

CHRISTOPHER ERDMAN

CURRICULUM VITAE

Department of Classics, Washington University in St. Louis
MSC 1050-153-244, 1 Brookings Drive, St. Louis MO 63130-4899
(914) 536-0452 cerdman@wustl.edu

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Classics (Ancient History Emphasis) 2024
University of California, Santa Barbara
Dissertation Title: “Voting Culture and Political Theater in Late Republican Lawmaking”
Advisor: Professor Robert Morstein-Marx

B.A. in Classics, *Magna cum Laude* 2017
Cornell University
Honors Thesis Title: “Clodius and the *Dilectus Servorum*: P. Clodius Pulcher’s Role in the Development of Organized Political Violence in the Late Roman Republic”
Thesis Director: Professor Eric Rebillard

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Roman history from the middle to late Republic (esp. political history), Latin and Greek epigraphy, Roman law, Latin and Greek historiography, and comparative history between the ancient Mediterranean and the Chinese world.

EMPLOYMENT

2024-Present Assistant Professor of Classics, John and Penelope Biggs Department of Classics
Washington University in St. Louis

PUBLICATIONS

Articles and Chapters

“Voting Procedure at Late Republican Legislative Assemblies” (Forthcoming, *Klio*)
“P. Clodius’ Alleged Legislative Program for 52 BC” (Forthcoming, *Phoenix*)
“The ‘Ballot Questions’ of Roman Republican Legislative Assemblies.” (*Historia* 2024)

Inscriptions

“An Epitaph for Two Sisters and Their Families, Set up by Their Parents.” In A. Graham and S. Orlandi (eds) *et al.* “New Voices in Epigraphy Past & Present: Unpublished Epitaphs from Rome” (Forthcoming, *Papers of the British School at Rome*)

Reviews and Misc.

“Voting Culture and Political Theater in Late Republican Lawmaking.” Rome Prize Research Report (*Memoirs of the American Academy in Rome* 2024)

CURRENT PROJECTS

Voting Culture in Late Republican Lawmaking (Monograph in progress, working title)

“*Gallicis armis atque insignibus*: ‘Gallicization’ of Romans in *De Bello Gallico* Books 1-5” (Article in progress, working title)

“Breaking the *Fasces*” (Article in progress, working title. Co-authored with Claire Lyman)

PRESENTATIONS & LECTURES

By Invitation

“Obstructing the People in the Late Roman Republic.” Given at Kansas University: Lawrence, KS, September 16, 2025.

“Bronze Public Documents in the Roman World.” Given at the British School at Rome, Postgraduate Course in Roman Epigraphy: Rome, Italy, July 3, 2024.

“The Face of Voting: Political Experience in Republican Rome.” “Shop Talk” Lecture and *Conversazione* with Sabrina Morreale, American Academy in Rome: Rome, Italy, April 8, 2024.

“Discussione del libro di Robert Morstein-Marx: *Julius Caesar and the Roman People*.” Panel discussant, Università degli Studi Roma Tre: Rome, Italy, March 21, 2024.

“The Appearance of Defeat: The Political Theater of Obstructing Late Republican Legislation.” Given at the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome, Charles L. Babcock Lecture: Rome, Italy, November 29, 2023.

“The ‘Ballot Questions’ of the Roman Republic.” Given at the Institut für Geschichte, TU Dresden: Dresden, Germany, February 27, 2023.

“Italian Lawmaking Cultures Before the Social War.” Given at the Kommission für Alte Geschichte und Epigraphik, Deutsches Archäologisches Institut: Munich, Germany, February 15, 2023.

“How to Beat a Veto: Political Theater and Popular Pressure in Late-Republican Assemblies.” Given at UC Santa Barbara: Santa Barbara, CA, November 20, 2020.

Conference Presentations

“*Gallicis armis atque insignibus*: ‘Gallicization’ of Romans in Caesar's Gallic War Books 1-5.” Presentation at the Celtic Conference in Classics: Coimbra, Portugal, July 15-18, 2025.

“Obstructionism as a Form of Political Theater in Republican Roman Lawmaking.” Presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Western Political Science Association: Seattle, WA, April 17-19, 2025.

“P. Clodius’ *Librarium Legum*’ and the Praetorship of 52.” Presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Classical Studies: Philadelphia, PA, January 2-5, 2025.

“How Did Romans Vote? Reconsidering Space and Accessibility During Roman Lawmaking.” Presentation at conference, *Of Marble and Mines: The Politics of Architecture, Freedom, and Oppression in the Roman World*: Princeton, NJ, November 2-3, 2024.

“Political Theater and Obstructionism in Republican Lawmaking.” Presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Classical Studies: Chicago, IL, January 4-7, 2024.

“‘Ballot Questions’ and Voter Comprehension in the Late Republic.” Presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Association of Ancient Historians: Tallahassee, FL, April 20-22, 2023.

