

Hellenistic Studies At A Crossroads

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Hellenistic studies are currently at a fascinating crossroads, facing new challenges and opportunities in the 21st century. This field, encompassing the era from Alexander the Great to the rise of the Roman Empire, is being re-evaluated through interdisciplinary approaches, incorporating new archaeological discoveries and technological advancements, leading to fresh perspectives on Hellenistic culture, politics, and society. Explore the key themes, debates, and future directions shaping the field of Hellenistic studies today.

Students can use these dissertations as models for structuring their own work.

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Hellenistic Studies at a Crossroads

This volume brings together fifteen papers which address key issues in the field of Hellenistic studies. In using modern critical approaches, the authors discuss the genre, style, narrative and aesthetics of post-classical literature and highlight its cultural and ideological contexts. By reassessing conventional views and methods the volume aims at providing new insights into Hellenistic literature.

Isagogical Crossroads from the Early Imperial Age to the End of Antiquity

This book explores how introductory methods shaped intellectual activity in various fields of thought of the post-Hellenistic Age and Late Antiquity by framing them in a wider interdisciplinary framework.

Greek Epigram from the Hellenistic to the Early Byzantine Era

Greek epigram is a remarkable poetic form. The briefest of all ancient Greek genres, it is also the most resilient: for almost a thousand years it attracted some of the finest Greek poetic talents as well as exerting a profound interest on Latin literature, and it continues to inspire and influence modern translations and imitations. After a long period of neglect, research on epigram has surged during recent decades, and this volume draws on the fruits of that renewed scholarly engagement. It is concerned not with the work of individual authors or anthologies, but with the evolution of particular subgenres over time, and provides a selection of in-depth treatments of key aspects of Greek literary epigram of the Hellenistic, Roman, and early Byzantine periods. Individual chapters offer insights into a variety of topics, from explorations of the dynamic interactions between poets and their predecessors and contemporaries, and of the relationship between epigram and its socio-political, cultural, and literary background from the third century BCE up until the sixth century CE, to its interaction with its origins, inscribed epigram more generally, other literary genres, the visual arts, and Latin poetry, as well as the process of editing and compilation which generated the collections which survived into the modern world. Through the medium of individual studies the volume as a whole seeks to offer a sense of this

vibrant and dynamic poetic form and its world which will be of value to scholars and students of Greek epigram and classical literature more broadly.

Between Tarhuntas and Zeus Polieus

Anatolia is an area of the ancient world with a remarkable borderland character between the Greek and the Near Eastern worlds. The present book studies several ancient Anatolian cults and sanctuaries, focusing on the process of interaction between local cultures, Persians, Greeks and Romans. Each specific contribution presents a case study with a thorough analysis of the available epigraphic, numismatic, literary and archaeological evidence from a linguistic, historical and religious perspective. Gathered from a vast geographical area this book explores different examples of these interactions expressed through local versions of major Greek and Anatolian deities: the Xanthian Leto, Ma of Comana, the Carian Sinuri, Mên Askaenos, Meis Axiottenos, Apollo Syrmaios, Artemis Sardiane, Meter Sipylene, a Cilician Zeus Ceraunius and the river gods.

Arktouros

Greek and Roman stories of origin, or aetia, provide a fascinating window onto ancient conceptions of time. Aetia pervade ancient literature at all its stages, and connect the past with the present by telling us which aspects of the past survive "even now" or "ever since then". Yet, while the standard aetiological formulae remain surprisingly stable over time, the understanding of time that lies behind stories of origin undergoes profound changes. By studying a broad range of texts and by closely examining select stories of origin from archaic Greece, Hellenistic Greece, Augustan Rome, and early Christian literature, *Time in Ancient Stories of Origin* traces the changing forms of stories of origin and the underlying changing attitudes to time: to the interaction of the time of gods and men, to historical time, to change and continuity, as well as to a time beyond the present one. Walter provides a model of how to analyse the temporal construction of aetia, by combining close attention to detail with a view towards the larger temporal agenda of each work. In the process, new insights are provided both into some of the best-known aetiological works of antiquity (e.g. by Hesiod, Callimachus, Vergil, Ovid) and lesser-known works (e.g. Ephorus, Prudentius, Orosius). This volume shows that aetia do not merely convey factual information about the continuity of the past, but implicate the present in ever new complex messages about time.

