

Mark F. McClay
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Research Interests

Greek poetry and religion; Dionysos, Orphism/Pythagoreanism; epigraphy; aesthetics; ritual theory; intellectual history.

Education

Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley, Classics, 2018
Dissertation: *Memory and Performance: Strategies of Identity in the Orphic-Bacchic Lamellae*
Committee: Mark Griffith (chair), Nikolaos Papazarkadas, James I. Porter

M.A. University of California, Berkeley, Classics, 2013

Post-Bac. University of California, Los Angeles, Classical Studies, 2009-10

B.A. St. John's College, Annapolis, Liberal Arts, 2009

Other Training:

American School of Classical Studies in Athens, Summer Session (T. Winters), Summer 2015

Academic Employment

2021-present	Assistant Professor	Hillsdale College (Hillsdale, MI) Department of Classics
2019-2021	Visiting Assistant Professor	University of Miami (Coral Gables, FL) Department of Classics

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Books *The Bacchic Gold Tablets and Greek Society: Memory and Performance* (Cambridge University Press; forthcoming 2022).

Articles “Rethinking Orphic ‘Bookishness’: Text and Performance in Classical Mystery Religion.” *Archiv für Religionsgeschichte* 22 (2020): 203-19.
“Becoming κλεινός in Crete and Magna Graecia: Dionysiac Mysteries and Maturation Rituals Revisited.” *The Classical Quarterly* 71.1 (2021): 108-118.
“You Fell into Milk?: Symbols and Narratives of Kinship in Bacchic Mysteries.” *Classical Antiquity* (forthcoming).

Chapters “In Search of Memory: Religious Modes and Mnemonic Discourses in the Gold Leaves.” In D. Spatharas and G. Kazantzidis, eds., *Memory and Emotions in Classical Antiquity: Ancient Emotions III*. De Gruyter: Berlin (manuscript with editors).

Reviews Review of J. Harrison, ed. (2018) *Imagining the Afterlife in the Ancient World*. In *BMCR* 2019.08.36.
Review of W. R. Wians, ed. (2019) *Logoi and Muthoi: Further Essays in Greek Philosophy and Literature*. In *BMCR* 2020.09.04.

Lectures & Presentations

- Invited Talks “Milk of Immortality: Dionysiac Mysteries and Poetic Tradition.” Dept. of Classics, Hillsdale College (8 Apr. 2021)
“Choose Your Relatives: Human-Divine Kinship in Orphic Tradition.” Conference: “Orphic Writings, Ideas and Rituals: New Perspectives in Old Questions.” Dept. of Philology, Univ. of Ioannina (3 Apr. 2021; remote)
- Papers (selected) “‘Lovely Ephesian Letters’: Late Classical Amulets and the Aesthetics of Little Things.” Virtual SCS/AIA; SAMR Panel: “The Religion of Little Things: Small Finds and Big Ideas” (7 Jan. 2021; remote)
“The Dirt on Hector: Homicide Pollution in the *Iliad*.” Virtual CAMWS (26 May 2020; remote)
“Who is *Mnēmosynē* in the Orphic Lamellae?” Crete/Patras Ancient Emotions Conference III: “Memory and Emotions in Antiquity.” Rethymno, Greece (8 Dec. 2019)
“Orphic ‘Bookishness’ and Material Religion in Classical Greece.” SBL/AAR, Denver; SAMR Panel: “Ritual Matters: Materiality in Ancient Religion” (19 Nov. 2018)
“Performing Immortality: Epigram and the Orphic Lamellae.” SCS/AIA, Toronto (8 Jan. 2017)
“The Music of Orphic Poetry?” Conference: “Poetic Philosophers and Philosophical Poets: The Relationship between Philosophy and Poetry in the Ancient World,” Univ. of Notre Dame (8 Oct. 2016)
“A Herodotus Papyrus (ii.132-134).” Berkeley-Oxford Papyrology Conference, Center for the Tebtunis Papyri, UC Berkeley (16 Sept. 2014)
- Respondent “The Legacy of Roman Law: A Conference in Honor of Louis A. Mangone.” Univ. of Miami (23-4 Jan. 2020)

Teaching Experience

Hillsdale College (starting Fall 2021)

Latin 101: Beginning Latin (Fall 2021)

Latin 321: Introduction to Vergil’s *Aeneid* (Fall 2021)

Classics 301: Greek Civilization (Fall 2021)

University of Miami (Spring 2019-Spring 2021)

Greek 103: Intensive Greek (Classical & New Testament) (Spring 2021)

Greek 201: Intermediate Greek (Spring & Fall 2020; combined w/ GRE 411 & 321)

Greek 311: Plato’s *Phaedrus* (Fall 2019)

Greek 321: Euripides’ *Bacchae* (Fall 2020)

Greek 411: Homer’s *Iliad* (Spring 2020)

Latin 101: Elementary Latin (Spring 2021)

Latin 202: Intermediate Latin (Fall 2020; combined w/ LAT 411)

Latin 411: Horace (Fall 2020)

Classics 210: Greek and Latin Roots of English (4x; Spring 2019-Fall 2020)

Classics 211: Medical Terminology (3x; Spring 2019, Spring 2020, Spring 2021)

Classics 303: The Roman Republic (Spring 2019)
Classics 370: Self and Other in the Ancient World (“History of the Soul”) (Fall 2019)

UC Berkeley (Fall 2013-Fall 2018)

Greek 10: Intensive Elementary Greek (Spring 2016)
Greek 15: The Greek Workshop (Summer 2015)
Latin 1: Elementary Latin (Fall 2013)
Latin 10: Intensive Elementary Latin (Fall 2014)
Classics 10A: Introduction to Greek Civilization (TA for M. Griffith; Fall 2016)
Classics 28: The Greek Myths (TA for S. Schein; Spring 2014)
Classics 36: Greek Philosophy (TA for S. Magrin; Fall 2015)
Classics 44: Roots of Western Civ. (writing course; TA for G. Ferrari & T. Murphy; Fall 2018)

Academic Service & Memberships

Departmental Service

2019-21: Greek/Latin Table (sight-translation group), Univ. of Miami
2016-17: Advisory Committee, UC Berkeley Aleshire Center for the Study of Greek Epigraphy
2016: Assistant Student Organizer, Second North American Congress of Greek and Latin Epigraphy (NACGLE2), UC Berkeley
2015-17: Co-organizer, Classics/AHMA Graduate Colloquium, UC Berkeley

Professional Service

Journal referee: *Classical Antiquity*

Memberships (selected)

American Academy of Religion (AAR)
American Society for Greek and Latin Epigraphy (ASGLE)
Archaeological Institute of America (AIA)
Classical Association of the Middle West and South (CAMWS)
Society for Ancient Mediterranean Religions (SAMR)
Society of Biblical Literature (SBL)
Society for Classical Studies (SCS)

Languages

Ancient: Greek, Latin

Modern (reading): German, French, Italian

References

A full list of references is available upon request.