

Loren J. Samons II

Professor of Classical Studies
Department of Classical Studies
Boston University
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Providence, RI 02906
(401) 831-2678

Education:

Ph.D. (Ancient History)	Brown University, 1991
A.M.	Brown University, 1987
B.A. <i>summa cum laude</i>	Baylor University, 1986

Special Interests:

Greek history and literature in the fifth and sixth centuries B.C.; Athenian democracy and imperialism; Greek and Roman historiography; warfare in antiquity; Roman republican history; later Roman empire.

Publications:

Books:

Pericles and the Conquest of History (Cambridge and New York: Cambridge University Press, forthcoming, 2015).

The Cambridge Companion to the Age of Pericles, editor and contributor (Cambridge and New York: Cambridge University Press, 2007).

What's Wrong with Democracy? From Athenian Practice to American Worship, (Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, 2004; paperback, 2007; Turkish translation, *Demokrasinin Nesi Var? Yapi Kredi Yayinlari*, 2013).

Empire of the Owl. Athenian Imperial Finance, *Historia Einzelschriften* no. 142 (Stuttgart: Franz Steiner, 2000).

Athenian Democracy and Imperialism, editor (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1998).

Athens from Cleisthenes to Pericles, with C. W. Fornara (Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1991).

Articles and Book Chapters:

- “Periclean Imperialism and Imperial Finance in Context,” in S. R. Jensen and T. Figueira, eds., *Athenian Hegemonic Finances*, Classical Press of Wales: Swansea (forthcoming).
- “Forms and Forums of Public Speech,” in H. Beck, ed., *A Companion to Greek Government* (Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2013), pp. 267-83.
- “Marathon and Athenian ‘Collaboration’,” *Arion* 18.3 (2011), 155-58.
- “Greek Finance,” *Oxford Encyclopedia of Ancient Greece and Rome* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010), vol. 3, pp. 177-79.
- “Athens—A Democratic Empire,” in K. Kagan, ed., *The Imperial Moment* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2010), pp. 12-31, 200-208.
- “Thucydides’ Sources and the Spartan Plan at Sphakteria,” *Hesperia* 75 (2006), 525-540.
- “Ancient Lessons for Postmoderns,” a response in the forum on “The Uses of Classical History for Contemporary Themes,” *Historically Speaking* 6.3 (January/February 2005), pp. 29-30.
- “Revolution or Compromise?” in E. W. Robinson, ed., *Ancient Greek Democracy* (Oxford: Blackwell, 2003), pp. 113-122 [partial reprint of *Arion* 1998 article with new material added].
- “Democracy, Empire and the Search for the Athenian Character,” *Arion* 8.3 (2001), 128-157.
- “Socrates, Virtue and the Modern Professor,” *Journal of Education* 182.2 (2000 [2001]), 19-27.
- “Aeschylus, the Alkmeonids and the Reform of the Areopagos,” *Classical Journal* 94 (1999), 221-233.
- “Kimon, Kallias and Peace with Persia,” *Historia* 47 (1998), 129-140.
- “Mass, Elite, and Hoplite-Farmer in Greek History,” review and discussion of J. Ober, *The Athenian Revolution*, and V. Hanson, *The Other Greeks*, *Arion*, 3rd ser., 5.3 (1998), 99-123.
- “A Note on the Parthenon Inventories and the Date of IG i³ 52,” *Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik* 118 (1997), 179-182.

“The ‘Kallias Decrees’ (*IG i³ 52*) and the Inventories of Athena’s Treasure in the Parthenon,” *Classical Quarterly* 46 (1996), 91-102.

“Rome, Italy and Appius Claudius Caecus before the Pyrrhic Wars,” with K. A. Raaflaub and J. D. Richards, in *The Age of Pyrrhus*, R. Holloway, et al., eds., *Archaeologia Transatlantica* (1992 [1994]), 13-50.

“Athenian Finance and the Treasury of Athena,” *Historia* 42 (1993), 129-138.