Time in Ancient Stories of Origin

"In his new monograph *Early Arsakid Parthia (ca. 250-165 B.C.): At the Crossroads of Iranian, Hellenistic, and Central Asian History*, Marek Jan Olbrycht explores the early history of the Arsakid Parthian state. Making use of literary and epigraphic evidence as well numismatic and archaeological sources, Olbrycht convincingly depicts how the Arsakid dynasty created a kingdom (248 B.C.-A.D. 226), small at first, which, within a century after its founding, came to dominate the Iranian Plateau and portions of Central Asia as well as Mesopotamia. The "Parthian genius" lay in the Arsakids' ability to have blended their steppe legacy with that of sedentary Iranians, and to have absorbed post-Achaemenid Iranian and Seleukid socio-economic, political, and cultural traditions"--

Early Arsakid Parthia (ca. 250-165 B.C.)

A delightful look at the epic literary history of the short, poetic genre of the epigram From Nestor's inscribed cup to tombstones, bathroom walls, and Twitter tweets, the ability to express oneself concisely and elegantly, continues to be an important part of literary history unlike any other. This book examines the entire history of the epigram, from its beginnings as a purely epigraphic phenomenon in the Greek world, where it moved from being just a note attached to physical objects to an actual literary form of expression, to its zenith in late 1st century Rome, and further through a period of stagnation up to its last blooming, just before the beginning of the Dark Ages. *A Companion to Ancient Epigram* offers the first ever full-scale treatment of the genre from a broad international perspective. The book is divided into six parts, the first of which covers certain typical characteristics of the genre, examines aspects that are central to our understanding of epigram, and discusses its relation to other literary genres. The subsequent four parts present a diachronic history of epigram, from archaic Greece, Hellenistic Greece, and Latin and Greek epigrams at Rome, all the way up to late antiquity, with a concluding section looking at the heritage of ancient epigram from the Middle Ages up to modern times. Provides a comprehensive overview of the history of the epigram The first single-volume book to examine the entire history of the genre Scholarly interest in Greek and Roman epigram has steadily increased

over the past fifty years Looks at not only the origins of the epigram but at the later literary tradition A Companion to Ancient Epigram will be of great interest to scholars and students of literature, world literature, and ancient and general history. It will also be an excellent addition to the shelf of any public and university library.

A Companion to Ancient Epigram

The book was published in late 2015, but the year of publication and copyright is given as 2016 on the title-page verso.

Pindar's Library

In this book Floris Overduin highlights the artistic merits of Nicander's *Theriaca* (2nd century BCE), a Hellenistic didactic poem on snakes and curative herbs. The commentary, preceded by an extensive introduction, aims to show Nicander's literary, rather than scientific aims.

Nicander of Colophon's *Theriaca*

This novel, ground-breaking study aims to define Hesiod's place in early Greek intellectual history by exploring his conception of language and the ways in which it represents reality. Divided into three parts, it addresses a network of issues related to etymology, word-play, and semantics, and examines how these contribute to the development of the argument and the concepts of knowledge and authority in the *Theogony* and the *Works and Days*. Part I demonstrates how much we can learn about the poet's craft and his relation to the poetic tradition if we read his etymologies carefully, while Part II takes the discussion of the 'correctness of language' further - this correctness does not amount to a naïvely assumed one-to-one correspondence between signifier and signified. Correct names and correct language are 'true' because they reveal something particular about the concept or entity named, as numerous examples show; more importantly, however, correct language is imitative of reality, in that language becomes more opaque, ambiguous, and indeterminate as we delve deeper into the exploration of the *condicio humana* and the ambiguities and contradictions that characterize it in the *Works and Days*. Part III addresses three moments of Hesiodic reception, with individual chapters comparing Hesiod's implicit theory of language and cognition with the more explicit statements found in early mythographers and genealogists, demonstrating the importance of Hesiod's poetry for Plato's etymological project in the *Cratylus*, and discussing the ways in which some ancient philologists treat Hesiod as one of their own. What emerges is a new and invaluable perspective on a hitherto under-explored chapter in early Greek linguistic thought which ascertains more clearly Hesiod's place in Greek intellectual history as a serious thinker who introduced some of the questions that occupied early Greek philosophy.

