

EMILY P. AUSTIN

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INTERESTS

Homer, especially characterization and emotions in the *Iliad*; Greek literature; emotions in the ancient world; conceptions of solitude; Greek and Latin grammar; classical tradition

EMPLOYMENT

The University of Chicago

Associate Professor, Department of Classics and the College (2024–present)

Assistant Professor, Department of Classics and the College (2016–2024)

Brooklyn College (2010–2011)

Adjunct Instructor, Department of Classics

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Classical Studies, Boston University (2016)

Dissertation: “Grief, Longing, and Anger: A Study of Emotions in the *Iliad*”

Teaching Writing Certificate, Boston University (2014)

B.A., Classical Studies: Greek, *summa cum laude*, Classical Studies, University of Dallas (2006)

Thesis: “Meaning Amidst Formula: A Study of the Epithets of Odysseus in the *Odyssey*”

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Solitude and its Powers in Ancient Greece (in preparation; advance contract with Princeton University Press).

Grief and the Hero: The Futility of Longing in the Iliad. 2021. University of Michigan Press.

Articles

“The Use of Uselessness in the *Homeric Hymn to Demeter*” (in progress).

“The Other *Iliad*: Inversion and Likeness on the Battlefield.” 2022. *Classical Journal* 117.4: 375–402.

“Achilles’ Desire for Lament: Variations on a Theme.” 2020. *Classical World* 114.1: 1–23.

“Grief as *ποθή*: Understanding the Anger of Achilles.” 2015. *New England Classical Journal* 42.3: 147–163.

Book Chapters

- “Sarpedon and Glaukos Revisited: an Ally’s Perspective.” For Conference Proceedings of *Allies of Troy: The Concept of the Ally in Ancient Greek Culture Conference*, Institute of Classical Studies, London. In preparation.
- “Heroism in the Middle in Sophocles’ *Philoctetes*.” 2024. In *The Spirit of Aristophanes: Essays in Honor of Jeffrey Henderson*, eds. Dustin Dixon and Mary English. 76–89. Edinburgh University Press.
- “Book 12.” 2024. In *The Oxford Critical Guide to Homer’s Iliad*, ed. Jonathan Ready. 143–151. Oxford University Press.

Book Reviews

- Myers, T. *Homer’s Divine Audience: the Iliad’s Reception on Mount Olympus* (Oxford 2019)
Journal of Hellenic Studies 143 (November 2023)
- Loney, A. *The Ethics of Revenge and the Meanings of the Odyssey* (Oxford 2019)
American Journal of Philology 143.3 (October 2022)
- Zanker, A. *Metaphor in Homer: Time, Speech, and Thought* (Cambridge 2019)
Bryn Mawr Classical Review 2020.08.18
- Alden, M. *Para-Narratives in the “Odyssey”: Stories in the Frame* (Oxford 2017)
Classical Philology 114.4 (October 2019)

Essays et al.

- “The *Iliad*: A Meditation on Loss and Vengeance.” 2023. In *A Life Well-Lived: A Student Guide to an Education of the Whole Person* (University of Dallas, internal publication): 20–23.
- “Why War Poetry? Perspectives from the *Iliad*.” 2021. *Consequence* 13 (Poetry Feature Section, “What is War Poetry? A Focus on the *Iliad*”): 58–62.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

- “Sarpedon and Glaukos Revisited: an Ally’s Perspective” (December 2023)
Allies of Troy: The Concept of the Ally in Ancient Greek Culture Conference, Institute of Classical Studies, London
- “The *Kleos* of Solitude in Sophocles’ *Philoctetes*” (January 2021)
Society of Classical Studies Annual Meeting
- “Achilles’ Desire for Lament: Variations on a Theme” (March 2019)
Orality and Literacy XIII Conference, University of Texas at Austin
- “Classics, the Liberal Arts, and Receptivity” (April 2017)
Association of Core Texts and Courses 23rd Annual Conference
- “Healing through Story and Song? A Study of Odysseus with the Phaiakians” (April 2016)
Graduate Center, CUNY, New York

