

Kirsten Day
Professor of Classics
Augustana College
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EDUCATION

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas

PhD in Comparative Literature: Classics, 2008; MA in Comparative Literature: Classics, 1999

American School of Classical Studies at Athens, Athens, Greece

Regular Member, 2003-04

College Year in Athens, Athens, Greece

NDS Post-Baccalaureate Student, 1993-94

Rice University, Houston, Texas

BA in Ancient Mediterranean Civilizations, 1991; BA in Art and Art History, 1991

DISSERTATION:

"Bitch That I Am!" An Examination of Women's Self-Deprecation in Homer and Virgil

Director: Dr. David Fredrick

TEACHING & RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Greek and Latin epic
- Women in classical antiquity
- Representations of classical antiquity in television and film
- Teaching classics in prison

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Augustana College, Rock Island, IL. Instructor 2007-08; Assistant Professor, 2008-13; Associate

Professor 2013-2021; Professor 2021-present; Chair 2015-2026: courses in the Classics

Department, Women and Gender Studies Program, General Education Program, and (2022-present) Augustana Prison Education Program

CommUniversity, Davenport, IA. Instructor. Feb. 2015: course on Greek Mythology in Art, Ritual, & Literature

Creighton University, Omaha, NE. Visiting Instructor, Fall 2006-Spring 2007: courses in the Classical and Near Eastern Studies Department and the English Department

Cannon School, Concord, NC. Teacher, Fall 2005-Spring 2006: courses in the Department of Foreign Languages, the English Department, and the Religion Department

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR. Graduate Assistant, Fall 1997-Spring 2005; Lecturer, Summer 2006: courses in the Department of Foreign Languages and the English Department

University of Arkansas' Pre-College Programs, Fayetteville, AR. Instructor, Summers of 1998-2005: courses in the Upward Bound, REAL (Realizing Educational Aspirations for Latinos), Academy for Mathematics & Sciences, and YOU (Youth Opportunities Unlimited) programs

AWARDS INCLUDE

Classical Association of the Middle West and South Award for Excellence in College Teaching, 2025
 Augustana College Faculty Research Fund Grant, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2019, 2021
 Augustana College Scandinavian Studies Program Wallenberg Faculty Grant, 2018, 2022
 Augustana College Presidential Research Award, 2014-15
 Augustana College Freistat Grant for Participation in an International Conference, 2015 and 2026
 Augustana College Connections Grant Course Redesign or Course Creation Award, 2014 and 2015
 Augustana College New Faculty Research Award, 2008, 2009, 2010
 ASCSA Oscar Broneer Travel Award for research in Italy, 2004
 James J. Hudson Doctoral Fellowship in the Humanities, 2004
 American School of Classical Studies at Athens School Fellowship, 2003-04
 Fulbright College Dissertation Research Award, 2003

