

LUIS ALEJANDRO SALAS
CURRICULUM VITAE (FALL 2025)

Washington University in St. Louis
John and Penelope Biggs Department of Classics
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Greek and Roman medicine, philosophy, and intellectual history; Galen; medical sectarianism; Aristotelian psychology

ACADEMIC POSITIONS HELD

Associate Professor of Classics, Washington University in St. Louis	
Affiliate Appointment, Department of Philosophy	2023–
Assistant Professor of Classics, Washington University in St. Louis;	
Affiliate Appointment, Department of Philosophy	2015–2023
Visiting Scholar, University of Texas at Austin	2014–2015

EDITORIAL POSITIONS HELD

Editor, <i>APEIRON: a journal for ancient philosophy and science</i>	2024–
Associate Editor, <i>APEIRON: a journal for ancient philosophy and science</i>	2015–2024
Managing Editor, <i>APEIRON: a journal for ancient philosophy and science</i>	2007–2015

EDUCATION

Ph.D. (Classics), The University of Texas at Austin, 2013
Joint Graduate Program in Ancient Philosophy
Dissertation: *Anatomy and Anatomical Exegesis in Galen of Pergamum*
Lesley Dean-Jones and R.J. Hankinson, directors

M.A. (Philosophy), The University of Texas at Austin, 2012

M.A. (Classics), Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, 2003

B.A. (Liberal Arts), St. John's College, Annapolis, Maryland, 1998
Majors: Philosophy, History of Math & Science

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

- Galen: On the Usefulness of Parts: Revised Translation and Commentary*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press (in progress).
- Cutting Words: Polemical Dimensions of Galen's Anatomical Experiments*. Leiden: Brill, 2020. Pp. x, 328.
- Reviews:
- M. Asper (2025): *Hopos: The International Society for the History of Philosophy of Science* 15.1 (DOI: [10.1086/734649](https://doi.org/10.1086/734649))
- C. Thumiger (2022): *The Classical Review* 72.1 (DOI: [10.1017/S0009840X21003401](https://doi.org/10.1017/S0009840X21003401));
- A. Čelkyte (2021): *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* ([BMCR 2021.06.38](https://doi.org/10.1017/S0009840X21003401));
- V. Nutton (2021): *Annals of Science* (DOI: [10.1080/00033790.2021.1890820](https://doi.org/10.1080/00033790.2021.1890820))

ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

- “Categorization of Illnesses”, in Flemming, R. and L. Totelin (eds.). *Cambridge History of Medicine: Volume 1. Ancient Medicine, c. 3000 BCE–650 CE*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press (under contract, 2025).
- “Galen’s *Natural Faculties* and Arthur Brock’s Medical Humanism”, in Henderson, J., Thomas, R. and R. Rosen (eds.). *James Loeb and the History of Psychiatric Medicine: Proceedings of the Third James Loeb Biennial Conference, Munich and Murnau 4–6 June, 2023*. Harvard: Harvard University Press (2025): 237–258
- “Anatomy and Physiology”, in Laskaris, J., Rosen, R., and P. Singer (eds.). *The Oxford Handbook of Galen*. Oxford: Oxford University Press (2024): 250–272 (DOI: [10.1093/oxfordhb/9780190913687.013.9](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780190913687.013.9)).
- “*Medicine as Competitive Performance: Eristic and Erudition—Galen on Erasistratus and the Arteries*”, in Bubb, C., and M. Peachin (eds.). *Oxford Studies in Roman Society and Law*. Oxford: Oxford University Press (2023): 124–146.
- “Why Lovesickness is not a Disease: Galen’s Diagnosis and Classification of Psychological Distress”, *Transactions of the American Philological Association* 152 (2022): 507–539 (DOI: [10.1353/apa.2022.0021](https://doi.org/10.1353/apa.2022.0021)).
- “Galen on the Definition of Disease”, *American Journal of Philology* 141.4 (2020): 603–634 (DOI: [10.1353/ajp.2020.0031](https://doi.org/10.1353/ajp.2020.0031)).
- “Galen’s Wounds: Dissolutions and the Theoretical Structure of Galen’s Disease Taxonomy”, *Classical Antiquity* 38.2 (2019): 275–297 (DOI: [10.1525/ca.2019.38.2.275](https://doi.org/10.1525/ca.2019.38.2.275)).
- “Fighting with the Heart of a Beast: Galen’s Use of the Elephant’s Cardiac Anatomy against Cardiocentrists”, *Greek, Roman, and Byzantine Studies* 54.4 (2014): [698–727](https://doi.org/10.1017/S0017640114000077).
- “*P.Oxy.inv.* 35 4B 64–K(1–3)a: Homer, *Iliad* A.18–26”, *The Oxyrhynchus Papyri* (The Egyptian Exploration Society) (forthcoming)

