

Harriet Fertik
Department of Classics
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Pronouns: she/her/hers

Research Areas

Roman literature and political thought; classical receptions; Black classicisms

Academic Appointments

2022-: Assistant Professor, Department of Classics, The Ohio State University; Affiliate of Comparative Studies, Melton Center for Jewish Studies, and Near Eastern and South Asian Languages and Cultures

2020-2022: Associate Professor of Classics, Department of Classics, Humanities & Italian Studies, University of New Hampshire

2014-2020: Assistant Professor of Classics, Department of Classics, Humanities & Italian Studies, University of New Hampshire

Education

2014: Ph.D., Classical Studies, University of Michigan

2013: Graduate Teacher Certificate, University of Michigan, 2013

2008: A.B. with Honors, Classical Studies, The University of Chicago

Monograph

2019: *The Ruler's House: Contesting Power and Privacy in Julio-Claudian Rome*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press.

- Reviewed in *Gnomon*, *Classical World*, *The Classical Review*, *American Historical Review*, *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*, *Ancient History Bulletin*, *Journal of Roman Studies*, *Phoenix*

Co-edited Volume

2019 (with Mathias Hanses): Special Issue: *Above the Veil: Revisiting the Classicism of W. E. B. Du Bois*. *International Journal of the Classical Tradition*, 26.1.

Articles and Chapters (*=peer reviewed)

2024b (in press) "Antiquity, Tradition, and Anti-Blackness in Hannah Arendt's Public Sphere." *TAPA**

2024a. "Women's Work: Exploring a Tradition of Inquiry with W. E. B. Du Bois, Anna Julia Cooper, and Aristotle." In *The Routledge Handbook of Women and Ancient Greek Philosophy*, eds. Sara Brill and Catherine McKeen (New York: Routledge), 554-568.

2020: "Learning from Women: Mothers, Slaves, and Regime Change in Tacitus' *Dialogue on Orators*." *Polis: The Journal for Ancient Greek and Roman Political Thought* 37.2, 245-264.*

2019b: "Hell to Pay: Aristotle and W. E. B. Du Bois's Vision of Democracy in 'Of the Ruling of Men.'" *International Journal of the Classical Tradition* 26.1, 72-85.*

2019a: (with Mathias Hanses) "Above the Veil: Revisiting the Classicism of W. E. B. Du Bois." *International Journal of the Classical Tradition* 26.1, 1-9.*

2018b: "Obligation and Devotion: Creating a New Community in Lucan's *Bellum Civile*." *Classical Philology* 113.4, 449-471.*

2018a: "The Absent Landscape in Xenophon's *Hiero*." *Mnemosyne* 71, 384-393.*

2017: "Sex, Love, and Leadership in Cicero's *Philippics* 1 and 2." *Arethusa* 50.1, 65-88.*

2015: "Privacy and Power: The *De Clementia* and the Domus Aurea." In *Public and Private in the Roman House and Society*, eds. K. Tuori and L. Nissin, *Journal of Roman Archaeology Supplementary Series* 102, 17-29.*

Reviews

2023: David Withun, *Co-workers in the Kingdom of Culture: Classics and Cosmopolitanism in the Thought of W. E. B. Du Bois* (Oxford University Press, 2022). *International Journal of the Classical Tradition* 30.2, 236-239.

2021: Shushma Malik, *The Nero-Antichrist: Founding and Fashioning a Paradigm* (Cambridge University Press, 2020). *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2021.04.13.

2019: Alex Dressler, *Personification and the Feminine in Roman Philosophy* (Cambridge University Press, 2016). *Classical World* 112.2, 111-113.

2017: Eric Adler, *Classics, the Culture Wars, and Beyond* (University of Michigan Press, 2016). *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2017.06.33.

Lectures and Presentations (by invitation)

2023 (September): Panelist, "Material Culture for Classical Studies PhDs." Graduate Proseminar in Classics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

2023 (August): "Lovers of Texts: Classical Reception, Jewish Tradition, and Black American Literature." Department of Near Eastern and South Asian Languages and Cultures, The Ohio State University.

2023 (June): "Rethinking Classical Education with W. E. B. Du Bois's *The Souls of Black Folk* (1903)." American Classical League Institute, Washington University in St. Louis.

2021 (December): "Space to Speak: Du Bois and Cicero on Acting Like a Citizen." Colloquium on Ancient Rhetoric, Harvard University.

2021 (March): "'Real Race Problems': A White Jewish Classicist Reads Du Bois." W. E. B. Du Bois and the Ancient Mediterranean, Pennsylvania State University.

2021 (February): "The Freedman and the Sage: Learning to Be Free in *The Souls of Black Folk* and *De Otio*." Classics Colloquium, Columbia University.

2020 (planned October): "House-Building and Seneca's Political Theory in *Letter 90*." Reading Seneca's *Letters* Workshop, Cornell University. Postponed indefinitely due to Covid-19.

