

PAUL J. KOSMIN
Curriculum Vitae

The Department of the Classics
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EMPLOYMENT

Harvard University, Department of the Classics. Assistant Professor. 2012-
Convertible instructor. 2011–2012.

EDUCATION

Harvard University, Department of the Classics. 2005–2012.

Ph.D. Candidate in Ancient History.

Dissertation: *Seleucid Space: The Ideology and Practice of Territory in
the Seleucid Empire.*

Committee: Paul-Alain Beaulieu, Emma Dench, Christopher Jones,
Nino Luraghi (chair).

American School of Classical Studies at Athens. 2009–2010.

Thomas Day Seymour Fellow.

Regular Member.

Oxford University, Balliol College. 2002–2005.

B.A. in Ancient and Modern History.

Double First Class Degree.

Thesis: *The Personification of the Dēmos in Classical Athens.*

Advisers: Oswyn Murray, Rosalind Thomas.

PUBLICATIONS

Book:

1) *The Land of the Elephant Kings: Space, Territory, and Ideology in the Seleucid Empire* (May, 2014). Cambridge, MA.

Reviews:

- Samuel Burstein, *CHOICE: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries* 2014: #52-0994.
- Laurent Capdetrey, *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2015.09.09. (<http://bmcr.brynmawr.edu/2015/2015-09-09.html>)
- Edward Dąbrowa, *Electrum* 22 (2015) (in press, attached).
- André Heller, *H-Net (Clio-Online)*. (<http://www.hsozkult.de/publicationreview/id/rezbuecher-23286>)
- Nathan Schumer, *Ancient Jew Review*. (<http://www.ancientjewreview.com/articles/2015/6/10/kosmin-land-of-the-elephant-kings>)
- Svyatoslav Smirnov, *Вестник древней истории*, 2015.2: 221-229 (translation attached).
- R. J. van der Spek, *Mnemosyne* 68 (2015): 1-4.
- Christopher Tuplin, *Ancient History Bulletin Online Reviews* 5 (2015): 32-38. (<http://ancienthistorybulletin.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/AHBReviews2015.09.TuplinOnKosmin1.pdf>)
- Marijn Visscher, *Near Eastern Archaeology* 79 (2016) (in press, attached).
- Richard Wenghofer, *Phoenix* 68 (2014): 361-363.

Articles and book chapters:

2) "A Phenomenology of Democracy: Ostracism as Political Ritual", *Classical Antiquity* 34 (2015): 121-162.

3) "Seeing Double in Seleucid Babylonia: Rereading the Borsippa Cylinder of Antiochus I", in Alfonso Moreno and Rosalind Thomas (eds.), *Patterns of the Past* (2014): 173-198. Oxford.

4) "Rethinking the Hellenistic Gulf: The New Greek Inscription from Bahrain", *Journal of Hellenic Studies* 133 (2013): 61-79.

5) "Seleucid Ethnography and Indigenous Kingship: The Babylonian Education of Antiochus I", in Johannes Haubold, Giovanni Lanfranchi, Robert Rollinger, and John Steele (eds.), *The World of Berossos (Classica et Orientalia 5)* (2013): 193-206. Wiesbaden.

6) "Alexander and the Seleucids in Iran", in Daniel Potts (ed.), *The Oxford Handbook of Iranian Archaeology* (2013): 671-689. Oxford.

7) "Apologetic Ethnography: Megasthenes' *Indica* and the Seleucid Elephant", in Eran Almagor and Joseph Skinner (eds.), *New Approaches to Ancient Ethnography* (2013): 97-115. London.

8) "The Foundation and Early Life of Dura-Europos", in Gail Hoffman and Lisa Brody (eds.), *Dura-Europos: Crossroads of Antiquity* (2011): 150-176. New Haven.

In press or forthcoming:

9) "No Island is a Man: The Marriage of Antiochus III to 'Euboea' ", in Roland Oetjen and Francis Ryan (eds.), *Seleukeia: Studies in Seleucid History, Archaeology and Numismatics in Honor of Getzel M. Cohen* (2016). Stuttgart. In press.

10) "Indigenous Revolts in 2 Maccabees: The Persian Version", *Classical Philology* 111 (2016). Forthcoming.

11) "The Politics of Science: Eratosthenes' Geography and Ptolemaic Imperialism", in Margalit Finkelberg, Jonathan Price, and Yuval Shahar (eds.), *Rome: An Empire of Many Nations*. Forthcoming.

Reviews:

- Kostas Vlassopoulos, *Greeks and Barbarians*. Reviewed in *Classical Review* 65 (2015): 169-170.

- Wolfram Grajetzki, *Greeks & Parthians in Mesopotamia and Beyond 331 BC – 224 AD*. Reviewed in *Sehepunkte* 12 (2012): #6.

- Andrea Primo, *La Storiografia sui Seleucidi da Megastene a Eusebio di Cesarea*. Reviewed in *Storia della Storiografia* 56 (2009): 131-135.

- Sonja Plischke, *Die Seleukiden und Iran*. Reviewed in *Klio* 97 (2016). Forthcoming.