BOOK REVIEWS

- Adamson, P., R. Hansberger, and J. Wilberding (ed.). *Philosophical Themes in Galen. BICS supplement, 114*. London: Institute of Classical Studies: London, 2014. *BMCR* [2016.05.27](https://doi.org/10.1017/S0009840X21003401).

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Center for Humanities Faculty Fellowship, Washington University in St. Louis	
Salary Replacement for Semester	2019
Loeb Classical Library Foundation Faculty Fellowship	
Maximum Award for 2018–19, \$35,000	2018–19
William J. Battle Travel Fellowship, University of Texas at Austin	2013, 2011
Harry J. Leon Fellowship in Classics, University of Texas at Austin	2011
Graduate School Dissertation Fellowship, University of Texas at Austin	
Full Graduate Stipend Replacement	2010–11
Travel Grant 32 nd Ancient Philosophy Workshop, University of Texas at Austin	2009
William James Battle Fellowship in Greek, University of Texas at Austin	2004
Trustee's Minority Graduate Fellowship, Rutgers University	
Tuition Remission and Stipend	2000–2002

TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

By Blind Peer-reviewed Abstract

- “Galen’s Six Classes of Animals: Prehension as a Criterion for Anatomical Analogy to Human Structure and Function”, *L’observation zoologique, l’expérience et l’expérimentation sur l’animal, dans l’Antiquité et au Moyen Âge*, Université Côte d’Azur, Nice, France October 21–22, 2022.
- “Authority and the Galenic Corpus: Anatomy and Anatomical Narrative in Galen’s Intellectual Practice”, The Annual Meeting of the International Society for the History of Rhetoric (ISHR), New Orleans, LA July 24–7, 2019.
- “De Galeni Corporis Fabrica: Vesalius’ use of Galen and Galenism in the Preface of his *Fabrica*”, Society for Classical Studies (SCS), Boston, MA January 4–7, 2018.
- “Cutting Words: Polemical Dimensions of Galen’s Anatomical Experiments”, Society for Classical Studies (SCS), San Francisco, CA January 6–9, 2016.
- “Fighting with the Heart of a Beast: Galen’s Use of Exotic Animal Anatomy against Cardiocentrists”, Society of Classical Studies (SCS), New Orleans, LA January 8–11, 2015.

Invited

- “Galen’s *Natural Faculties* and Arthur Brock’s Medical Humanism”, Third James Loeb Biennial Conference: James Loeb and the History of Psychiatric Medicine, The Loeb Classical Library Foundation, Munich, Germany June 4–6, 2023.
- “Book Discussion of *Cutting Words: Polemical Dimensions of Galen’s Anatomical Experiments*”, The Society for Ancient Medicine and the UC Davis Early Science Workshop, Davis, California (Online) April 22nd, 2022.
- “What’s the Therapeutic Value of Anatomy in Medicine? The Greek and Roman Case”, History of Medicine Speaker Series, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, California (Online) December 9th, 2021.
- “Mapping the Body in the Greco-Roman Medical Traditions”, Pediatric Grand Rounds Lecture Series, Washington University School of Medicine & St. Louis Children’s Hospital, St. Louis, Missouri (Online) April 2, 2021.