“The *Vita Liutbirgae*,” *Classica et Mediaevalia* 43 (1992), 273-286.

“Opposition to Augustus,” with K. A. Raaflaub, in *Between Republic and Empire: Interpretations of Augustus and his Principate*, K. A. Raaflaub, M. Toher, eds., (Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1990), pp. 417-454.

A Global Encyclopedia of Historical Writing, 2 vols., D. R. Woolf, ed., (New York, 1998); the following articles: “Ammianus Marcellinus,” p. 29; “C. Iulius Caesar,” pp. 131-132; “Felix Jacoby,” p. 479; “Procopius,” p. 738; “Roman Historiography,” pp. 782-783; “Tacitus,” pp. 875-876.

Reviews:

J. Zumbrennen, *Silence and Democracy: Athenian Politics in Thucydides’ History* (University Park: Pennsylvania State University Press, 2008), *Journal of Hellenic Studies* 131 (2011), 208-210.

G. Mara, *The Civic Conversations of Thucydides and Plato. Classical Political Philosophy and the Limits of Democracy* (Albany, NY: State University of New York Press, 2008), *Classical Review* 60.1 (2010), 32-34.

L. Kurke, *Coins, Bodies, Games, and Gold* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1999), *International Journal of the Classical Tradition*, 10.2 (2003 [2004]), 281-86.

A. Santosuosso, *Soldiers, Citizens, and the Symbols of War* (Boulder, CO and Oxford: Westview Press, 1997), *International Journal of the Classical Tradition* 7.2 (2000 [2002]).

H. Elton, *Warfare in Roman Europe, AD 350 - 425* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1996), *International Journal of the Classical Tradition* 6.3 (2000), 470-473.

T. Rood, *Thucydides: Narrative and Explanation* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1998), *Religious Studies Review* 26.1 (2000), 78.

- A. K. Goldsworthy, *The Roman Army at War, 100 BC - AD 200* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1996), *Religious Studies Review* 25.1 (1999), 91.
- T. Figueira, *The Power of Money: Coinage and Politics in the Athenian Empire* (Philadelphia: Univ. of Pennsylvania Press, 1997), *Ancient History Bulletin* 12 (1998), 141-142.
- A. J. Woodman and R. H. Martin, eds., *The Annals of Tacitus. Book 3* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996), *Religious Studies Review* 24.1 (1998), 76.
- E. Badian, *From Plataea to Potidaea: Studies in the History and Historiography of the Pentecontaetia* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1993), *Religious Studies Review* 23.2 (1997), 170-171.
- K. Robb, *Literacy and Paideia in Ancient Greece* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1994), *History of Education Quarterly* 35 (1995), 439-441.

Current Projects:

A Thucydides Reader, ed. with Stephen Esposito, *Oxford Greek and Latin College Commentaries* (Oxford University Press)

Kimón and the Creation of Classical Athens (under contract for Cambridge University Press).

“Was Pericles ‘Periclean’?”

“Herodotus and the Kimonids”

Papers, Lectures, Speeches, and Presentations:

“Homer and Thucydides,” invited lecture at Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA, Sept. 7, 2015.

“Thucydides and the Social Sciences,” lecture for Core Social Sciences (CC203), Sept. 3, 2015.

“Financial Lessons from Periclean Athens,” invited lecture for the Greek Economic Forum, Harvard University, May 13, 2015.

“Passing Judgment in Thucydides?” commentary on J. McDonald, “Reading Religious Transgression in Thucydides’ Delion Debate (Thuc. 4.89-101),” New England Ancient Historians Colloquium, Providence College, Providence, RI, April 9, 2015

