

Kathryn Dorothy Wilson

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Department of Classics, Washington University in St. Louis
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Research and Teaching Interests

Hellenistic Literature and Scholarship
Ancient Science and Medicine
Environmental Humanities

Epic and Didactic Poetry
Race and Ethnicity in Antiquity
Ancient Agriculture and Labor

Employment

Senior Lecturer, Department of Classics, Washington University in St. Louis, Fall 2021-present

Affiliated Faculty, Center for Race, Ethnicity and Equity, Fall 2021-present

Lecturer, Department of Classics, Washington University in St. Louis, Fall 2015- Spring 2021

Education

Ph.D., Classical Studies, University of Pennsylvania, May 2015

Dissertation: "Signs in the Song: Scientific Poetry in the Hellenistic Period"

(Committee: Ralph Rosen, director; Joseph Farrell; Emily Wilson)

Special Topics Exams in Hellenistic Science and Lucretius

Regular Member, American School of Classical Studies at Athens, 2012-13

M.Litt., Greek and Latin, University of St. Andrews, with honors, 2008

Thesis: "Doxography and Self-Presentation in Strabo's Prolegomena"

(Advisor: Jason König)

B.A., History, Amherst College, *magna cum laude*, 2006

Books

Body of Work: Labor in Greek Epigram (monograph, in progress)

Academic Publications

"Sign and Scale in Aratean Leptotes" (article ~10,000 words, in revisions)

"Meliboeus *Agricola*: Structures of Identity in Vergil's *Eclogue* 1," in *Class: A Premodern Critical Race Studies Casebook*, ed. M. Hendricks, ACMRS Press (forthcoming, 2025).

"Πλόος/Labor" in *Dictionnaire des images du poétique*, eds. E. Prioux, J.-P. Guez, F. Klein, J. Peigney, Classique Garnier: Paris, (in press, 2025)

"The Astronomer-Poet at Night: The Evolution of a Motif" in *Between Dusk and Dawn: Valuing Night in Classical Antiquity*, eds. J. Ker, A. Wessel, Brill (2020): 131-149.

"Avenging Vipers: Tragedy and Succession in Nicander's *Theriaca*," *Classical Journal* 133 (2018): 257-280.

“Reading and Performing Didactic Poetry in the Hellenistic Period,” in *Drama and Performance: Hellenistica Groningana 12*, eds. M.A. Harder, R.F. Regtuit, G.C. Wakker, Peeters: Leuven (2018): 317-332.

[Review of Apollonius Rhodius: Argonautica Book 4](#), ed. Richard Hunter, *BMCR* 2016.10.05.

Public-Facing Scholarship

[“What was ‘race’ in Ancient Rome?,”](#) *The Ampersand*, September 17, 2021

[“Colonizing the Past: Constructing Race in Ancient Greece and Rome,”](#) essay for curated exhibit, Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum, 2021

[“The Golden Age and Climate Crisis: Our Nostalgia for the Rhythms of the Natural World is Timeless,”](#) *Eidolon* End of the World Special Issue, March 6, 2020.

Current Projects

“Autochthony and Empire: The Racial Logic of Lucan’s Snake Catalog” (chapter in edited volume, in progress)

“Deciphering the *Alexipharmaca*’s ‘Incomplete’ Acrostic” (article, in progress)

Museum Exhibits

“Colonizing the Past: Constructing Race in Ancient Greece and Rome,” Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum, Teaching Gallery, Fall 2021

Academic Presentations

“Body of Work: Women, Labor, and Other Things in Greek Epigram,” 155th SCS Annual Meeting, January 2025

“Autochthony and Empire: the Racial Logic of Lucan’s Snake Catalog,” Lucan’s Landscape and Lies, University of Durham, July 2024

“Deciphering the *Alexipharmaca*’s “Incomplete” Acrostic,” 154th SCS Annual Meeting, January 2024

“Colonizing the Past: Situating Ancient Race in Place and Time,” invited talk for Loyola University, Maryland, October 2023

“Sign and Scale in Aratean Leptotes,” colloquium on Aratus and his Reception, University of Cambridge (on Zoom), December 2021

“Teaching Vergil’s *Georgics* in the Agricultural Heartland,” invited talk for Environmental Studies Department, Washington University in St. Louis, March 2020.

“Organizing Snakes: Nicander’s Literary and Biological Catalog,” 150th SCS Annual Meeting, January 2019.

“A Non-Hesiodic (Anti-Hesiodic?) Strain of Hellenistic Didactic Poetry,” *Technepopoiia: Between Greek Technical Poetry and Treatises in Verse*, Radboud University Nijmegen, July 2018.