Hesiod's Verbal Craft

Empires of the Sea brings together studies of maritime empires from the Bronze Age to the Eighteenth Century. The volume aims to establish maritime empires as a category for the (comparative) study of premodern empires, and from a partly 'non-western' perspective. The book includes contributions on Mycenaean sea power, Classical Athens, the ancient Thebans, Ptolemaic Egypt, The Genoese Empire, power networks of the Vikings, the medieval Danish Empire, the Baltic empire of Ancien Régime Sweden, the early modern Indian Ocean, the Melaka Empire, the (non-European aspects of the) Portuguese Empire and Dutch East India Company, and the Pirates of Caribbean.

Empires of the Sea

Apollonius Rhodius' *Argonautica* is a voyage across time as well as space. The Argonauts encounter monsters, nymphs, shepherds, and kings who represent earlier stages of the cosmos or human society; they are given glimpses into the future, and themselves effect changes in the world through which they travel. Readers undergo a still more complex form of temporal transport, enabled not just to imagine themselves into the deep past, but to examine the layers of poetic and intellectual history from which Apollonius crafts his poem. Taking its lead from ancient critical preoccupations with poetry's ethical significance, this volume argues that the *Argonautica* produces an understanding of time and temporal experience which ramifies variously in readers' lives. When describing the people and creatures who lived the past, Apollonius extends readers' capacity for empathetic response to the worlds inhabited by others. In the ecphrasis of Jason's cloak and the account of Jason's conversations with Medea, readers

are invited to scrutinize the relationship between exempla and temporal change, while episodes such as the taking of the Golden Fleece explore links between perceptions and their temporal situation. Running through the poem, and through the readings that comprise this book, is an attention to the intellectual potential of the 'untimely' - objects, experience, and language which do not belong straightforwardly to a particular time. Treatment of such phenomena is crucial to the poem's aspiration to inform and expand readers' understanding of themselves as subjects in and of history.

Untimely Epic

Harnesses the insights generated by 30 years of reception studies to enhance the study of classical Greek literature.

Reception in the Greco-Roman World

Here a team of established scholars offers new perspectives on poetic texts of wisdom, learning and teaching related to the great line of Greek and Latin poems descended from Hesiod. In previous scholarship, a drive to classify Greek and Latin didactic poetry has engaged with the near-total absence in ancient literary criticism of explicit discussion of didactic as a discrete genre. The present volume approaches didactic poetry from different perspectives: the diachronic, mapping the development of didactic through changing social and political landscapes (from Homer and Hesiod to Neo-Latin didactic); and the comparative, setting the Graeco-Roman tradition against a wider backdrop (including ancient near-eastern and contemporary African traditions). The issues raised include knowledge in its relation to power; the cognitive strategies of the didactic text; ethics and poetics; the interplay of obscurity and clarity, playfulness and solemnity; the authority of the teacher.

Studies in Hellenistic Religions

This volume collects the most recent essays of Richard Hunter, one of the world's leading experts in the field of Greek and Latin literature. The essays range across all periods of ancient literature from Homer to late antiquity, with a particular focus not just on the texts in their original contexts, but also on how they were interpreted and exploited for both literary and more broadly cultural purposes later in antiquity. Taken together, the essays sketch a picture of a continuous tradition of critical and historical engagement with the literature of the past from the period of Aristophanes and then Plato and Aristotle in classical Athens to the rich prose literature of the Second Sophistic. Richard Hunter's earlier essays are collected in *On Coming After* (Berlin 2008).