SELECT PUBLICATIONS

“Classics and the Incarcerated.” *Classical Outlook* 99.4, December 2024.
 “Oedipal Anxieties in HBO’s *Westworld*.” *Antiquity Now: The Ancient Classical World on Television*, special issue of *Journal of Popular Film and Television*, edited by Sylvie Magerstädt and Monica S. Cyrino: April 2023. 18-28.
 “Classical Allusions in Western Film.” *The Good, the Bad, and the Ancient*. Sue Matheson, ed. MacFarland Press: 2022. 17-36.
 “Pussy Politics: Women and Power in the Homeric Patriarchy.” *Screening Love and War in Troy: Fall of a City*. Monica S. Cyrino and Antony Augoustakis, eds. Bloomsbury: Jan. 2022.
 “Looking a Gift Horse in the Mouth: Helen of Troy and the Trojan Horse.” *Ancient Epic in Film and Television*. Hunter H. Gardner and Amana Potter, eds. Edinburgh University Press: Oct. 2021.
 “‘All That Glitters...’: Problematizing Golden Age Narratives in Virgil’s *Aeneid* and Western Film.” *Golden Ages of Classical Antiquity on Screen*. Meredith Safran, ed. Edinburgh University Press: 2019. 157-74.
Cowboy Classics: The Roots of the American Western in the Epic Tradition. Monica Cyrino and Lloyd Llewellyn-Jones, series eds. Edinburgh University Press: 2016.
 “Windows and Mirrors: Illuminating the Invisible Women of Rome.” *Rome Season Two: Trial and Triumph*, Monica S. Cyrino, ed. Edinburgh University Press: 2015. 141-154.
 Guest co-editor. *Dialogue: The Interdisciplinary Journal of Popular Culture and Pedagogy* 1.1 (journaldialogue.org): 2014.
 “‘καλὸν ἀνθρωπίνου βίου κάτοπτρον’: Popular Culture as a Pedagogical Lens on Greco-Roman Antiquity” (with Benjamin Haller). *Dialogue: The Interdisciplinary Journal of Popular Culture and Pedagogy* 1.1: 2014.
 “Experiments in Love: Longus’ *Daphnis and Chloe* and Henry de Vere Stacpoole’s *The Blue Lagoon*.” *Dialogue: The Interdisciplinary Journal of Popular Culture and Pedagogy* 1.1: 2014.
 “Representing Olympias: The Politics of Gender in Cinematic Treatments of Alexander the Great.” *Ancient Greek Women in Film*, Konstantinos P. Nikoloutsos, ed. Oxford UP: 2013. 279-304.
 “Soul Fuck: Possession of the Female Body in Antiquity and in Cinema.” *Screening Love and Sex in the Ancient World*, Monica S. Cyrino, ed. Palgrave MacMillan: 2013. 85-98.
 “Classics Rewritten in Stone: The Art of Anita Huffington.” *Amphora*: Spring 2010. 1, 12-13, 22.
 Guest editor. *Celluloid Classics: New Perspectives on Classical Antiquity in Modern Cinema* (= *Arethusa* 41.1): Winter 2008.
 Introduction to *Celluloid Classics: New Perspectives on Classical Antiquity in Modern Cinema* (= *Arethusa* 41.1): Winter 2008. 1-9.
 “‘What Makes a Man to Wander?’: *The Searchers* as a Western *Odyssey*.” *Celluloid Classics: New Perspectives on Classical Antiquity in Modern Cinema* (= *Arethusa* 41.1). Winter 2008. 11-49.

SELECT CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

Area Chair: “Classical Representations in Popular Culture” sessions: Southwest Popular and American Culture Association (SWPACA) Regional Conferences 2002-2013

Roundtable discussion leader: “Classics and the Incarcerated: The Prison Classroom as a Reception Group” (with Alexandra Pappas of SFSU and Serena Witzke of Wesleyan): AIMS virtual conference 2022; “Antiquity in Media Studies (AIMS)” (with Meredith Safran): CAMWS 2019

Panels chaired: “Ancient Olympics Alive: Techniques, Materials, and Sources to Capitalize on the 2021 Olympics in Classes and Outreach Activities” at the SCS annual meeting 2021; “Processing Female Anger” panel at AIMS conference 2020; Classical Representations in Popular Culture session at SWPACA conference 2002, 2005-2010, 2012-2014; Classical Antiquity panels at Film & History conference 2010, 2013, 2015, 2017, 2018; Response to Keynote Address session at Augustana College’s Women and Leadership conference 2012

Panel participant: “Professional Development 1: How to Succeed In and Outside of Academe: The Professorial Academic Job Search,” SWPACA conference 2013

Workshops: CIC New Department and Division Chairs workshop/conference 2015

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS INCLUDE

Antiquity in Media Studies: “Classics and Catharsis in Cinema: John Woo’s *Face/Off* and Teaching Homer in Prison” (written in collaboration with CLAS 258-APEP students). Antiquity in Media Studies Conference (virtual), Nov. 2024. “Reclaiming Classics: Classical Allusions and Racial Equity in HBO’s *Watchmen* and *Lovecraft Country*,” 2021.