PRESENTATIONS

Invited papers:

- "The Seleucid Era", *Dublin Classics Seminar* (January, 2015).
- "The *Fratarakā* and Jewish Revolts", Cincinnati University (March, 2014).
- "Josephus and Civic Display", *Philadelphia Seminar on Christian Origins*, University of Pennsylvania (February, 2014).
- "The Greeks and Babylon", *Annual Guest Lecture of the Canadian Mesopotamian Society* (February, 2013).
- "The Fabrication of Hellenistic Syria", Cincinnati University (September, 2012).
- "Macedonians without Macedonia: Diasporic Identities in the Hellenistic World", University of Wisconsin at Madison (March, 2012).
- "The Circulatory System: Itinerant Kingship and Imperial Space in the Seleucid Empire", *New England Ancient History Colloquium* (March, 2012).

Invited conference papers:

- "Hellenistic Anachronism", *Anachronism and Antiquity*, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study (September, 2015).
- "Eratosthenes' Continents: Scientific Geography and the Ptolemaic Paradigm", *Rome – An Empire of Many Nations*, Tel Aviv University (May, 2015).
- "The Seleucid Era Epoch", *Hellenistic Monarchies in the Mediterranean World: Building a New World Order?* Penn State University (April, 2015).
- "Legitimacy and Time", *The Legitimation of Autocracy*, NYU Abu Dhabi (November, 2014).
- Response, *In the Crucible of Empire: Resistance, Revolt, and Revolution in the Greco-Roman World*, Yale University (October, 2014).
- General response, *Writing and Textuality in Jewish and Christian Antiquity*, Humboldt-Universität (August, 2014).
- "Resistance and the Greek *Polis*: First Thoughts", Universität Konstanz (June, 2014).
- "Integration in the Seleucid Empire", *Pre-Industrial Technologies of Knowledge*, Berkeley (August, 2013).
- "The Persian Version", Tel Aviv University (June, 2013).
- "Berossus and Seleucid Court Historiography," *The World of Berossos*, Durham University (July, 2010).
- "Gods and Kings in the Borsippa Cylinder," *The Sinking of the Anchor: Seleucid Dissolution*, Exeter University (July, 2008).
- "The Persian Verse Account of the Reign of Nabonidus," *Anti-monarchic Discourse*, Universität Konstanz (July, 2008).

Conference papers:

- "A Monopoly of Legitimate Time? The Seleucid Era", *Association of Ancient Historians*, Santa Barbara (May, 2015).
- "Another Corrupting Sea?", *Literature and Culture in the Ancient Mediterranean*, Venice International University (September, 2009).
- "Building and Lying: The Fabrication of Seleucia-on-the-Tigris," *From Pella to Gandhara* (Graduate Student Conference), Oxford University (July, 2009).
- "Going Native? Ethnogenesis and Cultural Hybridity at Ai Khanoum," *Ancient Borderlands* (Graduate Student Conference), University of California at Santa Barbara (March, 2008).

Public lectures:

- "Greek Esther", Harvard Hillel (May, 2013).
- "How to Cheat the Greek Way", *Certamen*, Harvard University (March, 2013).
- "The Origins of Chanukah", Harvard Hillel (November, 2012).

Workshop presentations:

- "Temple of Day One", *Memories of Kingship in the Hellenistic World Workshop*, Department of the Classics, Harvard (February, 2015).
- "Indigenous Revolts in 2 Maccabees", *Translating the Sacred Text Workshop*, Harvard Divinity School (May, 2014).
- "Ostracism as Democratic Ritual", *Workshop in the History and Culture of the Ancient Mediterranean*, Harvard University (February 2014).
- "The Urban Development of Dura-Europus", *Archaeology Core Group*, Harvard University (November, 2010).

Forthcoming invited papers:

- "Time and Resistance in the Seleucid Empire", *Edinburgh Classics Research Seminar*, Edinburgh (December, 2015).
- "New Thoughts on Eschatology", *Philadelphia Seminar on Christian Origins*, University of Pennsylvania (January, 2016).
- "History, Local and Universal", Columbia University (April, 2016).
- "Did Hellenistic kingdoms have provinces?", Yale University (May, 2016).

Forthcoming invited conference papers:

- *Keeping Watch in Babylon – From Evidence to Text in the Babylonian Astronomical Diaries*, Durham University (June, 2016).
- *Comparing the Ptolemaic and Seleucid Empires: The Role of the Local Elites and Local Populations*, Freiburg-im-Breisgau (July, 2016).