Didactic Poetry of Greece, Rome and Beyond

How did ancient Greeks and Romans regard work? It has long been assumed that elite thinkers disparaged physical work, and that working people rarely commented on their own labors. The papers in this volume challenge these notions by investigating philosophical, literary and working people's own ideas about what it meant to work. From Plato's terminology of labor to Roman prostitutes' self-proclaimed pride in their work, these chapters find ancient people assigning value to multiple different kinds of work, and many different concepts of labor.

The Layers of the Text

Colin Austin (1941–2010), Professor of Greek at Cambridge and distinguished editor of poetic texts, was renowned for the precision and brilliance of his scholarship. This collection of studies, offered by some of his pupils, aims to honor his memory. The papers combine philology and textual criticism with a strong interest in setting the works under examination in their literary and cultural context. Individual contributions are devoted to the establishment of the text of the comic poet Menander and the epigrammatist Posidippus of Pella, while one chapter offers a new critical edition of and the first detailed commentary on a number of erotic epigrams. Other essays explore poetic, performative and narratological features in Socratic works of Plato and Xenophon. The volume also includes an analysis of the trope of pathetic fallacy in the bucolic poem *Epitaph for Bion* and a study of the concept of 'frigidity' in ancient literary criticism.

Valuing Labour in Greco-Roman Antiquity

A full literary and linguistic commentary, suitable for advanced students, on the only surviving Athenian satyr-play.

Munere mortis

This introduction to a biblical theology of the New Testament seeks to revitalize our engagement with the Scriptures for the twenty-first century by showing not only how the assemblage of ancient writings consisting of both Old and New Testaments is intrinsically relevant, but also how we can remain faithful to Jesus Christ, the organizing principle of those writings, in the process. The book is an invitation to all people of goodwill—believers and unbelievers, liberals and conservatives—to put aside their differences in order to cooperate in the revolution that Jesus inaugurated, the creation of a new and better world in the here and now as an anticipation of the eschatological finale. In an age in which many people are overwhelmed by life and looking for ways to cope, this book offers fresh perspectives and penetrating insights that are grounded in solid biblical scholarship with the aid of contemporary philosophical concepts.

Euripides: Cyclops

Reveals the sophistication of a once-popular Greek didactic epic on the sea and its fish, addressed to the Roman emperor.

The Jesus Revolution

In exploring the idea of lyric performances as 'textual events', this volume marks a departure from interpretations of Greek lyric as socio-political discourse. Building on the renewed concern with the aesthetic, it studies poetic effects that cannot be captured in terms of function alone and re-examines the relationship between form and context.

Oppian's Halieutica

What happened to Greek tragedy after the death of Euripides? This book provides some answers, and a broad historical overview.

Textual Events

This is a captivating story of music-making at social recreations from Homeric times to the age of Augustine. It tells about the music itself and its purposes, as well as the ways in which people talked about it, telling anecdotes, picturing musical scenes, sometimes debating what kind of music was right at a party or a festival. In straightforward and engaging prose, the author covers a remarkably broad history, providing the big picture yet with vivid and nuanced descriptions of concrete practices and events. We hear of music at aristocratic parties, club music, people's music-making at festivals, political uses of music at the court of Alexander the Great and in the public banquets of Roman emperors in the Colosseum, opinions of music-making at social meals from Plato to Clement of Alexandria, and much more, making the book a treasure-trove of information and a fascinating journey through ancient times and places.

Greek Tragedy After the Fifth Century

Brill's Companion to Theocritus offers an up-to-date guide to a thorough understanding of Theocritus' literary output. Exploring his corpus from a variety of novel perspectives, it presents a detailed account of the intricacy of Theocritus' poetic art.

Music at Social Meals in Greek and Roman Antiquity

New interpretations of Roman and Greek interactions on the Isthmus of Corinth.