- “Rending the Body to Mend it Again: The Puzzling Emergence and Disappearance of Human Dissection in Third-Century Greece”, Classics Society, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI (Online) March 11, 2021.
- “Anatomy, Analogy, and Claims to Medical Knowledge in Greek and Roman Medicine”, 2020 Bluegrass Classics Lecture Series, Transylvania University, Lexington, KY February 28, 2020.
- “Eristic and Erudition: Galen on Erasistratus and the Arteries”, Medicine and Law Under the Roman Empire, Institute for the Study of the Ancient World (ISAW), NY, NY October 3–4, 2019.
- “Galen’s Wounds: Dissolutions and the Theoretical Structure of Galen’s Disease Taxonomy”, SLAPSA X: 10th Annual St. Louis Area Philosophy of Science Association Meeting, Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville, IL March 28, 2018.
- “Fighting with the Heart of a Beast: Galen’s Use of Exotic Animal Anatomy against Cardiocentrists”, History and Philosophy of Science and Medicine Series, Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis MO November 18, 2015.
- “The Licensing Function of Galenic Anatomical Procedures, Text and Practice”, 48th Historia Medica Lecture, Center for the History of Medicine at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, St. Louis MO November 12, 2015.

Discussant for Eric Brown, “Stoic Anti-Slavery”, Political Theory Workshops, Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis MO February 19, 2021.

Response to David Kaufman, “Non-rational Feelings and Desires in Galen’s Psychology”, Medicine and Philosophy in Antiquity Conference, St. Norbert’s College, De Pere, Wisconsin October 1–3, 2015.

Response to Jesús Araiza, “The sensory organ’s activity and its contribution to contemplative life in Aristotle”, 32nd Ancient Philosophy Workshop, Universidad Nacional Autónoma De México, Ciudad de México, March 4–6, 2009.

PODCASTS

- “[Galen and the Elephant’s Heart](#)“, Hold That Thought, Washington University in St. Louis, August 3, 2016

SERVICE

PROFESSIONAL

- External Collaborator, The Atlomy Project: 2020–.
- Editorial Board, *APEIRON: a journal for ancient philosophy and science*: 2015–.
- Referee, *APEIRON: a journal for ancient philosophy and science*; *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*; *Early Science and Medicine*; *Social History of Medicine*; *Syllecta Classica*
- Program Committee Member, HOPOS 2022: The Fourteenth Biennial Congress of the International Society for the History of Philosophy of Science University of California, Irvine, Jun 20–23, 2022.
- Participating Faculty Member, SUNOIKISIS Course Planning Seminar on Ancient Science, Center for Hellenic Studies, Online, Summer 2017.
- Participating Faculty Member, SUNOIKISIS Course Planning Seminar on Greek Literature

of the 4th Century, Washington D.C., Summer 2015.

OUTREACH

Ancient Greek Medical Theories and Practices, Presentation to Med-Sci Club and Latin Students, Parish Episcopal School, Dallas, TX (Online) April 29th, 2022.
Poetic and Historical Realities in the *Odyssey*, Question and Answer with English Students, Bishop Ireton High School, Alexandria VA (Online) March 16th, 2022.
St. Louis Area Group Reading Ancient Philosophy: 2015–.

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Director of Undergraduate Studies, Classics: 2023–.
Study Abroad Coordinator, Classics: 2023–.
Apeiron: a journal for ancient philosophy and science, Supervisor for Editorial Assistants: 2015–.
Biggs Residency Committee Member, Classics: 2015–.
Graduate Admissions Committee Member, Classics: 2015–.
Graduate Comprehensive Exam Committee Member, Classics: 2015–.
Graduate Reading List Exam Committee Member, Classics: 2015–.
Undergraduate Advisor, Classics and Ancient Studies: 2015–.
University College Coordinator, Classics, Washington University in St. Louis: 2019–2020.
Graduate Student Proseminar in Classics, Presenter: 2016, 2018, 2020, 2022.
Senior Language Exam Committee Director, Natalie Runkle (Interdisciplinary Program in the Humanities): 2017.
Graduate Diagnostic Exam Committee Member, Classics: 2016.