- “Is the Modern West Living up to the Standards of Ancient Greece? A Debate” (with Profs. S. Nelson, I. Evrigenis, N. Prevelakis), Lectures in Modern Philhellenism, Boston University, March 26, 2015.
- “How to Win a War in Ancient Greece: The Soldier as Citizen,” lecture for James P. Timilty School, Roxbury, MA, March 25, 2015.
- “Greek Origins and Homer,” lecture for Globally Speaking program, Boston University, March 19, 2015.
- “Cavafy: The *Philhellene* Mystery,” lecture for CG350 (Modern Greek Literature), Boston University, March 16, 2015.
- “Virgil, Augustus, and the Benefits of Empire,” lecture for CC102 (Core Humanities), Boston University, Feb. 24, 2015.
- “The Polis, Greek History, and Thucydides,” lecture for Core Humanities (CC101), November 11, 2014.
- “Citizenship in a Democracy: the Hoplite and the Citizen,” the Robert P. Smith Fellowship Lecture at Roxbury Latin, Oct. 23, 2014.
- “Cavafy and Caesar,” lecture for CG356 (Modern Greek Literature), Boston University, Oct. 1, 2014.
- “Academic Success in Boston,” presentation at the Greek Consulate in Boston, Sept. 22, 2014.
- “Homer and Thucydides,” invited lecture at Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA, Sept. 8, 2014.
- “Thucydides and the Social Sciences,” lecture for Core Social Sciences (CC203), Sept. 4, 2014.
- “The Chariot, the Coming of the Greeks, and Homer,” lecture for CG350 (Modern Greek Short Story), Boston University, April 21, 2014
- “How to Win a War in Ancient Greece,” Hopkinton Middle School, April 7, 2014.
- “Forgotten Lessons from Ancient Greece: A Philhellenism for Today,” Boston University, Lectures in Modern Philhellenism, March 28, 2014.
- “Don’t Judge Me: Democratic Leadership in the Twenty-first Century,” Boston University Academy All-School Meeting, March 27, 2014.

- “The Value—and Costs—of Citizenship in Ancient Greece,” Alpha Omega Council, Boston, MA, March 20, 2014.
- “Pericles and Homer,” the Christopher Roberts Lecture, Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA, October 5, 2013.
- “The Dangers of a First Citizen: Ancient and Modern,” Dickinson College, October 4, 2013, with B. J. McConville.
- “Thucydides and the Social Sciences,” lecture for Core Social Sciences (CC203), Sept. 5, 2013.
- “Pericles the ‘Moderate’?” invited lecture at Brown University, January 30, 2013.
- “Democracy, Citizenship and the Vote,” talk for the Greek Council, Boston University, November 13, 2012.
- “Homer, Fate, and the Problem of Human Nature,” Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA, August 30, 2012.
- “What’s Wrong with Democracy?” talk for CAS Core Curriculum Lunchbox Series, Feb. 1, 2012.
- “Pericles and Democracy,” Baylor University, Waco, TX, October 10, 2011.
- “Homer and Thucydides,” Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA, September 2, 2011.
- “Periclean Finance: A Speculative History,” University of Edinburgh, July 30, 2010, Celtic Conference in Classics, plenary lecture.
- “The Hoplite and the Citizen,” Pomfret School, Pomfret, CT, October 20, 2009.
- “What the Gods Demand: Blood Sacrifice in Mediterranean Antiquity,” Chair of panel on animal sacrifice, Boston University, November 19, 2008.
- “Pericles of Athens and the Dangers of Democracy,” lecture for the Getty Villa, Los Angeles, CA, June 5, 2008.
- “Boethius and Socrates—The Greatest of All Goods,” commencement address, Boston University Academy, May 19, 2008.
- “Hoplites as Citizens: The Greek Infantry Tradition and Classical History,” Dickinson College, April 2008.
- “Church and State in the Later Roman Empire,” Dickinson College, April 2008.