“Grief as *Pothos*: Understanding the Anger of Achilles” (March 2014)
Classical Association of New England

INVITED LECTURES

- “The Power of Solitude in Sophocles’ *Philoctetes*”
St. John’s College, Annapolis (March 2025)
- “The Iliad as ‘Reverse Simile:’ the Great Day of Battle”
University of Chicago, Greece and Rome Core Sequence Lecture (October 2024)
- “Solitude and Self-Knowledge in the *Odyssey*”
Wheaton College (October 2024)
University of Dallas (March 2024)
- “Literary Traditions and the Pursuit of Truth: a Culture of Humility”
Lumen Christi Institute, Catholic Culture Series (October 2024)
- “Homer’s Odyssey: Solitude, Identity, Homecoming”
College Advisory Council Athens Retreat (April 2024)
- “Demeter’s Withdrawal: The Power of Sitting Still”
University of Iowa (March 2024)
- “Grief and Anger in the *Iliad*”
University of Vermont (October 2023)
- “Core Emotions in Conflict: An Examination through the Eyes of Homer”
Advanced Judicial Academy for Illinois Judges, University of Chicago (August 2023)
- “Ancient and Modern Grief: Presence and Absence” (co-speaker)
O’Donovan Humanities Lecture, Oakcrest School, Vienna, Virginia (March 2022)
- “Heroic Solitude in Sophocles’ *Philoctetes*”
University of Holy Cross, Worcester, Massachusetts (March 2022, March 2021)
- “The Other *Iliad*: Narrative Reversals and the Human Condition”
University of Dallas (Oct 2019)
Rhetoric and Poetics Workshop, University of Chicago (Oct 2019)
Franciscan University of Steubenville (Feb 2019)
- “Futility and Longing in the Grief of Achilles”
University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana (Sept 2019)
Beloit College, Beloit, Wisconsin (April 2018)
- “Why Classics? Reception and Receptivity”
Grinnell College, Iowa (April 2019)
- “‘Deeds of Balanced Vengeance’ and the End of the *Iliad*”
St. John’s College, Santa Fe (Oct 2018)
- “Satiety, Contentment, and Delight: Vengeance and Mourning at the End of the *Iliad*”

- University of Chicago, Human Being and Citizen Core Sequence Lecture (Oct 2018)
“Does Homer endorse Revenge? ‘Deeds of Balanced Vengeance’ and the End of the *Iliad*”
Lawrence University, Appleton, Wisconsin (Sept 2018)
“Pleasure in Grief? The Desire for Weeping in the *Iliad*”
Chicago Cultural Center, University of Chicago Works of the Mind Series (Jan 2018)
“On Grief in Homer”
University of Chicago, Franke Institute (November 2016)
“Grief and the Hero: A New Look at Hektor and Achilles”
Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio (October 2016)

CONFERENCE PANELS and WORKSHOPS

- Respondent for Leanna Boychenko: “An Anecdote About Ptolemy III: Reconsidering Euphantus FHG III 19 in light of the *Odyssey* and Callimachus’ *Hymn to Artemis*,” Chicago Region Workshop for Junior and Mid-Career Faculty in Classics (May 2024)
Panel Chair, SCS Panel: “Hesiod,” Chicago (Jan 2024)
Presenter: “The Use of Uselessness in the *Homeric Hymn to Demeter* and the *Iliad*”
Chicago Region Workshop for Junior Faculty in Classics, Loyola University (Nov 2022)
Panel Chair: “Limning the *Iliad*,” at “The Line and the Turn: Readings of Greek Poetry in honor of Seth Schein” Conference, University of Chicago (May 2022)
Co-organizer, Chicago Region Workshop for Junior Faculty in Classics
University of Chicago (May 2022, Nov 2018)
Wheaton College (April 2018)
Presenter: “Solitary Power in the *Iliad* and the *Homeric Hymn to Demeter*”
Chicago Region Workshop for Junior Faculty in Classics, University of Chicago (May 2022)
Respondent for Leanna Boychenko: “Daughters of the Sun: Apollonius Rhodius’ Medea and the Egyptian Eye of Re,” Chicago Region Workshop for Junior Faculty in Classics (May 2022)
Respondent for Seth Estrin, “Between Pity and Rage: Constructing Emotion in Archaic Funerary Sculpture,” Affect and the Emotions Workshop, University of Chicago (May 2022)
Respondent for Srikanth (Chicu) Reddy, “Wonder: A Syzygy,” Affect and the Emotions Workshop, University of Chicago (Oct 2021)
Presenter: “The Heroic Solitude of Sophocles’ *Philoctetes*”
Chicago Region Workshop for Junior Faculty in Classics, Indiana University (May 2021)
Affect and the Emotions Workshop, University of Chicago (Feb 2021)
Respondent: Faculty Book Event on *Grief and the Hero*, at the Rhetoric and Poetics Workshop, University of Chicago (April 2021)
Co-organizer, SCS Panel: “The Powers and Perils of Solitude in Greek Literature” (online, Jan 2021)