Brill's Companion to Theocritus

This collection of detailed studies of the epigraphical landscape of Ptolemaic Egypt explores the historical and cultural contexts of the surviving Greek and Greek/Egyptian bilingual and trilingual

inscriptions as a complement to the Corpus of Ptolemaic Inscriptions edition, in which the texts will be presented together for the first time.

The Isthmus of Corinth

"This book aims to further our understanding of Seleucid literature, covering the period from Seleucus I to Antiochus III. Despite the historical importance of the Seleucid Empire during this time, little attention has been devoted to its literature. The works of authors affiliated with the Seleucid court have tended to be overshadowed by works coming out of Alexandria, emerging from the court of the Ptolemies, the main rivals of the Seleucids. This book makes two key points, both of which challenge the idea that "Alexandrian" literature is coterminous with Hellenistic literature as a whole. First, the book sets out to demonstrate that a distinctly Seleucid strand of writing emerged from the Seleucid court, characterized by shared perspectives and thematic concerns. Second, the book argues that Seleucid literature was significant on the wider Hellenistic stage. Specifically, it aims to show that the works of Seleucid authors influenced and provided counterpoints to writers based in Alexandria, including key figures such as Eratosthenes and Callimachus. For this reason, the literature of the Seleucids is not only interesting in its own right; it also provides an important reference point for further understanding of Hellenistic literature in general. These two points are worked out in four chapters, each focusing on a specific 'moment' in Seleucid history and the corresponding literature: the establishment of the Eastern borders under Seleucus I; the consolidation of a symbolical centre at Babylon; the crisis of the Third Syrian War under Seleucus II; the flourishing literary court of Antiochus III"--

The Epigraphy of Ptolemaic Egypt

This monograph is a literary study of Lycophron's *Alexandra*. Individual chapters are designed to be accessible and explore major aspects of the poem, including not only its imagery and style, but also its treatment of the gods, heroes, and the Trojan War.

Beyond Alexandria

A fresh and wide-ranging exploration across the whole of early Greek hexameter poetry, focusing on issues of poetics and metapoetics.

The *Alexandra* of Lycophron

"The subject of Alexander continues to fascinate, not only because it is controversial, but also because it is recognized to be relevant to us, especially in light of recent and current world events. This collection of eleven studies is noteworthy for its chronological range, from the time of Dion of Syracuse in the mid-fourth century to that of Antigonus and his son Demetrius Poliorcetes in the early third century, and for its variety of topics, from the extravagant honors for Dion at Syracuse to the Alexander-coinage of the Besieger at Tyre. The leitmotiv, however, is Alexander the Great, with six essays dealing with him directly, and the remaining five doing so at least tangentially."--BOOK JACKET.Title Summary field provided by Blackwell North America, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Conflict and Consensus in Early Greek Hexameter Poetry

Greek Dialogue in Antiquity reexamines evidence for Greek dialogue between the mid-fourth century BCE and the mid-first century CE - that is, roughly from Plato's death to the death of Philo of Alexandria. Although the genre of dialogue in antiquity has attracted a growing interest in the past two decades, the time covered in this book has remained overlooked and unresearched, with scholars believing that for much of this period the dialogue genre went through a period of decline and was revived only in the Roman times. The book carefully reassesses Post-Platonic and Hellenistic evidence, including papyri fragments, which have never been discussed in this context, and challenges the narrative of the dialogue's decline and subsequent revival, postulating, instead, the genre's unbroken continuity from the Classical period to the Roman Empire. It argues that dialogues and texts creatively interacting with dialogic conventions were composed throughout Hellenistic times, and proposes to reconceptualize the imperial period dialogue as evidence not of a resurgence, but of continuity in this literary tradition.

Crossroads of History

Valuing Landscape explores how physical environments affected the cultural imagination of Greco-Roman Antiquity. It demonstrates the values attached to mountains, the underworld, sacred landscapes, and battlefields, and the evaluations of locale connected with migration, exile, and travel.

