

LAURA VIIDEBAUM

Department of Classics, New York University
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EDUCATION

2011–2015 University of Cambridge (UK), PhD in Classics
2010–2011 University of St. Andrews (UK), MLitt in Greek
2008–2010 University of Tartu (Estonia), MPhil in Classical Philology
2004–2008 University of Tartu (Estonia), BA in Philosophy and Classical Philology

EMPLOYMENT

2016– New York University, Assistant Professor in Classics
2015– 2016 New York University, Visiting Assistant Professor in Classics

* Parental leaves 2016, 2017–2018, 2022

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Rhetoric, ancient drama and its modern reception, Greek prose, Second Sophistic, literary criticism, sophists, ancient philosophy, Greek literature and philosophy in Rome, metapoetics

FELLOWSHIPS, VISITING POSITIONS, AND AWARDS

2023–2024 Alexander von Humboldt fellowship, Ludwig Maximilian's University of Munich
2023 William M Calder III Fellowship, American Friends of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation for research at Ludwig-Maximilian University Munich
2021 NYU Goddard fellowship
2020–2021 Tartu University, Visiting researcher in Ancient Philosophy and Classics
2019 NYU Florence fellowship
2017 Humanities First Book Colloquium Award, NYU
2013 – 2015 Graduate Teaching Assistant Bursary Award, Faculty of Classics, Cambridge.
2013 – 2014 Advanced School for Humanities, International University of Venice.
2013 Classical Association fellowship at the Fondation Hardt in Geneva.
2012 – 2014 UK Arts and Humanities Research Council, PhD scholarship.
2012 – 2015 SA Archimedes, Kristjan Jaak scholarship for PhD.
2012 – 2013 Estonian Students Fund in USA, scholarship for PhD.
2011 – 2012 SA Archimedes, Kristjan Jaak scholarship.
2011 – 2012 Faculty of Classics (Cambridge), studentship.
2011 SA Archimedes, Diploma award for the MLitt dissertation.
2010 – 2011 Estonian National Culture Foundation, MLitt scholarship.
2010 Hellenic Government Scholarship, University of Ioannina (Greece).
2009 Georg-August-Universität Göttingen (Germany), Faculty of Classics scholarship.

PUBLICATIONS

Monographs

- 2021 *Creating the ancient rhetorical tradition*, Cambridge University Press.
Reviews: M. Kennerly, *BMCR* 2022.06.13; A. Iacoviello (2022), *The Classical Review*, 1-3 (doi:10.1017/S0009840X22002219).

Edited volumes

- 2024 (forthcoming) Ed. with Richard Hunter. *Dio Chrysostom and Writing the Empire*.
2024 (forthcoming) Ed. with Pierre Destrée. *The Cambridge Critical Guide to Aristotle's Rhetoric*. Cambridge University Press.

Journal articles

- 2023 (forthcoming) 'Taste and the kinds of readers' in *Helios*, special edition 'Reading Beyond Hermeneutics', eds. J. Billings and F. Budelmann.
2023 (forthcoming) 'Who is an idiot in ancient criticism?', in *Classical Quarterly*.
2021 'Instituionaalse filosoofia algus: Isokrates pärast Sokratest' in *Studia Philosophica Estonica*, 13, 97-118, 2021. Accessible: <https://ojs.utlib.ee/index.php/spe/article/view/18648>

Chapters in edited volumes

- 2024 (forthcoming) 'The unity of Aristotle's *Rhetoric*?', in *The Cambridge Critical Guide to Aristotle's Rhetoric*.
2024 (forthcoming) 'The center and periphery: Dio of Chrysostom and the centrifugal forces of writing'.
2024 (forthcoming) 'Dionysius of Halicarnassus and the rhetorical tradition', in *Companion to Ancient Rhetoric*, eds. S. Papaioannou and A. Serafim (Walter De Gruyter).
2021 'On coming after Socrates' in *Greek Literary Reception in Antiquity: New tracks through the forest*, eds. M. Fantuzzi, H. Morales, T. Whitmarsh. Cambridge University Press.
2018 'Dionysius and Lysias' charm' in *Dionysius of Halicarnassus. Criticism and History in Augustan Rome*, eds. C. C. de Jonge and R. Hunter. Cambridge University Press.