- “Tragedy and History: Pericles, Democracy, and Sophocles’ *Antigone*,”
Dickinson College, April 2008.
- “Greek Philosophy at the Court of Theodoric the Ostrogoth,” Feb. 20, 2008,
University of Richmond.
- “Infantry Battle from the Greek Phalanx to the Germanic Tribes,” Feb. 20, 2008,
University of Richmond.
- “The Problems with Athenian Democracy,” Feb. 21, 2008, University of
Richmond.
- “Problems with Democracy,” lecture for Boston University Academy plenary
meeting, April 5, 2007.
- “Some Aspects of the Career of Kimon of Athens,” invited lecture for the
conference in honor of Charles W. Fornara, Brown University, October,
2006
- “Beauty and Ugliness in Athenian and American Democracy,” invited lecture,
Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA, April 17, 2006.
- “Good and Evil, Beauty and Ugliness: Monuments and Lessons of Athenian
Democracy,” invited lecture for the Getty Villa, Los Angeles, CA, in
conjunction with the Villa’s reopening celebration, January 23, 25, 2006.
- “Public Finance and the Problems with Democracy,” invited lecture for the
Algonquin Club, Boston, MA, December 13, 2005.
- “The Genius of Alexander: Tactics and Strategy,” invited lecture for the Pomfret
School, Pomfret, CT, November 8, 2005.
- “Alexander’s Greatness: Geography, Topography, and Tactics,” lecture for the
Primary Source institute (program for secondary school teachers); Malden,
MA, July 12, 2005.
- “The Ancient Hoplite and the Modern Citizen,” lecture for Boston University
Multicultural Weekend, March 18, 2005.
- “What’s Wrong with Democracy?” Invited lecture for Boston University
Conversazione, March 17, 2005.
- “Freedom and Capitalism as Virtues?” speech for the School of Management
Honors Program dinner, January, 2005.
- “Democracy, National Defense, and the Citizen,” lecture for Core Curriculum
Current Events Society, December 7, 2004.

- “The Vote and Citizenship,” keynote address for annual Massachusetts Junior Classical League meeting, December 1, 2004.
- “Athens—A Democratic Empire,” presented at the Beginnings of Empire conference/workshop, Harvard University, Sept. 24-26, 2004.
- “Utility and Beauty,” speech for the Boston University International Liaisons, July 14, 2004.
- “How to Conquer the World (Tactics, Strategies, and Circumstances of Roman Imperialism,” lecture for the Massachusetts Junior Classical League, December 2003.
- “A Carian Sort of Allies,” N. Luraghi (Harvard Univ.). Commentator on this paper for New England Ancient Historians Colloquium, April 3, 2003.
- “Ancient Rhetoric and Modern Public Speaking,” lecture for Boston University President’s Hosts, March 5, 2003.
- “Leadership in a Democracy,” speech for Boston University Student Leadership Banquet, November 6, 2002.
- “What’s Wrong with Democracy (Ancient and Modern)?” Trustee Scholars Lecture, Boston University, September 23, 2002.
- “Reconstructions in Greek History,” invited commentary presented at The Historical Society conference, Atlanta GA, May 2002.
- “What’s Wrong with Democracy?” invited lecture for the Boston University Honors Society, March 2002.
- “The Place of Democracy in Athenian History, or, In Defense of a Practical History of Athens,” invited paper given at the Langford Conference on Approaches to Athenian Democracy, hosted by P. J. Rhodes, Tallahassee, FL, February 19, 2002.
- “The Hoplite and the Citizen,” invited lecture at Boston College High School, Dec. 11, 2001.
- “Herodotus and the Social Sciences,” for AN 703 (Prof. Peter Wood), Oct. 18, 2001.
- “Roman History and Augustus,” for Core Humanities II (CC 102), March 15, 2001, etc.

“Greek History before Plato,” for Core Humanities I (CC 101), November 9, 1999, etc.

“The Historical and Political Background of Plato’s *Republic*” for SED 703, Professor Charles Glenn, et al., September 20, 1999.

“Ancient Regimes and the Structure of American Government,” invited lecture for Massachusetts middle-school teachers, April 6, 1999.

“Kimon and the Creation of Classical Athens,” College of Arts and Sciences Forum *Lectures at the Castle*, Boston University, February 17, 1999.

Indiction Address, Boston University Matriculation, September 2, 1998.

“How to Conquer the World (Tactics, Strategies and Circumstances of Roman Imperialism),” invited colloquium presented to the Undergraduate Classics Association of Boston University, March 19, 1997.