Presenter: “The Other *Iliad*: Narrative Reversals and the Human Condition,” at the Chicago Region Workshop for Junior Faculty in Classics, Northwestern University (May 2019)

Respondent for Will Brockliss: “Other Materialisms: Human and Nonhuman in Martial Elegy,” at the Chicago Region Workshop for Junior Faculty in Classics, University of Chicago (Nov 2018)

FELLOWSHIPS and GRANTS

Franke Institute for the Humanities Faculty Fellow (2019–2020)

Rosemoor Continuing Scholars’ Grant (2014–2016)

Summer Research Grant, Fund for Hellenic Studies, Boston University (2013)

Graduate Writing Fellow, Boston University (2012–2013)

Teaching Fellow, Department of Classical Studies, Boston University (2007–2010)

Presidential University Grant Fellow, Department of Classical Studies, Boston University (2006–07)

AWARDS

Boston University Center for the Humanities, The Edwin S. and Ruth M. White Prize, and the Angela J. and James J. Rallis Memorial Award (2014)

Outstanding Teaching Fellow Award, Department of Classical Studies, Boston University (2009–10)

Fr. Placid Award for exceptional achievement in Classics, University of Dallas (2006)

Phi Beta Kappa, Eta Chapter of Texas (2005)

COURSES

University of Chicago

- Homer’s *Odyssey*: Homecomings (Autumn 2024)
- Graduate Research Seminar: Readings of Homer (Autumn 2023–Winter 2024)
- Senior Seminar (Classics; Autumn 2023–Winter 2024)
- Englished Homer (Spring 2023)
- Solitude in the Ancient Greek World (Winter 2022)
- Greek Epic: Allies in the *Iliad* (Autumn 2021)
- Hellenistic Poetry (Autumn 2020)
- Greek Epic: Reverse Similes and *Iliad* 15–17 (Winter 2019)
- Greek Prose Composition (Spring 2018)
- Greek Comedy: Menander (Autumn 2017)
- Intermediate Greek: Homer’s *Iliad* (Spring 2024, 2023, 2018), Sophocles’ *Philoctetes* (Winter 2017)
- Intermediate Latin: Ovid’s *Heroides* (Winter 2023, 2019), Vergil’s *Aeneid* (Spring 2017)
- Poetry and the Human (Autumn 2024, 2022, 2018, 2017)

- Greece and Rome: Texts, Traditions, Transformations (Autumn 2024, 2023, 2020, 2018; Winter 2022, 2021, 2017)
- Introduction to Attic Greek (Autumn 2021, Winter 2021)

Boston University

- Writing and Research Seminar: Concepts of Heroism in Ancient Epic (Spring 2013)
- Freshman Writing Seminar: Concepts of Heroism in Ancient Epic (Fall 2012)
- Beginning Latin 2 (Summer 2011, Spring 2010, Summer 2007)
- Teaching Assistant, Classical Civilization: Rome (Fall 2009), Greece (Spring and Fall 2008)
- Teaching Assistant, Roman History (Spring 2009), Greek History (Fall 2007)