Reviews

- 2020 Short book review/endorsement report of the Estonian translation of P. Hadot's *Philosophy as a way of life*. Accessible: <https://www.tlu.ee/pood/home/320-mis-on-antiikfilosoofia.html>
2016 Georgia Sermamoglou-Soulmaidi, *Playful Philosophy and Serious Sophistry. A Reading of Plato's 'Euthydemus'*. *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2016.04.05. Accessible at <http://bmcr.brynmawr.edu/2016/2016-04-05.html>
2012 'Play: Euripides' *Iphigenia at Aulis*', *Didaskalia: The Journal for Ancient Performance* (9), 2012. Accessible at <http://www.didaskalia.net/issues/9/14/>.

Translations and editorship (into Estonian)

- 2023 Editor of the first Estonian translation of Aristotle's *Rhetoric*. Ilmamaa.
2025 (under contract) First Estonian translation and commentary of Plato's *Euthydemus*.

CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR PAPERS (FROM AY 2015/6)

Events organized

- 2023 (with N. Janssen and I. Peirano-Garrison) Conference: *Colloquium for Ancient Rhetoric*. Harvard Center for Hellenic Studies, Washington DC.
- 2022 Workshop on Plato's *Euthydemus*, special guest: Franco Trivigno (Oslo). NYU.
- 2022 (with Pierre Destrée) Publication workshop on Aristotle's *Rhetoric*. NYU.
- 2022 (with Richard Hunter) Publication workshop: *Dio and writing the empire*. Cambridge University.
- 2021 (with Toomas Lott) Workshop on ancient philosophy. Tartu University.
- 2021— (with N. Janssen and I. Peirano-Garrison) Online platform: *Colloquium for Ancient Rhetoric* (CAR).
- 2018 (with Richard Hunter) Conference: *The politics of writing: literary form and philosophical engagement in Dio Chrysostom and the early Empire*. NYU.
- 2017 (with Toomas Lott) Conference: *Between philosophy and rhetoric*. NYU.
- 2015 Conference panel: *Greek rhetoric and criticism in Rome*. ISHR. University of Tübingen.
- 2015 (with Tom Geue and Ingo Gildenhard) Workshop: *Metapoetics*. King's College, Cambridge.

Invited lectures

- 2023 *University of Uppsala*. 'Alogos aesthesis'. Ancient Philosophy Colloquium special speaker. (April)
- 2022 *University of California, Los Angeles*. 'Idiotes in ancient criticism'. Classics Department research seminar. (November)
- 2022 *University of California, Los Angeles*. 'Dio Chrysostom'. Graduate seminar speaker. (November)
- 2022 *Columbia University*. 'Plato's *Symposium*'. Lecture in the *Literature Humanities Core Course*. (October)
- 2021 *Colloquium for Ancient Rhetoric* (online). 'Alogos aesthesis'. Launch of the platform. (October)
- 2021 *Tartu University*. 'Intellectuals at the turn of the century'. Department research seminar. (October)
- 2020 *Columbia University*. 'Sophists and intellectuals at the turn of the century'. Classics Department research seminar. (February)
- 2019 *Princeton University*. 'Isocrates' *Against the sophists*'. (December)
- 2018 *Humboldt Universität zu Berlin*. 'Isokrates and Sokrates'. Seminar series 'Women in philosophy'. (July)
- 2018 *NYCAP*. 'Plato, *Alcibiades P*'. Leading research seminar. (March)
- 2015 *New York University*. 'Lysias in Rome'. Department research seminar. (October)
- 2015 *Cambridge University*. 'Dio on philosophy'. A Caucus seminar. (February)