Classical Association of the Atlantic States: “Modes of Resistance: Disenfranchised Supporting Characters Countering Oppression in 1950s and 1960s Cinematic Receptions of Antiquity,” 2025; “Experiments in Love Part I: Longus’ *Daphnis & Chloe* and Henry de Vere Stacpoole’s *The Blue Lagoon*,” 2011; “From Homer to Hawks: Epic Connections in *Red River*,” 2010; “Ritual Reversals: Women’s Self-Image and Mourning Customs in Classical Rome,” 2003.

Classical Association of the Middle West and South: “Classics, Catharsis, and Community”: joint presentation with Augustana senior Iratze Aceves (March 2025). “Pussy Politics: Women and Power in *Troy: Fall of a City* (2018),” 2019. “West of ‘Them’: Classical Antiquity and Identity Politics in the American Western,” 2018; “Classical Allusions in *Longmire*,” 2016; “‘Print the Legend’?: Epic Meets Western in John Ford’s *The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance*,” 2013; “The Classical Western Archetype: *Shane* via Greek and Roman Epic,” 2009; “‘Bitch That I Am!’: An Examination of Women’s Self-Image in Homeric Epic,” 2008; “Artemisia and the Authorship of the Mausoleum at Halicarnassus,” 2006; “Exhuming Artemisia: A Case Study of Gender Bias in Historical Criticism,” 2005.

Film & History: “A Horse of a Different Color: Depictions of the Trojan Horse on Screen,” 2019; “Pussy Politics: Navigating Patriarchy in Netflix’s *Troy: Fall of a City* (2018),” 2018; “Home(r) on the Range: The Use and Abuse of Classical Learning in Establishing Character in Western Film,” 2017; “Of Gods and Heretics: Classical Allusions and the Shaping of Character in Western Film,” 2016; “‘Go West!’: Manifest Destiny in Western Film and Divine Impetus in the *Aeneid*,” 2015; “Cowboy Classics: Golden Age Westerns and Virgil’s *Aeneid*,” 2014; “The Economics of Gender: Sex as Capital in *Rome* Season 2,” 2013; “‘Print the Legend’...?: Oedipal Themes in John Ford’s *The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance*,” 2012; “Soul Fuck: Possession and the Female Body,” 2010.

Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Studies: “On the Fringes of the Roman Empire: Searching for Classical Connections in Denmark,” 2022.

Society for Classical Studies: “Classics and the Incarcerated: A Symbiotic Relationship,” 2024.

Southwest Popular/American Culture Association: “The Dangers of Hubris: Cowboys and Classics in *Westworld* (1973) and *The Lego Movie* (2014),” 2017; “Windows and Mirrors: The Women of *Rome* Season 2,” 2014; “‘Print the Legend’...?: Classical Connections in John Ford’s *The Man Who Shot*

Liberty Valance,” 2013; “Experiments in Love Part II: Longus’ *Daphnis & Chloe* and Henry de Vere Stacpoole’s *The Blue Lagoon*,” 2012; “From Homer to Hawks: Epic Connections in *Red River*,” 2010; “Representing Olympias: The Politics of Gender in Robert Rossen’s *Alexander the Great*,” 2009; “Epic Echoes in *High Noon*,” 2008; “Classics Rewritten in Stone: The Art of Anita Huffington,” 2007; “The Hecatomnid Connection: *Alexander*’s Missing Link,” 2006; “Disregarding Penelope: *Homophrosyne* and Andrei Konchalovsky’s *Odyssey*,” 2005; “The Politics of Pornography: Locating the Origins of Modern Porn in the Ancient Romance Novel,” 2003; “John Ford’s *The Searchers*: A Western *Odyssey*,” 2002; “Us vs. Them: Fear of the Cultural Other in John Ford’s *The Searchers*,” 2001.