2020 (March): "Marginal Perspectives in Roman Political Thought: The Women of Tacitus' *Dialogus*." Classics Seminar Series, Johns Hopkins University.

2019 (February): "Teaching with the Greeks: W. E. B. Du Bois on Race and Universal History." Race Work in the Classics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

2018 (November): "Imagining Freedom: W. E. B. Du Bois and Cicero on Speech and Citizenship." Loyola University Maryland.

2018 (June): "Learning at Home: Mothers and Property in Roman Political Thought." Launch Workshop for Law, Governance and Space: Questioning the Foundations of the Republican Tradition, University of Helsinki.

2018 (March): "Telling Stories, Sharing History: Greeks, Romans, and Africa in W. E. B. Du Bois's *Black Folk Then and Now*." Racing the Classics, Princeton University.

2017 (February): "The Ruler's Body: Bathing, Dining, and Digesting at Trimalchio's Banquet." University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

2017 (February): "Privacy, Security, and Fragility in Public Life." Political Theory Workshop, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

2014 (September): "Love, Sex, and Leadership in Cicero's *Philippics*." Advanced Seminar in the Humanities, Venice International University.

Conference Papers (refereed)

2024 (January): "'Their rest could benefit humankind:' Seneca and W. E. B. Du Bois on Leisure as a Political Project." Annual Meeting of the Society for Classical Studies, Chicago, Illinois.

2020 (January): "Elite Exposure and Risky Encounters in the *Cubiculum*." Annual Meeting of the Archaeological Institute of America, Washington, D.C.

2019 (January): "Seneca's *Oedipus* and the Limits of Knowledge in Politics." Annual Meeting of the Society for Classical Studies, San Diego, California.

2017 (January): "Travel, the *Vita Activa*, and the *Vita Contemplativa* in Seneca's *De Otio* and Thomas More's *Utopia*." Annual Meeting of the Society for Classical Studies, Toronto, Canada.

2016 (May): "The Constructive Power of Women's Visions in Seneca's *Agamemnon* and *Oedipus*." Feminism and Classics VII, University of Washington.

2016 (January): "Hell to Pay: Classics and Radical Inclusion in W. E. B. Du Bois's 'Of the Ruling of Men.'" Annual Meeting of the Society for Classical Studies, San Francisco.

2015 (May): "The Absent Landscape: Placing Tyranny in Xenophon's *Hiero*." First Interdisciplinary Symposium on the Hellenic Heritage of Southern Italy, Syracuse, Sicily.

2013 (April): "Publicity, Vulnerability, and the Absolute Ruler in Seneca's *De Clementia*." Annual Meeting of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South, Iowa City, Iowa.

2012 (October): "Privacy and Power in Neronian Rome." Public and Private in the Roman House Workshop, New York University.

2012 (May): "*Discretam Domum et Rem Publicam*: Considering Imperial Rule in Seneca, Lucan, and Tacitus." Feminism and Classics VI, Brock University.

2012 (March): "Knowledge, Status, and Cicero's Argument in the *De Domo Sua*." Annual Meeting of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Conferences, Panels, and Workshops (Organizer)

2023 (January) (with *Eos: Africana Receptions of Ancient Greece and Rome*): "Classics and Black Feminist Traditions." Annual Meeting of the Society for Classical Studies, New Orleans, Louisiana.

2022 (October): (with Anna Wainwright) "Mother's Milk: Breastfeeding from Metaphor to Practice." University of New Hampshire.

2021 (January): (with *Eos: Africana Receptions of Ancient Greece and Rome*) "*Eos* READS: Toni Morrison, 'Unspeakable Things Unspoken: The Afro-American Presence in American Literature.'" Annual Meeting of the Society for Classical Studies.

2020 (October): (with *Eos: Africana Receptions of Ancient Greece and Rome*) "*Eos* READS For Black Lives." Online event: <https://www.eosafricana.org/reads/2020-eos-reads-for-black-lives>

2020 (January): (with *Eos: Africana Receptions of Ancient Greece and Rome*). "Black Classicisms in the Visual Arts." Annual Meeting of the Society for Classical Studies, Washington, D.C.

2019 (March): (with *Eos: Africana Receptions of Ancient Greece and Rome*): "*Eos* READS: Gwendolyn Brooks, 'The Anniad.'" Classical Association of New England Annual Meeting, Worcester, Massachusetts.

2019 (April): "Classical Reception and the Future of Classics." John C. Rouman Classical Lecture Series 20th Anniversary Celebration, University of New Hampshire.

2019 (January): (with *Eos: Africana Receptions of Ancient Greece and Rome*) "Theorizing Africana Receptions." Annual Meeting of the Society for Classical Studies, San Diego, California.

2016 (October): John C. Rouman Research Symposium: Political Thought and Political Engagement in the Roman Empire, University of New Hampshire.

2016 (January): (with Mathias Hanses) "Classica Africana Redux: Re-Visiting the Classicism of W. E. B. Du Bois." Annual Meeting of the Society for Classical Studies, San Francisco, California.