Conference papers

- 2023 *NYU, Birbeck University*. 'Philosophy of style in Aristotle's *Rhetoric* III'. Ancient philosophy workshop. (July)
- 2023 (with Mattia Roveri) *Rome, Museo delle Civiltà*. 'A study of the ancient Roman soldier: Ennio Flaiano's *Tempo di uccidere*'. Classics and Italian Colonialism. (June)
- 2023 *Columbia University*. 'Inventing the Attic (life)style in Rome'. Imperial Attica. (March)
- 2022 *New York University*. 'The rhetoric of Aristotle's *Rhetoric*'. Publication workshop on Aristotle's *Rhetoric*. (October)
- 2022 *Durham University*. 'Who was an intellectual in Classical Athens?'. Portrayals of Intellectuals in the Ancient World. (June)

- 2022 *Cambridge University*. 'Dio Chrysostom on centre and periphery'. Dio Chrysostom and the Writing of Empire. (April)
- 2020 *Oxford University*. 'Was Aspasia a sophist?' Women Intellectuals in Antiquity. (February)
- 2019 (with Toomas Lott) *Tartu University*. 'Looking for experts in Plato's *Laches*'. Ancient Philosophy Colloquium. (October)
- 2019 *University of Manchester*. 'Past perfect: Isocrates and the Emergence of Public Intellectuals'. Public Intellectuals in Pre-modern world. (September)
- 2016 *San Francisco*. 'Defamiliarising Cicero's *De re publica*'. *SCS*. (January)
- 2015 *Yale University*. 'Lysias in Rome'. Workshop 'Between rhetoric and historiography'. (October)
- 2015 *University of Tübingen*. 'Dio's rhetoric of philosophy'. *ISHR*. (July)
- 2015 *Central European University in Budapest*. 'Dio on philosophy (*orr.* 70 and 71)'. *Ideology, Knowledge, and Society in the Eastern Mediterranean*. (June)
- 2015 *University of York*. 'Philosophical protreptics and Plato's *Euthydemus*'. The British Society for the History of Philosophy. (April)

Book Colloquium

- 2022 *Colloquium for Ancient Rhetoric* (online), roundtable event on recent work in rhetoric. Discussion of two recent monographs, including my *Creating the ancient rhetorical tradition*. With responses from A. Ford, Y. Baraz, B. Kirkland, S. Gurd.

ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICE

To the Department of Classics at New York University

- WE Trust Fellowship committee member (2021)
- Website Coordinator (2020-21)
- Latin search committee member (2018)
- Greek & Latin language evaluation for entering PhD students (2017-21)
- Department research seminar coordinator (2017-20)
- Graduate Proseminar convener (2017)
- Faculty advisor for Greekfest at Columbia University, topic: Lycophron *Alexandra* (2017)
- Works-in-progress seminar organizer (2016-18)
- AMI committee member (2016-17)

To New York University

- Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Women Faculty Caucus Chair (elected; 2018-)
- Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Equity Report, committee member (appointed; 2023)

To Downing College, Cambridge University

- Admission interviewer in Classics (2014)

To the profession

Classics: member of the Society for Classical Studies

Peer review:

Book publishers: Cambridge University Press

Journals: Transactions of the American Philological Association, Classical Quarterly

To the Estonian Educational Society at New York

Board member (elected; 2019-21)

New York Estonian School Principal (elected; 2019-22)

New York Estonian School Interim Committee Chair (elected; 2018-19)

TEACHING & ADVISING

Courses taught

Undergraduate courses

New York University Greek thinkers (2022, 2020, 2019), Advanced Greek – Attic oratory, Rhetoric and philosophy (2022, 2017), Socrates and his critics (2021), Persuasion (2021), First Year Seminar: Greek drama (2020), Intermediate Greek I: Plato (2018, 2019), Intermediate Greek II: Homer (2019, 2020), Greek drama (2020), Elementary Greek I (2015, 2016), Elementary Greek II (2017).

Cambridge University Greek language teacher (2014, 2015), Graduate teaching assistant (2013, 2014), College supervisions for Downing, Pembroke, St Catherine's Girton, Jesus, Churchill colleges (2013, 2014, 2015).

Tartu Health College Medical Latin (2009)

Graduate courses

New York University Greek prose survey (2015), Aristotle's *Rhetoric* (2019), Classics and Theory (scheduled 2024)

Advising

Senior honors thesis

2021 Heather A. Dupire-Nelson 'The development of animal rights theory in Classical Antiquity' [best undergraduate thesis].