Greek Dialogue in Antiquity

Ever since it was first published in 1930, William Empson's *Seven Types of Ambiguity* has been perceived as a milestone in literary criticism—far from being an impediment to communication, ambiguity now seemed an index of poetic richness and expressive power. Little, however, has been written on the broader trajectory of Western thought about ambiguity before Empson; as a result, the nature of his innovation has been poorly understood. *A History of Ambiguity* remedies this omission. Starting with classical grammar and rhetoric, and moving on to moral theology, law, biblical exegesis, German philosophy, and literary criticism, Anthony Ossa-Richardson explores the many ways in which readers and theorists posited, denied, conceptualised, and argued over the existence of multiple meanings in texts between antiquity and the twentieth century. This process took on a variety of interconnected forms, from the Renaissance delight in the 'elegance' of ambiguities in Horace, through the extraordinary Catholic claim that Scripture could contain multiple literal—and not just allegorical—senses, to the theory of dramatic irony developed in the nineteenth century, a theory intertwined with discoveries of the double meanings in Greek tragedy. Such narratives are not merely of antiquarian interest: rather, they provide an insight into the foundations of modern criticism, revealing deep resonances between acts of interpretation in disparate eras and contexts. *A History of Ambiguity* lays bare the long tradition of efforts to liberate language, and even a poet's intention, from the strictures of a single meaning.

Valuing Landscape in Classical Antiquity

This book offers a new interpretation of Augustan literature, focusing on its imaginative reading of Greek musical culture.

A History of Ambiguity

Carpe diem – 'eat, drink and be merry, for tomorrow we die!' – is a prominent motif throughout ancient literature and beyond. This is the first book-length examination of its significance and demonstrates that close analysis can make a key contribution to a question that is central to literary studies in and beyond Classics: how can poetry give us the almost magical impression that something is happening here and now? In attempting an answer, Robert Rohland gives equal attention to Greek and Latin texts, as he offers new interpretations of well-known poems from Horace and tackles understudied epigrams. Pairing close readings of ancient texts along with interpretations of other forms of cultural production such as gems, cups, calendars, monuments, and Roman wine labels, this interdisciplinary study transforms our understanding of the motif of *carpe diem*.

Imagining the Chorus in Augustan Poetry

Focusing on the latest, longest, and greatest of the ancient Greek romances, this volume exploring Heliodorus' *Aethiopica* brings together fifteen established experts, each exploring a passage or section of the text in depth.

Carpe Diem

"This book is a study of the ways in which Kallimachos used hymns praising the Olympian gods to shape a political discourse on kingship emerging in the Hellenistic world. In it, I investigate how the poet crafts compelling new portrayals of the gods that refigure the politics of the divine family. In the new political order he depicts, Kallimachos virtually eliminates the harmful strife traditionally associated with these figures, reframing the gods as good kings and queens within the idiom of contemporary politics. Not only does Kallimachos depict these gods as pro-dynastic exemplars of good governance, but he also engages his audience in discourses on the nature of power, just rule, reciprocity, transgression and punishment, as well as the roles of kings, queens, and poets. In dialogue with a range of literary texts from the Archaic, Classical, and indeed contemporary periods, Kallimachos renegotiates the political dynamics of the Olympian gods who serve as paradigms for his ideology. I argue that this "new politics of Olympus" constitutes Kallimachos' effort to shape the political discourse emerging within and between the courts of Hellenistic superpowers. His hymns for the gods define what is praiseworthy and set the agenda for a conversation about power at the dawning of a new political phenomenon-Hellenistic

kingship. I close the book with a brief overview of Kallimachos' political ideology in the Hymns, the rhetorical strategies he employs, and the inter- and intratextual dynamics that draw readers of the poetry book into a larger discussion on power, authority, and just rule. Finally, I offer some speculations on the persuasive effect of praise on a potential Ptolemaic reader for whom the poetry book might serve as an education in and inducement to good kingship"--

Reading Heliodorus' *Aethiopica*

This volume provides an introduction to Lucretius' *De rerum natura*, the oldest completely preserved Latin didactic poem, and to the most important research questions concerned with the text.

The New Politics of Olympos

Lucretius