“Who Killed Socrates? (Lessons of Athenian Democracy),” invited lecture presented to the Boston University Hellenic Association, February 5, 1997

“Athenian Democracy and Imperialism,” paper presented to the Society of Fellows, Boston University Humanities Foundation at Boston University, April 9, 1996.

“Models and Mentors,” invited lecture at Baylor University annual Honors Program Banquet, April 21, 1994.

“Themes in Greek History,” invited lecture for Brookline Public School Teachers, May 6, 1994.

Media:

“Philhellenism in Boston,” in-studio appearance for WTBU radio, March 30, 2015.

“How to Win a War in Ancient Greece,” taped lecture for Hopkinton Schools, HCAM-TV, Hopkinton, MA, March 27, 2015.

“What Everyone Should Know about Ancient Greece,” in-studio appearance for Grecian Echoes radio program (hosts Ted Demetriadis and Stamatis Astra), WNTN 1550, Boston, Dec. 17, 2014.

“Excavations at Amphipolis,” interview on Grecian Echoes radio program (host Stamatis Astra), WNTN 1550, Boston, November 14, 2014.

- “Grecian Echoes,” interview on radio program (hosts Ted Demetriades and Stamatis Astra), WNTN 1550, Boston, to discuss Philhellenism, March 27, 2014.
- “Grecian Echoes,” interview on radio program (hosts Ted Demetriades and Stamatis Astra), WNTN 1550, Boston, to discuss BU Philhellenes Project and Summer Study in Athens, March 31, 2013.
- “Caesar’s Strategy and Genius in Gaul,” podcast for Dickinson College Commentaries: <http://dcc.dickinson.edu/podcasts/caesars-army> published 8/2012.
- “Caesar’s Army,” podcast for Dickinson College Commentaries: <http://dcc.dickinson.edu/podcasts/caesars-strategy-and-genius> published 8/2012.
- “Greek Studies at Boston University,” interview for Greek Television (ERT) with Katerina Thanasoula, scheduled to air 2011.
- “Experimental Education: Why Take the Core Curriculum?” Blog for the Boston University Core Curriculum, March 2011: <http://blogs.bu.edu/core/2011/03/30/why-take-the-core-part-i-experimental-education/>
- “Problems with Democracy,” interview with Rob Mitchell’s “Pages to People” program, WBNW radio, April 24, 2007 (aired April 28, 2007).
- “Who Killed Socrates?” essay for UK Channel 4 website in conjunction with “Athens: The Truth about Democracy” program; July 2006: <http://www.channel4.com/history/microsites/H/history/c-d/democracy/athens/who-killed-socrates.html>
- “Athens: The Truth about Democracy,” interview with Bettany Hughes for this UK Channel 4/PBS production, December 8, 2006; UK airdate, July 2007; US, November, 2007.
- “How to Spot a Demagogue,” essay for Univ. of California Press blog; October 2006; http://ucpress.typepad.com/ucpresslog/2006/10/how_to_spot_a_d.html
- “Suffrage,” interview for BBC radio The World Today, program on suffrage, July 31, 2006, WGBH, Boston; aired August, 2006.
- Various radio appearances in conjunction with publication of *What’s Wrong with Democracy?* fall 2004, spring 2005.

Fellowships and Awards:

Robert P. Smith Fellowship Lecture, Roxbury Latin, 2014
Christopher Roberts Lecturer, Dickinson College 2013
NEH Distinguished Teaching Professor 2011-2014
Onassis Senior Visiting Scholar 2007-2008
Honors Program Award for Teaching 2001
Golden Key Honor Society Award 2000
Metcalf Award for Excellence in Teaching 1998
Gitner Award for Distinguished Teaching 1996
Visiting Senior Associate Member,
American School of Classical Studies 1996 (June)
Boston University Society of Fellows 1995-1996
Mellon Fellow in the Humanities 1986-1991
Marston-Baylor Fellow 1989
Phi Beta Kappa 1986

Professional Service:

Referee for *Hesperia*, *Historia*, *TAPA*, *Rheinisches Museum*, *The Journal of the Historical Society*, *Arion*, Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, Princeton University Press, Blackwell, University of Michigan Press, University of California Press, Yale University Press.