Brooklyn College, The City University of New York

- Classical Cultures Discussant (responsible for half of course load) (Fall 2010–Spring 2011)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES, SERVICE, and OUTREACH

Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of Classics (2025–present, 2023–2024)

Graduate Examination Committee Member, Department of Classics (2024–present, 2017–2019)

Member of (ad hoc) Classics Department Graduate Examinations Review Committee: Classical Languages and Literatures subcommittee (2025)

Book Review Editor, *Classical Philology* (2021–2024)

Member of Lecture Committee, Department of Classics (2023–2024)

Chair of Classics Undergraduate Program Review Committee (2022–2023)

Faculty Co-Sponsor of the Affect and Emotions Workshop (2020–2023)

Faculty Co-Sponsor of the Rhetoric and Poetics Workshop (2021–2022, 2017–2019)

Graduate Admissions Committee Member, Department of Classics (2021–2022, 2017–2018)

Member of Search Committee for Postdoctoral Researcher, Classics Department (Dec 2021)

Presenter, Faculty Panel at the Business Meeting of the Humanities Advisory Council (April 2021)

Member of the Dissertation Completion Fellowship Committee, Humanities Division (2021)

Graduate Fellowships Committee Member, Department of Classics (2021)

Member of the College Council (2017–2020)

Chair of the *Greece and Rome: Texts, Traditions, Transformations* Core Sequence (2018–2019)

Member of the (ad hoc) College Academic Honors Review Committee (2018–2019)

Member of Search Committee for Classics Full-time Latin and Ancient Greek Language Lecturer (2017–2018)

Member of Search Committee for Lecturer, Humanities Core Division (Summer 2018)

PhD Advisor:

- Arshy Azizi: “Redeeming the Recessive Hero: Patroklos and the Poetics of the *Iliad*”

PhD Dissertation Committee Member:

- Rebecca Posner-Hess: “Transparent Bodies: Actor and Character in Greek Tragic Performance”
- Benjamin Yates: “Corpsely Life in Homer and Sophocles”
- David Delbar: “Queer and Marginalized Masculinities in Homer”
- Christina Filippaki: “Fictionality and Worldbuilding in Euripides’ *Atreidai* Plays,” defended May 2024
- Rebekah Spearman: “Adoption and Alterity in Pindar,” defended February 2021
- Natalie Trevino: “Inspiration and Narrative in the Homeric Odyssey,” defended Dec 2018

MAPH (Master of Arts Program in the Humanities) Thesis Advisor:

- Sydney Venzler: “Odysseus the Storyteller: The Power of Lying in Shaping Reality,” 2022
- Chenxi Zhang: “Re-reading the Sibling Recognition in Aeschylus’ *Choephoroi* and Sophocles’ *Elektra*,” 2021

BA Thesis Advisor:

- Teddy Chung: “The Funeral Games in Homer’s *Iliad* and Vergil’s *Aeneid*: Leveraging *Kleos* for the Individual and the Nation,” 2023
- Gibson Morris: “Memiškeuwan Dāiš: The Narrative Role of the Sun God in the *Iliad* and *Tale of Appu*,” 2022
- Alfredo Fee: “Tithonus in Bloom,” 2018
- Rachel Taub: “The Singing of Past Renown: the Song of the Sirens and Transformations of Κλέος in the Odyssey,” 2018

Faculty Mentor:

- Isabella Spangnolo, PhD Program in Classics (2023–present)
- Jimmy White, PhD Program in Classics (2019–2023)

Associate Editor, *Classical Philology* (2016–present)

Interview for The Ozymandias Project: An Ancient World Podcast (May 2021)

Mouse Book Club Podcast on the *Odyssey* (Jan 2021), on the *Iliad* (Dec 2020)

Poetry and the Human Core Sequence, Conversations: Introduction to Homer (Sept 2020)

Guest Teaching: University of Notre Dame (September 18, 2019); Grinnell College (April 16, 2019); Lawrence University (September 28, 2018); Massachusetts Junior Classical League (December 6, 2013; January 15, 2009); Montrose School, Medfield, MA (January 29, 2014)