TEACHING

Courses

Spring 2015	CLAS-STDY 112: Regional Study: Sicily (co-taught with Professor Emma Dench) CLAS-STDY 230: Alexander and his Great Legacy (co-taught with Professor Ruth Bielfeldt)
Fall 2014	CLAS-STDY 97a: Greek Culture and Civilization
Spring 2014	CLAS-STDY 158: Alexander to Caesar: The Transformation of the Hellenistic World CLAS-STDY 222: Regional Study: Sicily (co-taught with Professor Emma Dench)
Fall 2013	CLAS-STDY 97a: Greek Culture and Civilization FRSEMR 37w: The Worlds of Alexander the Great
Spring 2013	CLAS-STDY 135: To the Ends of the Earth: Geography, Ethnography, and Exploration in the Ancient World GREEK 127: Xenophon's Two Cyri
Fall 2012	CLAS-STDY 97a: Greek Culture and Civilization
Spring 2012 (as Convertible Instructor)	CLASPHIL 292: Hellenism in the East: Colonialism, Assimilation, and Revolt FRSEMR 37w: The Worlds of Alexander the Great
Fall 2011 (as Convertible Instructor)	CLAS-STDY 97a: Greek Culture and Civilization

Special examinations

2014/15	Michael Konieczny, "Herodotus and Greek Historiography".
2013/14	Charles Bartlett, "Internationalism and the Mediterranean". Samantha Blankenship, "The Achaemenid Empire". Monica Park, "The Historical Geography of Cilicia and Pamphylia". Anthony Shannon, "Hellenistic Urbanism".
2012/13	Tyler Flatt, "Polybius". Rebecca Katz, "Polybius".
2011/12 (as Convertible Instructor)	Emrys Bell-Schlatter, "Ancient Geography".

ADVISING

Dissertation – adviser

- Samantha Blankenship, “Historiography between Greece and Persia”.

Dissertations – committee member

- Charles Bartlett, “Legal Change, Pluralism, and the Rule of Law in the Eastern Roman Provinces”.
- Tyler Flatt, “Biblical Epic”.
- Christopher Gilbert, “Center and Periphery – Non-Elites and the Roman Emperors”.
- Michael Konieczny, *Title to be confirmed*.
- Monica Park, *Title to be confirmed*.
- Anthony Shannon, “*Africa romana*: Tradition, Appropriation, and Interaction in the Development of Pre-Existing Urban Landscapes in North Africa”.

External thesis advising (Durham-Harvard Exchange)

- Marijn Visscher, “Beyond Alexandria: Seleukid Literature and Empire” (Durham University).

External thesis – examiner

- Evangelia Anagnostou, “In the Garden of the Gods: Models of Kingship from the Sumerians to the Seleucids” (Macquarie University).

Senior theses – adviser

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| 2014/15 | Elliot Wilson, “Constructing Antigoniad Kingship: Monarchy, Memory, and Empire in Hellenistic Macedonia”. |
| | Hoopes Prize winner, Smyth Greek Thesis Prize winner. |
| 2013/14 | Joseph Glynias, “Samothrace – A Hellenistic Middle Ground”. |
| | Hoopes Prize winner, Smyth Greek Thesis Prize winner. |
| 2011/12 (as Convertible Instructor) | Athena Lao, “The Goddess Roma”. |
| | Smyth Greek Thesis Prize winner. |

SERVICE

- Journal reader: *Classical Antiquity*, *Harvard Studies in Classical Philology*, *Harvard Theological Review*, and *Journal of Jewish Studies*.
- Managing Committee of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, 2015-.
- Frank Knox Memorial Fellowship Selection Committee (Harvard University), 2014-.
- Harvard-UK Fellowship Selection Committee (Harvard University), 2013-.
- Graduate Committee (Departmental), 2014-2015.
- Minutes’ secretary (Departmental), 2013-2015.
- Placement Committee (Departmental), 2012-2014.

CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS HOSTED OR ORGANIZED

- Founder of “The Hellenistic Sardis Project” (meetings at Sardis, July 2014 and July 2015).
- Founding member of “The Maccabees Project” (based at the Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies, Boston University, 2015-).
- New England Ancient History Colloquium (April, 2014).
- “Discovering the Classical World”, with Adrian Staehli, Harvard University (2011-2014).
- “Memories of Kingship in the Hellenistic World”, with Yvona Trnka-Amrhein, Harvard University (2014-2015).
- MACTe, with Tom Zanker, Harvard University (December, 2013).

Forthcoming conferences:

- “The Maccabean Moment”, with Ian Moyer (University of Michigan), Center for Hellenic Studies (January, 2016).
- “Hellenistic Sardis”, Harvard University (in planning for Spring, 2017).

AWARDS

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| 2016 | Center for Hellenic Studies Fellowship (Spring). |
| 2015 | Oliver Smithies Lectureship (Balliol College, Oxford). |
| | Lasky-Barajas Dean’s Innovation Fund for Digital Arts and Humanities (Harvard University). |
| | Anne and Jim Rothenberg Fund for Humanities Research (Harvard University). |
| 2013 | Loeb Foundation Grant. |
| | Scott R. Jacobs Grant. |
| 2010 | Short-term Research Fellowship (American Research Center in Sofia). |
| 2009-10 | Charles Eliot Norton Fellowship in Greek. |
| | Thomas Day Seymour Fellowship (American School of Classical Studies at Athens). |
| 2008-09 | Faculty of Arts and Sciences Merit Award (Harvard University). |
| 2005-12 | Frank Knox Memorial Fellowship. |
| 2005 | Gibbs History Prize (Oxford University). |
| 2003 | Fletcher Scholarship (Balliol College, Oxford). |