Past CRAM seminars (2013-2018)

Spring 2013
Fall 2013
Spring 2014
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Spring 2020

Spring 2013 (back to top of the page)

February 12, 2013
John Bodel (Classics and History)
“Roman Teamsters: muliones (muleteers and the (dis)organization of transport in the Roman empire”

March 12, 2013
Kurt Raaflaub (Classics and History)
“The Despotic Template: Authority, Politics, and Religion in Ancient Greek and Hebrew Political Thought”

April 9, 2013
Ken Sacks (History and Classics)
“Diodoros Siculus and the Hellenistic Mind”

Fall 2013 (back to top of the page)

September 10, 2013
Saul Olyan (Religious Studies)
“Friends and Family”

October 8, 2013
John Steele (EAWAS)
“Real and Constructed Time in Babylonian Astral Medicine”
November 12, 2013
Stephen Kidd (Classics)
“Xenophon”s Cynegeticus and its Defense of Liberal Education”

December 10, 2013
Zsuzsanna Varhelyi (Classics, Boston University)
“Self-talk: The rhetoric and the spaces of representing the self from the mid-Republic to the early Empire”

Spring 2014 (back to top of the page)

February 11, 2014
Graham Oliver (Classics)
“Total Recall? Lycurgus, Biography, and Civic Honor in Athens”

March 11, 2014
Michael Satlow (Judaic Studies)
“Ownership or Essence? The Holiness of Objects among Jews in Late Antique Palestine”

April 1, 2014
Julia Troche (PhD candidate, EAWAS)
“On the Origins of Apotheosis in Ancient Egypt”

May 6, 2014
Susan Harvey (Religious Studies)
“Guiding Grief: Liturgical Poetry and Ritual Lamentation in Early Byzantium”

Fall 2014 (back to top of the page)

September 16, 2014
Rebecca Falcasantos (Religious Studies)
“Violence, Space, and Religious Boundaries in Fourth-Century Constantinople”

October 14, 2014
David Pritchard (University of Queensland, School of Historical and Philosophical Inquiry)
“Public Spending and Democracy in Classical Athens”

November 11, 2014
Felipe Rojas (JIAAW and Egyptology & Assyriology)
“Vertigo, Shivers, and Funk: Heightened Self-Awareness and Religious Spaces in Anatolia”

December 9, 2014
Matthew Rutz (Egyptology & Assyriology)
“The Text after the Sacrifice: Divination Reports from Kassite Babylonia”

Spring 2015 (back to top of the page)

February 10, 2015
Andrew Tobolowsky (PhD candidate, Religious Studies)
“Biblical History as Ethnic History: A Reassessment”

March 10
Jennifer Swalec (PhD Candidate, Classics)
“Late Hellenistic Sacred Textiles and the Construction of Greek Identities”

April 14
Johanna Hanink (Classics)
“Why 386?”

May 12
Pura Nieto Hernández (Classics)
“Female Figures in Pindar: Colonization and Panhellenism”

Fall 2015 (back to the top of the page)

Sept 15, 2015
Anne Chen (History of Art and Joukowsky Institute)
“Omitted Empresses: The (Non-)Role of Imperial Women in Tetrarchic Propaganda”

Oct 13, 2015
David Konstan (Brown Emeritus and NYU)
“The Freedom to Feel Grateful: The View from Classical Antiquity”

Nov 10, 2015
Harold Cook (History and Renaissance and Medieval Studies)
“The “Discovery” of Palmira and Persepolis at the beginning of the eighteenth century”

Dec 8, 2015
Saul Olyan (Judaic Studies and Religious Studies)
“Friendship in Narrative”

Spring 2016 (back to the top of the page)

Feb 9, 2016
Tara Mulder (Classics)
“Listen to the (Wo)men: Systems of Knowledge in Galen’s De Semine”

March 8, 2016
Scott diGiulio (Classics)
“Imperial Reading Practice and the Latin Table of Contents”

April 12, 2016
Stratis Papaioannou (Classics and Renaissance and Medieval Studies)
“Greek literature at the end of Late Antiquity”

May 10, 2016
Gaia Lembi (Judaic Studies)
“Writing Jewish History in a Graeco-Roman World: From Polemics and Apologetics to Competition”

Fall 2016 (back to the top of the page)

Sept 13, 2016
Saul Olyan (Judaic Studies and Religious Studies)
“Are there Legal Texts in the Hebrew Bible that Evince a Concern for Animal Rights?”