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Residential Faculty Fellow, Washington University in St. Louis: 2023–.
Faculty Spotlight, *Greek and Roman Medicine: The Relevance of Past Perspectives to our Present*: 2021, 2022, 2023, 2025.
Washington University Workshop in Ancient Philosophy (co-organizer): 2022–.
Medical Humanities, Undergraduate Advisor: 2020–.
Washington University Rhodes Scholarship Committee: Fall 2019.
Medical Humanities Curriculum Committee: 2019–.
Historia Medica Lecture Committee: 2017–.
Washington University First-Year Reading Program: 2015, 2016.
Medical Humanities, Faculty Advisory Committee: 2015–.
Washington University Minority Faculty Mentoring Seminar: 2015–2022.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS

GRADUATE

Ancient Greek and Roman Gynecology

Galen's *On Prognosis*: A Social History of Medicine in Second–Century Rome (in Greek)
Imperial Greek Literature (Seminar, in Greek)
Medical Writing in the Greek Intellectual Tradition: Galen and the Hippocratic Corpus (Seminar, in Greek)
Plato's Early Dialogues (in Greek)

UNDERGRADUATE

Ancient Greek and Roman Medicine
Galen's *On Prognosis*: A Social History of Medicine in Second–Century Rome (in Greek)
Introduction to Greek (I and II)
Introduction to Latin Literature II: Elementary Prose and Poetry
Plato's Early Dialogues (in Greek)
Puzzles and Revolutions: Text and Traditions
Science and Medicine in Greece and Rome (Senior Seminar)
What is Medical Humanities?

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

UNDERGRADUATE

Elementary Greek
Elementary Latin
Intensive Greek
Intermediate Latin (Cicero, Livy)
Intermediate Latin II (Vergil, Ovid, Catullus)
Introduction to Ancient Philosophy
Introduction to Medical Terminology
Introduction to Mythology

OTHER TEACHING EXPERIENCE

SECONDARY

St. Andrew's Episcopal School, Austin Texas	2014–15
Latin 1, 2, and 3	
St. Michael's Catholic Academy, Austin Texas	2011–14
Latin 1, 2, and 3	
Spanish 1	

THESIS COMMITTEES AND SUPERVISION

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS

GRADUATE

DOCTORAL DISSERTATIONS

J. Henry "Socrates' Expertise in Expertise": 2022 (Committee Member, Philosophy)

MASTER'S THESES

- J. Bayona "Livy, Concordia, and the Tribunes of the Plebs": 2024.
M. Gonzalez "'Horatian' Juvenal: A Study of Juvenal *Satire 9*": 2022.
(Committee Member, Classics)
F. L. Barreto de Morais "Either Nothing or the Soul: Self and Self-Knowledge in the *Alcibiades 1*": 2021 (Committee Member, Classics)
I. McNeely "Music and Society in Longus' *Daphnis and Chloe* and Alciphron's *Epistulae*": 2020. (Director, Classics)

UNDERGRADUATE

- M. Ladejola-Oginni "The Art of Glass Making: How Aelius Aristides Transformed Pain into Tool": 2021. (Director, Special Major in Medical Humanities)
K. Chrulski "The Origins of Roman Military Medicine and its Treatment of War Wounds": 2020. (Director, Classics)
Riva Desai, "Diarrhea, Death, and Discrimination: 19th-Century Cholera and the Exacerbation of Racial, Political, Economic, and Social Tensions in the British Empire": 2016. (Undergraduate Honors Thesis Committee member, Interdisciplinary Program in the Humanities)