

JAMES KER

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AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Imperial Latin literature
Roman cultural history
Ancient philosophy

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Classics, University of California, Berkeley, 2002
M.A. in Greek, University of California, Berkeley, 1996
B.A. (Hons.) in Classics, University of Canterbury, New Zealand, 1994

EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor of Classical Studies, University of Pennsylvania, 2004-
Assistant Professor of the Classics, Harvard University, 2002-4
Teaching Assistant in the Department of Classics, University of California, Berkeley,
1996-2001

HONORS AND AWARDS

Loeb and Clark Funds, Faculty Research Grants, Harvard University, 2002-4
Chancellor's Dissertation Year Fellowship, University of California at Berkeley, 2001-2
University Predoctoral Humanities Fellowship, University of California at Berkeley,
1995-2001
Outstanding GSI Teaching Award, University of California at Berkeley, 1998-9

PUBLICATIONS

• book in progress:

The Deaths of Seneca

• articles and chapters:

“Solon’s *Theōria* and the End of the City”, *Classical Antiquity* 19 (2000) 304-329

“Nocturnal Writers in Imperial Rome: The culture of *lucubratio*”, *Classical Philology* 99
(2004) 209-42

• articles and chapters forthcoming:

“Roman *Repraesentatio*”, *American Journal of Philology* 128.3 (2007)

- “Seneca on Self-Examination: Rereading *De ira* 3.36”, in *Seneca and the Self*, eds. S. Bartsch and D. Wray
- “Seneca, Man of Many Genres”, in *New Directions in Seneca Studies*, eds. K. Volk and G. D. Williams
- “Outside and Inside: Senecan Strategies”, in *Writing Politics*, eds. J. Garthwaite and W. Dominik (Leiden)

• reviews:

- J. Henderson, *Morals and Villas in Seneca’s Letters*, in *Classical Review* 2005 (55) 143-145
- G. D. Williams, *Seneca. De otio, De brevitae vitae*, in *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2003.08.07
- P. Hadot, *The Inner Citadel: The Meditations of Marcus Aurelius*, in *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 38 (2000) 116-18

• translations:

- J.-P. Vernant, “Odysseus in Person”, *Representations* 67 (1999) 1-26

• articles and chapters in progress:

- “Waiting to be Roman: The rhythm of the *nundinae*”

SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

• invited:

- “Death and Authorship in Neronian Rome”, Wellesley College, April 2006
- Respondent, Robert A. Kaster, “Self-aggrandizement and praise of others in Cicero”, Ancient History Colloquium of the Atlantic States meeting, March 2006
- “Seneca’s Dying Gift”, Temple University, November 2005
- “Waiting to be Roman: The rhythm of the *nundinae*”, Princeton University, November 2004
- “Reflexes of Imperial Time”, conference on “Temporalities” in Greek and Roman culture, Department of Classics, UCLA, April 2004
- “Seneca’s Genres”, symposium on “New Directions in Seneca Studies”, Center for the Ancient Mediterranean, Columbia University, February 2004
- “Time and Narrative in Seneca’s *Epistulae Morales*”, Amherst College, October 2003
- Roundtable discussant, “Seneca and the Self” conference, University of Chicago, April 2003

• other:

- “Timescapes of Seneca’s *Epistulae Morales ad Lucilium*”, APA meeting, Philadelphia, Jan. 2002
- “Reading Trimalchio’s Calendar”, British Classical Association meeting, Bristol, April 2000
- “The Antipodes in Seneca”, UC Berkeley Heller Conference “Mortal Boundaries: A colloquium on the Senecan corpus”, Nov. 1998
- “*Theôria*: Foreign travel and the archaic construction of wisdom”, Cultural Poetics panel, APA meeting, Chicago, Dec. 1997

“The Day as a Unit of Philosophical Practice in Seneca’s Letters”, Greek and Roman Philosophy panel, APA meeting, New York, Dec. 1996

COURSES OFFERED

• University of Pennsylvania:

Seneca (graduate seminar), 2006

Latin Narrative Techniques (postbaccalaureate seminar), 2006

Elementary Latin II, 2006

The Roman Exemplary Tradition (graduate seminar), 2005

Elementary Latin I, 2005

Intermediate Latin Prose, 2005

Forms of Latin Prose (graduate survey), 2005, 2006

Herodotus, *Histories*, 2005

Petronius, *Satyricon*, 2004

Nero and the Roman Imagination (undergraduate seminar), 2004, 2006

• Harvard University:

History of Roman Culture, 2004

Space, Time, and Power in Imperial Rome (graduate seminar), 2003

Advanced Latin Prose Composition, 2003

History of Latin Literature, II, 2003, 2004

Neronian Literature and Culture, 2002

Horace and Seneca, *Epistles*, 2002

• University of California, Berkeley:

Berkeley Latin Workshop, director, 2000

Latin Prose Composition, instructor, 1999

Berkeley Greek Workshop, instructor, 1999

Second Semester Latin, instructor, 1998

Berkeley Latin Workshop, instructor, 1997

Introduction to Greek Civilization, teaching assistant, 1997

• University of Canterbury:

Intensive Greek Summer School, instructor, 1995

Introductory Greek, instructor, 1995

Greek and Roman Drama, teaching assistant, 1994

Greek History, teaching assistant, 1993

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA SUPERVISIONS

Josiah Davis, Ph.D. dissertation on Praeneste and Latin literature, reader, 2006-

Roshan Abraham, graduate independent study on Apuleius (spring, 2006)

Katherine Milne, graduate independent study on Roman historiography (spring, 2006)

Kelly Sloane, undergraduate independent study on ancient philosophy (spring, 2006)

Jessica Shore, undergraduate thesis on Pompeii (2005-6)

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA GRADUATE GROUPS

Classical Studies, 2004-
Ancient History, 2005-

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA SERVICE

Department of Classical Studies Latin Program, supervision and development 2004-

SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

Member, American Philological Association, 1995-

Referee, *Classical Philology*; *American Journal of Philology*; *Harvard Studies in
Classical Philology*; *Classical Antiquity*; *Classical Journal*

ORGANIZING ACTIVITIES

Co-organizer, NE Corridor Latin colloquium (involving students and faculty from
Princeton, Penn, Rutgers, and Columbia): “Phaedrus” (April, 2006); “Cicero’s
Openings” (April, 2005)

Co-organizer, “Nocturnal Greece and Rome” panel, APA annual meeting, Boston, Jan.
2005

Co-organizer, “Mortal Boundaries: A colloquium on the Senecan corpus”, University of
California, Berkeley, Nov. 1998