Oct 11, 2016
Felip Rojas (Joukowsky Institute and Egyptology & Assyriology)
“Persia on their minds: Achaimenid memory horizons in Roman Anatolia”

Nov. 8, 2016
María Paz de Hoz García-Bellido (University of Salamanca)
“Epigraphy as a source for elementary education in the Greek world”

Dec. 6, 2016
Barbara Blythe (Classics)
“Apples to Apples: Forbidden Fruit in Petronius’ Cena Trimalchionis”

Spring 2017 (back to the top of the page)

Feb. 14, 2017
Antonio Dourado Lopes (The Federal University of Minas Gerais)
“Eros in Hesiod: the intricacies of the anthropomorphic theogony”

March 14, 2017
[CRAM meeting cancelled by Brown “snow day”; Raaflaub presentation rescheduled for May]

April 4, 2017
Eva Stehle (Emerita University of Maryland)
“Dionysus and Madwomen (before Bacchae): Where, When, and according to Whom?”

May 9, 2017
Kurt Raaflaub (Brown Emeritus)
“The ‘Great Leap’ in Early Greek Politics and Political Thought: A Comparative Perspective”

Fall 2017 (back to to the top of the page)

Sept. 12, 2017
Michael Satlow (Judaic Studies and Religious Studies)
“Josephus' knowledge of scripture”

Oct. 12, 2017
Graham Oliver (Classics and History)
“The Economics of Shoemaking: market size and the supply of footwear in Classical Athens”

Nov. 14, 2017
Steve Kidd (Classics)
“Why mathematical probability failed to emerge from ancient gambling”

Dec. 5, 2017
Lothar Willms (Classics/University of Heidelberg)
“Aristotle's theory on slavery: a critical and semiotic reconsideration”

Spring 2018 (back to to the top of the page)

Feb. 13, 2018
John Steele (Egyptology & Assyriology)
“The Continued Revelance of MUL.APIN in Late Babylonian Astronomy”

March 20, 2018 [rescheduled from 3/12/2018 because of a snow day]
Eva Mol (Joukowsky Institute)
“Embodying Egyptian deities within Roman domestic religion: Isis cult statuettes in Pompeii”

April 10, 2018
Thomas Martin (Holy Cross)

May 8, 2018
Martin Pehal (Egyptology & Assyriology/Charles University Prague)
“Death and the Right Fluids: perspectives from Egyptology and Anthropology” (back to to the top of the page)

Fall 2018 (back to top of page)
Felipe Rojas (JIAAW)
"Urartian Inscriptions in Late Antique and Medieval Armenia"

October 9, 2018
Sam Caldis (History/ Classics)
"From an Imperial Family to an Imperial College: Family Portraits on Roman Central Coinage, 138-284 CE."

November 13, 2018
Jonathan Conant (History)
“Conflict, Trauma, and the Formation of an Early Christian Identity”

December 4, 2018
Dora Ivanisevic (Classics/ Religious Studies)
"Late Antique Collegia: Epigraphic Culture and Social History in Roman Salona."

Spring 2019
February 12, 2019
Saul Olyan (Judaic Studies/ Religious Studies)
"Ritual Violence Prescribed."

March 12, 2019
Andrew Jacobs (Religious Studies, Scripps College)
"Jewish Conversion, Women’s Resistance, and the End of Empire in the Doctrina Jacobi Nuper Baptizati"

April 9, 2019
Byron MacDougall (Classics)
“Sacred Topoi: Religious Festivals between Plato and Late Antique Hagiography.”

May 7, 2019
Shiyanthi Thavapalan (Egyptology and Assyriology)
"Ingenious Art: Mimicry in Mesopotamian Language and Thought"

Fall 2019
September 17, 2019
Hindy Najman (Oxford University)
"Imitatio Dei and the Formation of the Subject in Ancient Judaism."

October 8, 2019
Karen Carr (History, Portland State University)
"Beyond Silk Road and Spice Trade: Roman Exports and Roman Obfuscation.”
November 12, 2019
Jae Hee Han (Religious Studies)
"'Magic' in Late Antique Mesopotamia: The Manichaean Evidence."

December 10, 2019
Jay Reed (Classics)
"Virgil's 'Messianic' Eclogue and Eastern Literature of Anti-Empire."

Spring 2020  (back to top of page)

February 11, 2020
Laurel Bestock (Egyptology and Assyriology)
"Seven Types of Invisibility: the power of hidden art in Egyptian temples and tombs."

March 10, 2020
Larry Wills (Judaic Studies)
"Contextualizing Ancient Jewish Novellas: The Cases of Greek Esther and Tobit."

April 7, 2020 [Rescheduled to Fall due to Covid-19]
Gretel Rodriguez (History of Art and Architecture)
"Captives as Architectural Sculpture in Ancient Rome: Perspectives from East and West."

May 12, 2020 [Rescheduled to Fall due to Covid-19]
Robert Kashow (Religious Studies)
"The Violent Imagination: Agency and Representation in the Visions of Zechariah."