OTHER SELECT PRESENTATIONS

- Invited talk: “Cinema’s Ur-Black Gladiator: Glycon and his Legacy.” EuGeStA online conference on Supporting Characters in Big Screen Greece and Rome: Gender, Agency, and the Mechanisms of Filmmaking, April 2026.
- “Inside/Out: A Conversation Between Traditional and Incarcerated Students.” Teaching Antiquity and Philosophy in Prisons conference, Durham University, March 2026 (virtual).
- Invited talk: “Fallout Age of Heroes: Reckoning with Trauma through Homer’s *Odyssey*.” Festkolloquium honoring Dr. Monica Cyrino in conjunction with the Australasian Society for Classical Studies annual conference, University of Auckland, Feb. 2026.
- “Classics and Catharsis: Receptions of Ancient Violence in Incarcerated Populations.” Classical Receptions Studies Network/Institute of Classical Studies Summer Seminar Series, Open University (Virtual), June 2025.
- “From Ancient Epic to Blockbuster Film (and Beyond): The Enduring Legacy of Homer’s *Odyssey*.” *History on Tap* lecture, Putnam Museum, Davenport, Iowa, May 2025.
- Invited speaker on the Importance of Classics for Contemporary Culture at a Classics Symposium honoring the retirement of Daniel B. Levine. University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, April 2025.
- “Fallout, Age of Heroes: The Trojan War and its Aftermath.” 40th annual Bernice L. Fox Classics Lecture, Monmouth College, Feb. 2025.
- “West of ‘Them’: Classical Allusions and Identity Politics in Western Film.” Invited lecture: Monmouth College, Oct. 2020.
- “Looking a Gift Horse in the Mouth: Helen of Troy and the Trojan Horse.” Dangerous Women from Antiquity to Pop Culture lecture panel: Getty Villa, Malibu, 2020.
- “‘Arms and the Man’: Virgil’s *Aeneid* and Western Film.” Invited lecture: Hamilton College, 2018.
- “Cowboy Classics: Ancient Epic and Western Film as Parallel Cultural Narratives.” Arkansas Humanities Council meeting: Hot Springs AR, 2016.
- “Aeneas in the Old West: Virgil’s Hero in Western Film.” Invited presentation at the New Heroes on Screen Conference: Delphi, Greece, 2015.
- “From Homer to Hawks: Epic Connections in *Red River*.” Invited lecture: Hamilton College, 2012.

OTHER SELECT PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Director, Augustana *Classics in Greece* program, summers of 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018, 2022; Jan. 2025; upcoming Jan. 2027.
- Council for Independent College/Center for Hellenic Studies seminar on “Ancient Medicine, Science, and Magic” participant: Washington DC, July-August 2024.
- Visiting Faculty Participant (assisting with weaving and pottery units): National Endowment for the Humanities workshop entitled “The Ancient Olympics and Daily Life in Ancient Olympia: A Hands-On History,” organized and directed by Dr. Robert Holschuh Simmons (Monmouth College) and Nathalie Roy (Glasgow Middle School, Baton Rouge, LA) for K-12 teachers from around the country (and beyond): Monmouth College, July 2024.

References

Dr. Geoff Bakewell, Professor of Greek &
Roman Studies, Rhodes College
Address: 2000 N. Parkway, Memphis, TN
Tel: 901-843-3157
Email: bakewellg@rhodes.edu

Dr. David Fredrick, Associate Professor of
Classics, University of Arkansas
Address: 428 JBHT, Fayetteville, AR
Tel: 479-575-6776
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Dr. Robert Holschuh Simmons, Chair of
Classics, Monmouth College
Address: Room 21 Wallace Hall, Monmouth IL
Tel: 309-457-2378;
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Dr. Daniel Levine, Professor of Classics,
University of Arkansas
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Email: dlevine@uark.edu