Fellowships, Grants, and Awards

2024: Virginia Hull Award, College of Arts and Sciences, The Ohio State University

2022: National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend

2021: University of New Hampshire Center for the Humanities Interdisciplinary Conference Grant and Sidore Master Class Funding for “Mother’s Milk: Breastfeeding from Metaphor to Practice” (with Anna Wainwright)

2020: Finalist, Hiatt Prize in the Humanities

2020: Teaching Excellence Award, College of Liberal Arts, University of New Hampshire

2017-2018: Humboldt Research Fellowship for Postdoctoral Researchers, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and William M. Calder III Fellowship, American Friends of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation

2017: Fellow, Institute for Critical Social Inquiry, New School for Social Research

2017: Faculty Fellow, Center for the Humanities, University of New Hampshire

2013-2014: Rackham Predoctoral Fellowship, University of Michigan

2013-2014: Fellow, Advanced Seminar in the Humanities, Venice International University

2007: Phi Beta Kappa, The University of Chicago

Teaching

The Ohio State University

- Classics 3210: Classics and African American Political Thought (Spring 2024)
- Latin 2106: Roman Comedy (Terence) (Spring 2024)
- Classics 7890: Black Classicisms and the Politics of Antiquity (Spring 2023)
- Classics 1101: Introduction to Classical Literature (Spring 2023, Autumn 2023)
- Latin 5014: Roman Drama (Seneca) (Autumn 2022)

Senior Thesis advisor for Minh-Thu Truong (BA 2023); Abigale Luber (BA expected 2024)

Field Exam advisor for Julius Grant-Gubbins (Neronian literature, Autumn 2024)

University of New Hampshire

- Race, Ethnicity, Class, and Classics (Spring 2021)
- Roman Houses, Domestic Space, and Public Life (Autumn 2015, 2018, 2021)
- Introduction to Roman Civilization (Spring 2019)
- The Golden Age of Rome (Autumn 2016)
- The Ancient Stage (Autumn 2014, Spring 2016)
- Democracies and Republics (Spring 2015)
- Elementary Latin (Autumn 2018-Spring 2019, Autumn 2019-Spring 2020, Spring 2021, Autumn 2021)
- Intermediate Latin: Caesar (Spring 2015)

- Advanced Latin: Catullus (Spring 2016)
- Intermediate Ancient Greek: Lysias and Plato (Autumn 2014, 2015, 2016)
- Advanced Ancient Greek: Plato's *Republic* (Spring 2021)

Service

The Ohio State University: Department of Classics

- Director of Graduate Admissions (2023-)
- Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (2023-)
- Latin Preliminary Exam Committee (2023-2024)
- Classics Chair Appointment Committee (Spring 2023)
- Faculty Advisor for Classics Coffee Hour (2022-)
- Search Committee, Assistant Professor in early Greek epic (2022-2023)
- Graduate Studies Committee (2022-)

The Ohio State University: Extra-Departmental

- Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts GE Assessment Group (2023-2024)
- Melton Center for Jewish Studies, Board Member (2022-) and Program Committee (2023-)

External

- Ohio Classical Conference Council (2024)
- Committee on Diversity in the Profession, Society for Classical Studies (2023-2026)
- Executive Committee member and Co-Founder, *Eos: Africana Receptions of Ancient Greece and Rome* (affiliate of the Society for Classical Studies) (2017-present)
- Lectures for New Hampshire middle school and high school programs (2017, 2019, 2020)
- Editorial Board, *New England Classical Journal* (2019-2021)
- Referee for *American Journal of Philology*, *Classical Receptions Journal*, *Critical Philosophy of Race*, *Eighteenth Century Studies*, *Illinois Classical Studies*, *Philosophy & Social Criticism*, *The Political Science Reviewer*, *Studies in Late Antiquity*, TAPA, Bloomsbury Academic, Routledge

University of New Hampshire: Department of Classics, Humanities & Italian Studies and University

- Faculty Senate Agenda Committee member (2021) and Senator for Classics, Humanities & Italian Studies (2018-2021)
- Classics Program Coordinator (2020-2021)
- Co-supervisor for Mariah Smith and Yuján Claros, Postdoctoral Research and Teaching Fellows in the Department of Classics, Humanities & Italian Studies (2018-2021)
- Steering Committee, Responsible Governance and Sustainable Citizenship Project (2016-2022)

- Search Committees, assistant professor in Humanities (2015-2016); postdoctoral research and teaching fellow in Classics (2018, 2021)
- Advisory Board, John C. Rouman Classical Lecture Series (2015-2022)
- Classics Program Extracurricular Activities Coordinator (2014-2017)

Professional Affiliations

Eos: Africana Receptions of Ancient Greece and Rome

Society for Classical Studies

Women's Classical Caucus

Languages: Latin (advanced reading), Ancient Greek (advanced reading), German (advanced reading and intermediate speaking), French (reading knowledge & elementary speaking), Italian (reading knowledge & elementary speaking)