“Letters of the Law: Inscriptions and the Experience of the Roman Voter.” Presentation at the Annual Meeting for the Society for Classical Studies: New Orleans, LA, January 5-8, 2023.

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, & FIELDWORK

2025	Winifred and Louis Lancaster Dissertation Award in Humanities and Fine Arts; University of California, Santa Barbara
2025	Penelope Biggs Travel Award; Washington University in St. Louis
2023-2024	Rome Prize Fellowship (Arthur Ross Fellowship); American Academy in Rome
2023-2024	Graduate Humanities Research Fellowship; University of California, Santa Barbara
2023	Aldrich Award for Graduate Studies; University of California, Santa Barbara
2023	Jacobi Student für Alte Geschichte und Epigraphik (Gerda Henkel Stiftung under der Elise und Annemarie Jacobi-Stiftung); Kommission für Alte Geschichte und Epigraphik, Deutsches Archäologisches Institut München
2022-2023	Interdisciplinary Humanities Center Dissertation Fellowship; University of California, Santa Barbara
2021	British School at Rome Postgraduate Course in Roman Epigraphy
2021	Summer Research Grant; University of California, Santa Barbara
2020	Summer Research Grant; University of California, Santa Barbara (Awarded but not delivered due to COVID-19)
2019	British School at Athens Postgraduate Course in Greek Epigraphy
2019	Frank and Amanda Frost Travel Award; University of California, Santa Barbara)
2017	UC Chancellor's Fellowship; University of California, Santa Barbara
2016	Harry Caplan Travel Fellowship; Cornell University
2015-2017	Josephine Rosenberg Memorial Scholarship; Cornell University
2015-2017	Ralph K. Kanders Memorial Scholarship; Cornell University
2015-2017	Sanford Bolz Memorial Scholarship; Cornell University
2013-2017	Cornell Grant; Cornell University

TEACHING

Instructor of Record

Fall 2025	Assistant Professor, L08 Classics 3410 (Ancient History: The Roman Republic) Washington University in St. Louis
Fall 2025	Assistant Professor, L10 Latin 3010 (Intro to Latin Literature I) Washington University in St. Louis
Spring 2025	Assistant Professor, L08 Classics 236C (The Roman World) Washington University in St. Louis
Spring 2025	Assistant Professor, L10 Latin 419 (Julius Caesar and His Image) Washington University in St. Louis
Fall 2024	Assistant Professor, L08 Classics 4361/5360 (Topics in Ancient Studies: Politics and Personalities in Late-Republican Rome) Washington University in St. Louis
Summer 2022	Teaching Associate, Classics 150 (Fall of the Roman Republic) University of California, Santa Barbara

Teaching Assistant/Associate

Spring 2023	Teaching Assistant, Classics 40 (Greek Mythology)
-------------	---

Fall 2020	University of California, Santa Barbara Teaching Associate, Latin 1
2018-2021	University of California, Santa Barbara Teaching Assistant, Classics 40 (Greek Mythology) University of California, Santa Barbara

PUBLIC HUMANITIES & OUTREACH

“Caesar: Cultured Hero or Barbaric Monster?” Presentation for students of Marion High School: St. Louis, September 4, 2025.

“Voting Culture and Political Theater in Late Republican Lawmaking.” Given at the American Academy in Rome, “Open Stacks” Lectures: Rome, Italy, June 4, 2024.

“Introduction to Online Epigraphic Databases: Ancient Inscriptions.” Video tutorial, recorded for the Working Group for Religion, Medicine, Disability, Health, and Healing in Late Antiquity (ReMeDHe): 2023. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WYOyK5bBA2k>

SERVICE & MENTORING

2025	MA Latin Exam Committee Member, Washington University in St. Louis
2024-2025	Graduate Admissions Committee Member, Washington University in St. Louis.
2024-2025	Job Search Committee Member, Washington University in St. Louis.
2024	Biggs Residency Selection Committee Member, Washington University in St. Louis.

LANGUAGES

English	Native
Mandarin Ch.	Speaking, Reading (Intermediate)
French	Speaking, Reading (Advanced)
Japanese	Speaking, Reading (High)
German	Reading (High)
Italian	Speaking, Reading (High)
Anc. Greek	Reading (Advanced)
Latin	Reading (Advanced)

ACADEMIC ASSOCIATIONS

Society for Classical Studies
American Historical Association
Asian and Asian American Classical Caucus
Association of Ancient Historians
Multiculturalism, Race & Ethnicity in Classics Consortium
Society of Fellows, American Academy in Rome

REFERENCES

Robert Morstein-Marx, Professor of Classics
University of California Santa Barbara
morstein@classics.ucsb.edu

Rose Maclean, Assoc. Professor of Classics
University of California Santa Barbara
maclean@classics.ucsb.edu

Elizabeth DePalma Digeser, Professor of History
University of California Santa Barbara
edepalma@history.ucsb.edu

Allison Emmerson, Assoc. Professor of Classics
Tulane University
aemmerso@tulane.edu