“Praying at Two Altars: The Astronomer-Poet at Night,” *Between Dusk and Dawn: Valuing Night in Classical Antiquity*, Penn-Leiden Colloquium on Ancient Values X, June 2018.

“The Biological and the Literary in Nicander’s Catalogs,” *The Logic of Lists*, collaborative workshop at the Center for Hellenic Studies, January 2018.

“The Life Cycle of a Sign in Aratus’ *Phaenomena*,” 149th SCS Annual Meeting, January 2018.

- “Why Poetry? Aesthetics and Authority in the Hellenistic Period,” invited talk for Classics Department, Washington University in St. Louis, February 2017.
- “Trust and Charm: Late Hellenistic Authors on the Value of Poetry,” 148th SCS Annual Meeting, January 2017.
- “Signs and Patterns in Aratus' Myth of Ages,” 147th SCS Annual Meeting, January 2016.
- “Orpheus' Lesson: Reading and Performing Didactic Poetry,” 12th Groningen Workshop on Hellenistic Poetry: Drama and Performance, University of Groningen, August 2015.
- “Symptoms and Stars: Aratus as Nicander's Poetic and Semiotic Model,” Medicine and Poetry: From the Greeks to the Enlightenment, University of Miami, March 2015.
- “Aratean Epigram and Hellenistic Reception of the *Phaenomena*,” CAMWS, April 2013.
- “Hipparchus and the Scientific Values of the Hellenistic Period,” London Ancient Science Conference, UCL, February 2013.
- “*Illud Tempus* in Orpheus' Song: Eliade, Apollonius, and Aetiological Time,” Ancient Aitia Graduate Conference, NYU, November 2011.

Outreach Talks

- “Race in the *Odyssey*,” for WashU Prison Education Project, Missouri Eastern Correctional Center and Missouri Department of Corrections, Women's Eastern Reception, Diagnostic and Correctional Center, October 2022
- “Introduction to the *Odyssey*,” for Wash U Prison Education Project, Missouri Eastern Correctional Center, August 2022
- “Race and Racism in the Ancient World,” for St. Louis Classical Club, April 2022
- “Race and Ancient Rome,” for Southeastern Illinois University, December 2021
- “Colonizing the Past: Constructing Race in Ancient Greece and Rome,” panel discussion, Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum at Washington University in St. Louis, November 2021
- “Introduction to Ancient Science,” for Temple University Intellectual Heritage Program Teacher Training Workshop, May 2015.

Media Interviews

- [HEC-TV \(local cable access\)](#), on Colonizing the Past exhibit, September 2021
- [Modern Art Notes Podcast, Ep.539](#), on Colonizing the Past exhibit, March 2022

Teaching Experience

Lecturer/Senior Lecturer, Washington University in St. Louis (2015-2025):

Seminars and Advanced Courses:

- Greek 595: Hellenistic Poetry, Spr. 16, Fall 22 (graduate)
- Greek 440: Lucian, Spr. 18
- Greek 438: The Athenian Family (Xenophon's *Oeconomicus*), Spr. 23
- Greek 422: Euripides, Fall 20
- Latin 536: The Well-Trodden Path: Hellenistic Poetry in Rome, Spr. 20 (graduate)
- Latin 507: Survey of Roman Literature I, Spr. 21 (graduate)
- Latin 494: Vergil's *Georgics*, Fall 19, Fall 24
- Latin 494: Ovid's *Fasti*, Fall 16

Latin 465: Lucan, Fall 21

Latin 422: Lucretius, Fall 18

Latin 416: Seneca's Tragedies, Fall 17

Classics 3003: Writing Intensive: Helen of Troy in Greece and Rome, Spr. 17, Spr. 24

Classics 3003: Writing Intensive: Golden Ages, Nostalgia, and the Idealized Past, Spr. 19, Spr. 22

Classics 306: Race and Identity in Greco-Roman Antiquity, Fall 21, Fall 23

Classics 223: Ampersand: Age of Pericles, Spr. 21, Spr. 23, Spr. 25

Lecture Courses:

Classics 301C: Greek Mythology, Spr.16, Fall 19, Sum. 23 (FSAP), Sum. 24 (FSAP), Fall 24

Classics 234: The Greek World, Spr. 18, Spr. 20

Classics 225: Latin and Greek in Current English, Fall 15, Fall 16, Fall 18, Fall 20

Intermediate Language Courses:

Greek 317: Introduction to Greek Literature: Plato, Fall 15, Fall 18, Fall 20

Greek 318: Introduction to Greek Literature: Homer, Spr. 17, Spr. 18, Spr. 21, Spr. 24, Spr. 25

Latin 301: Introduction to Latin Literature I, Fall 15, Fall 19, Fall 21, Fall 24

Latin 316: Introduction to Latin Literature II, Spr. 23, Spr. 24

Latin 317: Survey of Latin Literature: The Republic, Fall 16, Fall 17, Fall 22; Fall 23

Latin 318: Survey of Latin Literature: The Empire, Spr. 16, Spr. 17, Spr. 19, Spr. 20, Spr. 22

Teaching Fellow, University of Pennsylvania, 2010-15

Instructor:

Intensive Elementary Greek (equivalent to two semesters), Sum. 14

Intermediate Latin Poetry, Spr. 11

Elementary Latin I, Fall 10

Teaching Assistant:

Greek and Roman Mythology, Fall 12, Spr. 15 (online), Sum. 15 (Coursera)

Integrated Studies Program (ISP 001: Representations of Reality), Fall 14

Integrated Studies Program (ISP 001: Identity, Inheritance, Change), Fall 13

Post-Baccalaureate Seminar in Latin, Fall 11

Fellowships and Awards

Penelope Biggs Travel Award (\$2500), Summer 2024, Classics, Washington University in St. Louis

Classroom Innovation Grant (\$1320), Fall 2019, Washington University in St. Louis

James Rignall Wheeler Fellowship, ASCSA, 2012-13

Benjamin Franklin Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania, 2009- 2015

Amherst Memorial Fellowship for the Study of Classics, Amherst College, 2009

Evan Carroll Commager Fellowship for the Study of Literature, Amherst College, 2007

Academic Service

Thesis Advising and Committees:

Master's Thesis Advisor, Bayla Kamens, AY 2023-24 (*Carmina Anacreontea*)

Master's Thesis Committee Member, Zhiyuan Wang, AY 2025-26 (*Eclogues*)

Master's Thesis Committee Member, Kirby Schoephoerster, Spring 2020 (*Georgics*)

Undergraduate Thesis Committee Member, Hannah Helt, Spring 2025 (Chariton and Homer)

Undergraduate Thesis Committee Member, Ana Maria Nunez, Spring 2024 (Thucydides)

Undergraduate Thesis Committee Member, Eva Dalzell, Spring 2019 (Erinna)

Undergraduate Education Advisory Committee, Washington University in St. Louis School of Arts and Sciences, AY 2023-26

Director of Democracy and Myth in Ancient Greece Ampersand Program, AY 2020-25

Trips to Greece: 2023, 2025

Faculty Advisor for Classics Club and Eta Sigma Phi, AY 2025-26

Co-Editor of *Aetia: In Celebration of Ralph Rosen's Retirement*, 2024

Lecturer Position Search Committee, Dept. of Classics, Spring 2024

Colloquium Committee, Dept. of Classics, AY 2023-25

Graduate Student Translation Exam Reader, Greek: 2017, 2023; Latin: 2023, 2024

CAMWS Latin Sight Translation Exam Coordinator, AY 2023-25

Eos READS for Black Lives, local organizer, Washington University in St. Louis, October 2020

Volunteer Tutor, Immigrant and Refugee Women's Program, 2016-2020

Faculty Leader, Common Reading Program, Washington University in St. Louis, Fall 2016, 2017

Article Reviewer for *Classical Philology*, *Opuscula*

Guest visits to classes:

An Intellectual History of Race and Ethnicity from Antiquity to the Enlightenment, Feb. 2022

Solar System Astronomy, Oct. 2021

Archaeological Experience

Mount Lykaion Excavation and Survey Project, Arcadia, Greece, Summer 2010

Directors: Dr. D. G. Romano and Dr. M. Voyatzis

References

Professor Ralph Rosen, University of Pennsylvania, Chair of dissertation committee:

rrosen@sas.upenn.edu

Professor Joseph Farrell, University of Pennsylvania, Dissertation committee member:

jfarrell@sas.upenn.edu

Professor Emily Wilson, University of Pennsylvania, Dissertation committee member:

emilyw@sas.upenn.edu

Professor Catherine Keane, Washington University in St. Louis:

ckeane@wustl.edu

Professor Timothy Moore, Washington University in St. Louis, Departmental chair:

tmoore26@wustl.edu

Professor Margaret Miles, University of California Irvine, former Mellon Professor at ASCSA:

mmmiles@uci.edu