2018 Madeline Bono 'Addiction in the ancient world' (2018).

Dissertation advising

Primary advisor:

current Andrea Tisano, poets and conceptions of poetry in Aristotle.

Committee member:

current Alex Istok, on the apology genre in Early Christian writers.

current Rebekah Rust, on metaphors of *thumos* in Greek tragedy.

current Rebecca Sausville, on civic expressions of *paideia* in the Roman east.

PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EVENTS (* for events in Estonian)

Events organized

2020* 'Classics and Ancient philosophy for all: careers edition'. Seminar. Tartu University. (November)

2020 NYU Women Faculty Caucus Social event. (November)

2020* 'Teaching ancient languages today'. Seminar. Tartu University. (October)

2019 NYU Equity Report discussion. Women Faculty Caucus Focus Group. (December)

2019 'Humanities at the time of climate crisis'. Student discussion group organizer. NYU. (December)

2019 'Microaggression'. Women Faculty Caucus Focus Group meeting. NYU. (April)

- 2019 'Childcare in New York City'. Women Faculty Caucus and Work/Life Office. NYU. (March)
- 2019 'Diversity'. Women Faculty Caucus and NYU Diversity Office. NYU. (February)
- 2018 'Childcare assistance at NYU'. Women Faculty Caucus. NYU. (November)

Public lectures, performances, TV interviews

- 2023* 'The role of humanities in contemporary society'. Short video for public debate. Tartu.
- 2022* (with Riin Sirkel) 'White men and the ancient world'. Radio performance for cultural journal *Vikerkaar*. Link: <https://podtail.com/da/podcast/vikerkaare-podcast/vikerkaare-podcast-11-riin-sirkel-ja-laura-viideba/>
- 2019* 'Sokrates'. Public lecture for Open Academy (Tartu, Estonia). Link: <https://bit.ly/2ovs84w>
- 2019* Television interview on Estonian National TV (ETV2) on 'Classics and humanities in the changing world'. (October) Link: <https://etv2.err.ee/988136/plekktrummi>
- 2019* (with Toomas Lott) 'Plato's *Republic*'. Radio discussion for KUKU. Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UPUDar13gzw&ab_channel=EdmundBurke%27iSelts
- 2019 'Ancient speechwriting'. Public performance at a speechwriting event 'Speakeasy', hosted by WestWing Writers in NYC club Caveat. (January)
- 2018* 'Greek comedy – antiquity from a modern perspective'. Public lecture on Open Academy (Tartu, Estonia). (July) Link: <https://bit.ly/2omfV1M>
- 2017 'The return of the warrior: friendship and comradeship in the military'. Scholar-participant in a reading group sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities and Aquila Theatre. (February – March, 5 sessions).

Interviews

- 2021* 'Classics and ancient cultures', Interview for science magazine *Novaator* (in Estonian) (<https://novaator.err.ee/1608103264/antiigiteadlane-antiikkultuur-aitab-luua-elujoulesemaid-valjendusvormi>)
- 2017* 'The contemporary of Grotowski [Estonian: Grotowski kaasteeline]', Interview with NYU Professor Richard Schechner on ancient Greek theatre. (March) Link: <http://www.sirp.ee/s1-artiklid/teater/grotowski-kaasteeline/>
- 2016* 'The cradle of rhetorical intentions [Estonian: Retooriliste kavaluste häll]', Interview on the importance of Classics education in Estonia and beyond. Link: <http://www.sirp.ee/s1-artiklid/c9-sotsiaalia/retooriliste-kavaluste-hall/>

MODERN LANGUAGES

Estonian (mother tongue), **English** (fluent), **German** (fluent), **Italian** (very good), **French** (good), **Modern Greek** (basic), **Russian** (basic)

TECHNOLOGY

- Learning applications: Google classroom, Whooo's reading, Padlet and eduCannon
- Operating systems: Apple, Linux (Debian, Ubuntu), MS Windows
- Applications: Microsoft Office tools