting sites around Rome and Italy. This is what **Dylan Paulsen '26** said about their experience:

"This winter, I participated in the Classical Mediterranean and Middle East department's *January in Rome* class, where I was able to travel to Rome with a class group for two weeks. This was an incredible experience, as I was able to travel to Europe for the first time in my life, see incredible sights, and eat incredible food all while learning about the ancient city of Rome. While I had previously studied ancient Rome, nothing in the classroom could compare to walking through the city and immersing myself in the culture. What stuck with me the most from this trip was our day trip to Pompeii, where we got to see the ancient city preserved as it was in 79 CE. It was truly amazing to see the ordinary aspects of the lives of ancient people, such as the water and food distribution systems, and to imagine how people of the ancient world lived within and interacted with their urban environments.

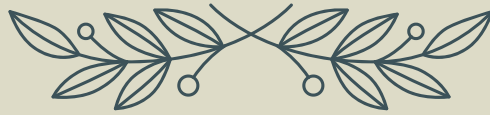
PROFESSOR SEVERY-HOVEN RECOGNIZED



This spring, our own Professor Beth Severy-Hoven was recognized with the prestigious Jefferson Award, honoring her commitment to the college and embodiment of the ideals of the third President of

the United States. We are so proud of Professor Severy-Hoven for all that she does for our department and the campus at large. We are excited to witness the mark that she continues to leave on this college! You can learn more about the award and Professor Severy-Hoven's accomplishments [here](#).

HONORS PROJECTS



This year, two students in the department completed Honors Projects, continuing work that they started in their capstones. Congratulations, Merrick and Verity, on all of the research and writing that went into your works!

Verity Wray-Raabolle '25 - "Archaeology By the Book, But Which Book?: Archaeology and Nation Building in Germany and Israel"

Merrick Gormley '25 - "*Unam Magnum Scutellam de Onichio: The Many Lives of the Tazza Farnese*"



SENIOR AWARDS



Each year, the department awards graduating seniors with two department awards. The Virginia McKnight Binger prize recognizes an outstanding senior major who demonstrates exceptional proficiency in classical languages and/or ancient history. The Jeremiah Reedy Prize in Classics recognizes a senior with significant contributions to the department.

This year, the Virginia McKnight Binger prize goes to **Merrick Gormley** and **Verity Wray-Raabolle**. The Jeremiah Reedy prize in classics goes to **Macie McIlvain** and **Anna Runquist**.

Congratulations seniors!

MEET DR. OZZY GUNDUZ



Dr. Gündüz giving a lecture on Arabian Nights at Macalester this spring. He will be teaching a class on this material in spring 2026!

I am delighted to join Macalester College's Department of Classical Mediterranean and Middle East as an Assistant Professor of Arabic starting this fall. I recently completed my Ph.D. in Arabic and Islamic Studies at Harvard University. My dissertation, "A Rūmī in the Lands of Shām," examines the life, poetry, and legacy of Māmayya al-Rūmī, a janissary-turned-poet active in sixteenth-century Damascus. My research challenges conventional narratives about literary and cultural decline during the Ottoman era, highlighting instead the vibrant, cosmopolitan literary scene of that period.

My scholarly interests include classical Arabic philology, comparative literatures of the Middle East, Islamic intellectual history, and translation studies. My publications encompass articles on Arabic literature from the Ottoman period, critical studies on poetic theory during the Abbasid period, and explorations of literary expressions related to sexuality, politics, and cultural identity. I have previously taught Arabic language courses at George Washington University, Tufts University, and Harvard University, as well as literature courses at Boston University.

Beyond academia, I enjoy hiking, road trips, and exploring different cultures—particularly through their literature and cuisine. I am passionate about languages and continuously strive to enhance my proficiency in those I have studied, while also eagerly learning new ones. Currently, I look forward to exploring Italian, especially since I will soon be visiting Italy.

I am genuinely excited to become part of Macalester's vibrant academic community, and I look forward to contributing to the department's dynamic course offerings and engaging in meaningful dialogues about literature, history, and culture with students and colleagues alike. Alongside Arabic language courses, I am particularly eager to offer a course on the Arabian Nights in Spring 2026.



Mellon Mays Fellows



This year, two members of the department, **Sayuri Cumararatunge '27** and **Kolya Shi '26**, are each part of Mellon Mays cohorts! The Mellon Mays undergraduate fellowship exists to provide students who are underrepresented in academia with mentorship and assistance so that they can eventually move on to PhD programs. Congratulations Kolya and Sayuri!



Kolya Shi '26



Sayuri Cumararatunge '27



Snapshots from this Semester



FALL '25 COURSES

Number	Name	Days	Time	Instructor
CLAS 121	The Greek World	MWF	2:20-3:20	Brian Lush
CLAS 194	The Maghreb: History and Cultures of North Africa from Hannibal to 1492	TR	1:20-2:20	Andrew Overman
CLAS 201	Classics in Film (FYC)	MW	8:00-9:30	Brian Lush
CLAS 260	Introduction to Art History I: From Prehistory to the Medieval Period	MWF	10:50-11:50	Serdar Yalçın
CLAS 280	Art and Architecture of Ancient Egypt	MWF	2:20-3:20	Serdar Yalçın
CLAS 490	Senior Seminar	TR	3:00-4:30	Andrew Overman



FALL 2025 COURSE OFFERINGS

Number	Name	Days	Time	Instructor
CLAS 111	Elementary Latin I	MWF	1:10-2:20	Nanette Goldman
CLAS 111 L1	Elementary Latin I: Lab	T	10:10-11:10	Nanette Goldman
CLAS 111 L2	Elementary Latin I: Lab	T	3:00-4:00	Nanette Goldman
CLAS 113	Elementary Arabic I	MWF	12:00-1:00	Haci Gündüz
CLAS 113 L1	Elementary Arabic I: Lab	T	3:00-4:00	Haci Gündüz
CLAS 115	Elementary Greek I	MWF	3:30-4:30	Brian Lush
CLAS 115 L1	Elementary Greek I: Lab	R	2:00-3:00	Brian Lush
CLAS 231	Intermediate Latin I: Prose	MWF	9:40-10:40	Beth Severy-Hoven
CLAS 237	Intermediate Hebrew I	MWF	12:00-1:00	Nanette Goldman
CLAS 485	Advanced Arabic	MWF	2:20-3:20	Haci Gündüz
CLAS 487	Advanced Reading in Greek	TR	9:40-11:10	Andrew Overman



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