University Service:

Departmental:

Director of Undergraduate Studies (Fall 2013, 2014 -)
Co-Director, BUPh Summer Study in Athens (2014 -)
Co-Founder, Boston University Philhellenes and BUPh Summer Study in Athens (2012 -)
M.A.T. Coordinator (2012)
Chairman (2006 - 2012)
Committee on B.A. and B.A./M.A. Programs, Chair (2000 - 2002)
Director of Undergraduate Studies (1996 - 99)
Faculty Advisor of the Classics House (1994 - 99)
Faculty Advisor and Organizer of Undergraduate Classics Association (1997 - 99, 2000 - 2002)
Latin Contest (Annual Scholarship Competition) - assisted in exam preparation, administration, hosting parents (1994 - 97)
New England Ancient Historians Colloquium, Host (4/10/96, 4/4/01)
Committee on Roman Studies - Department of Classical Studies (1993 - 2002)

College:

Stata Chair in Ancient Greek Studies Search Committee (2011 - 2012)
Associate Dean for Students (2002 - 2005)
Appointment, Promotion and Tenure Committee (2000 - 2002)
Academic Policy Committee (2000 - 2003)
Writing Program Advisory Board (2000 – 2005, 2007- 2011)
Faculty Advisor/Senior Faculty Advisor in the College of Arts and Sciences
Taylor Advising Center, CAS 105 (1995 - 2001, 2006 - present)
Concentration in Classics and Philosophy - new concentration developed with
Prof. D. Roochnik; approved 1999.
Center for Teaching Excellence Advisory Board (1996 - 97)
Selection Committee, Gitner and Neu College Teaching Awards (1997, 1998,
2000, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005)
CAS Admissions Open House: Host for Classical Studies (10/27/96, 10/26/97,
11/1/98)
CAS Major Choices Forum: Host for Classical Studies (11/7/96), assisted
(10/29/97)
CAS Summer Advising (1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2005; Language: 2013,
2014)
Freshman Friday Faculty Panels (4/26/96, 4/3/98, 4/10/98, 4/2/99, 4/21/00, 4/6,
13, 20/01)

University:

Provost's Committee on Course Credit (2012 – 2013; resigned 2014)
Search Committee for Dean of Arts and Sciences (2006 - 2007)
Center for Excellence in Teaching, faculty panel and workshop (2003)
University Commencement Speaker Selection Committee (2002)
Metcalf Teaching Awards Selection Committee (1998/99, 1999/2000, Chair
2000/01)
Matriculation Speaker: Indiction Address (September 1998)
Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (1995 - 2000)

Employment:

Professor of Classical Studies, Boston University (2006 - present)

Chair of Classical Studies, Boston University (2006 - 2012)

Associate Dean for Students, Boston University College of Arts and Sciences,
(2002 - 2005)

Assistant to Associate Professor of Classical Studies, Boston University (1993 -
2006)

Visiting Asst. Professor of Classics and the Humanities, Reed College (1992/93)

Lecturer, Brown University (Spring 1992)

Lecture Courses Offered:

Greek History, Roman History, Roman Civilization, The Age of Augustus, The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, The Age of Pericles, Warfare in Antiquity

Seminar Courses:

Thucydides (graduate), Athenian History and Historiography from the Sixth to the Fifth Century (graduate), The Athenian Empire (graduate), Democracies and Republics (Ancient and Modern), The Age of Caesar and Cicero, Freshman Humanities: The Ancient World From Gilgamesh to Plato, Freshman Humanities: From Aristotle to Dante.

Language Courses:

Introductory Latin, Intermediate Latin, Advanced Greek (Thucydides), Early Greek Prose: Herodotus (graduate), Thucydides (graduate)