

C. Benjamin Watson

Associate Professor and Chair / Department of Classics and Letters
University of Oklahoma / Norman, OK 73019
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EDUCATION

University of Oxford , Oriel College Doctor of Philosophy , Classical Literature and Language	2006–2013
University of Oxford , Keble College Master of Studies , Greek and Latin Language and Literature	2003–2004
Harvard University A.B. in the Classics , Greek and Latin Literature, <i>magna cum laude</i> Language Citation in Modern Italian	1999–2003

WORK EXPERIENCE

Chair and Associate Professor of Classics and Letters , University of Oklahoma	2024– present
Associate Professor of Classics and Letters , University of Oklahoma	2021– 2024
Assistant Professor of Classics and Letters , University of Oklahoma	2014–2021
Visiting Assistant Professor of Classics , Lawrence University	2012–2014
Stipendiary Lecturer in Classics , St Hilda’s College, Oxford	2011–2012
College Lecturer in Classics , St Hilda’s College, Oxford	2010–2012
College Lecturer in Classics , Oriel College, Oxford	2010–2011

PUBLICATIONS

- M. Tulli Ciceronis Orationes in Verrem*. Oxford Classical Texts. Oxford University Press. (*Solicited proposal currently under review*)
- ‘The textual transmission of Cicero’s *De senectute*’ for *The Oxford Guide to the Transmission of the Latin Classics*. Oxford University Press. (*in press*)
- ‘The textual transmission of Symmachus’ for *The Oxford Guide to the Transmission of the Latin Classics*. Oxford University Press. (*in press*)
- Cicero: Divinatio in Q. Caecilium. Text, Introduction, and Commentary*. (2025) Cambridge Classical Texts and Commentaries. Cambridge University Press.
- ‘Aurelius Cotta on Trial, Again?’ (2019) *Hermes Zeitschrift für Klassische Philologie* 147: 245–51.
- ‘*Laronia Declamans*’ (2018) *Rheinisches Museum für Philologie* 161: 57–73.

‘Review of Gunderson, E. ed. (2009) *The Cambridge Companion to Ancient Rhetoric* (Cambridge)’
(2012) *Classical Review* 63.1: 46–48.

‘Review of Ippolito, A. (2006) *Marii Victorini: Explanationes in Ciceronis Rhetoricam* (Turnhout)’
(2008). *Classical Review* 58.1: 172–73.

FELLOWSHIPS & PRIZES

Joseph F. Paxton Presidential Professor, University of Oklahoma	2022–present
Newman Seminar in Numismatics, American Numismatic Society	2022
Faculty Fellow of Dunham College, University of Oklahoma	2016–2024
Junior Faculty Fellowship, College of Arts & Sciences, Univ. of Oklahoma	2015–2016
Visiting Researcher, Smyth Classical Library, Harvard University	2008
Visiting Researcher, <i>Fondation Hardt pour l’étude de l’Antiquité classique</i>	2008
Graduate Studentship, Oriel College, Oxford	2007–2011
Clarendon Scholarship, University of Oxford	2006–2012
Corey Fellowship for Graduate Classical Studies, Harvard Fellowship	2003–2004
Harvard Latin Orator	2003
David Clark Taggart Prize (Harvard prize for Latin composition)	2002
Charles Eliot Norton Fellowship, ASCSA	2002
American School of Classical Studies at Athens	2001

PRESENTATIONS

‘A New Commentary on Cicero’s *Divinatio in Caecilium*’ (Invited Lecture, University of Virginia, April 2023)

‘The Agonis Affair’ (Classical Association of the Midwest and South Annual Meeting, University of New Mexico, 2018)

‘Laronia Declamans’ (Classical Association of the Midwest and South Annual Meeting, University of Waterloo, 2017)

‘Coriolanus in the House of Mirrors’ (Presidential Dream Course, University of Oklahoma, 2017)

‘Making (Up) History: The Federalist Papers and the Amphictyonic League’ (The Freedom 101 Series at the Institute for the American Constitutional Heritage, University of Oklahoma, 2016)

‘Octavian to Augustus,’ ‘The Two Sides of Nero,’ and ‘Vespasian, The People’s *Imperator*’ (Short videos for *Immortales: The Hall of Emperors of the Capitoline Museums, Rome* at the Fred Jones, Jr. Museum of Art, University of Oklahoma, 2015)

‘Strategic Ambiguity: Polysemy and Persuasion in Cicero,’ (Classical Association of the Midwest and South Annual Meeting, University of Colorado Boulder, 2015)

‘Cicero and the Art of Doublespeak,’ (University of Oklahoma, 2014)

‘The Juror as Another: Strategic Ambiguity and Narrative Self-Identity in Cicero’s Speeches,’ (Invited Talk, University of Exeter, 2012).

- ‘Crossing Boundaries: *Pudicitia*, Women, and Sexuality in the Roman Narrative of Decline,’ (Invited Talk, Oxford Seminar Series, 2009).
- ‘Cicero’s *Divinatio in Caecilius*,’ (Invited Talk, Commentary Writers’ Workshop, Georgetown University, 2009).
- ‘Continuity and Change: Metamorphosis and Psychology in Cicero’s Defence of Marcus Caelius Rufus,’ (The Europaeum Classics Colloquium, University of Bologna, 2008).
- ‘Plausible Justification: Rhetorical Strategies in the Politicised Roman Court,’ (OIKOS Conference, Leiden, May 2007).
- ‘Tacitus Annals I: Method in Madness,’ (Invited Talk, University of Nottingham, November 2007).

SERVICE

Chair, Department of Classics & Letters, University of Oklahoma	2024–present
National Placement Director, American Classical League	2024–present
Chief Organizer and Chair, OU Classics Day, University of Oklahoma	2023–present
Head, Classical Languages & Literature Sub-faculty, Univ. of Oklahoma	2023–2024
Chair, Lionel Pearson Scholarship Committee, Society for Classical Studies	2023–2024
Committee A, Department of Classics, University of Oklahoma	2021–2023
Lionel Pearson Scholarship Committee, Society for Classical Studies	2021–2024
Nominations Committee, American Classical League	2021–2022
Editor, Oklahoma Series in Classical Culture, OU Press	2021–present
Review Committee, Office of Research Services, University of Oklahoma	2021
Reviewer, National Endowment for the Humanities	2019–present
Academic Program Review, University of Oklahoma	2019–2019
Organizer of the Inaugural Rader Distinguished Lecture in Classics	2016
NLE New Latin Educators Scholarship Committee	2015–2020
Colloquium Committee, Department of Classics, University of Oklahoma	2015–2024
Curriculum Committee, Department of Classics, University of Oklahoma	2015–2024
Chair	2022–2024
American Classical League Constitution and Governance Committee	2015–2017

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Classical League
 American Institute of Archaeology
 American Numismatic Society
 American Society of Greek and Latin Epigraphy
Association Internationale pour l'Épigraphie Grecque et Latine
 The Society for Classical Studies
 The Roman Society (UK)
 The Classical Association of the Middle West and South
 International Society for the History of Rhetoric