

Joseph R. Watkins

745 Commonwealth Ave, Rm B03D | Boston, MA 02215 | (404) 387-0128 | joerwat@bu.edu

Curriculum Vitae

October, 2025

EDUCATION

Boston University *Doctor of Philosophy in Classics (ABD)* 2020-present

Dissertation: "Defilers of Delphi / Rivals of Rome:
Greek and Roman Constructions of "Gallic" Ethnicity"

Committee: Zsuzsanna Várhelyi (1st reader), Loren J. Samons II,
Christopher Krebs (external reader)

Special Topic: "What Order? A Pragmatic Approach to Word Order in Lysias"

1st reader: Stephen Scully, *2nd Reader:* Jeffrey Henderson

The University of Kentucky *Masters of Arts in Classics* 2018-2020

Institutum Studiis Latinis Provehendis : Certificate in Latin Studies

The University of Pennsylvania *Post-Baccalaureate in Classical Languages* 2014-2015

The University of Georgia *Bachelors of Arts in Classical Culture* 2010 - 2014

Bachelors of Arts in History

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Ancient Ethnography: Representations of Celtic Peoples, Geography, Race and Ethnicity in the Ancient World

Latin and Greek
Historiography: Digressions, Theories of History, Exemplarity, Historiographical Speeches, Rhetoric of Narratives, Ancient History

Related Interests: Celtic Art and Archaeology, Appropriations of Celtic Identity

Secondary Interests: Rhetoric, Oratory, Latin Composition, Ancient Greek Composition, Word Order, Language Pedagogy

PUBLICATIONS

Articles

Chapters in Edited Volumes

under review "The Poetics of Assimilation: Language Politics in Catullus 23" in Lee, Tori and Katherine Lu Hsu edd. *Taking Stock: Stereotypes from Asian America to the Ancient Mediterranean* [under review with University of Michigan press]

OFFICES HELD and SERVICE

Student Representative GRS Academic Policy Committee (BU) 2024-present

Classics Liaison "The Guild" Medieval & Renaissance Graduate Group (BU) 2024-2025

Conference Co-Organizer BU Graduate Conference: 'Comedy On & Off Stage' 2023

Vice President CAMWS - Southern Section 2018-2020

Site Coordinator AeQuora 2018-2019

Member-at-Large CAMWS - Southern Section 2016-2018

TEACHING

Harvard University - Teaching Assistant		2024-2025
<i>Sole Instructor:</i> Latin 10: Introduction to Latin Literature (Seneca, Ovid)		
<i>Assisted:</i> Latin 122: Horace, <i>Odes</i>	assisted Prof. Richard Thomas	
Boston University - Senior Teaching Fellow		2021-2024
<i>Instructor of Record:</i> CL 211: <i>Intermediate Latin Prose</i>	(Nepos, Caesar, and Cicero)	
CL 111-2: <i>Latin 1 (Summer), Latin 2</i>	(Wheelock)	
<i>Assisted:</i> CL 213: <i>Greek and Roman Mythology</i>	assisted Prof. Stephen Scully	
CL 321: <i>Greek History</i>	assisted Prof. Loren Samons	
CL 322: <i>Roman History</i>	assisted Dr. Tim Clark	
CL 101: <i>World of Greece</i> (Intro. Greek Culture) asst. Dr. Brandon Jones		
Latinitas Animi Causa (Online Classics outreach company) - Instructor		2024
<i>Courses taught:</i> "Under Pressure: Foreign Powers in Gaul" (Reading Class, Caesar)		
Living Latin In Rome High School (The Paideia Institute) - Summer program instructor		2022-present
Harvard Extension School - Teaching Assistant	assisted Dr. Nadav Asraf	2023
<i>Assisted:</i> CGRK E-1a <i>Beginning Ancient Greek</i>	(Reading Greek)	
The University of Kentucky -Teaching Assistant		2018-2020
<i>Instructor of Record:</i> CLA 101-2, 201 : <i>Latin I-III</i>	(Latin For the New Millennium)	
CLA 135: <i>Classical Myth</i> (Online)		
<i>Assisted:</i> CLA 131: <i>Medical Terminology</i> (Online)		
MCL 270: <i>Introduction to Folklore</i>		
Ashland Elementary School - Aequora Instructor & Coordinator		2018-2020
(Volunteer Latin Outreach)		
Tucker High School - Teacher		2015-2018
<i>Courses taught:</i> Latin I-IV, AP (4th yr)	(Ecce Romani)	
Enrichment Ancient Greek		
<u>HONORS, AWARDS, HONOR SOCIETIES, AND SCHOLARSHIPS</u>		
Excellence in Classics Teaching Award	Boston University	2023
SCS Outstanding Student	University of Kentucky	2019
SCS Outstanding Student	University of Kentucky	2018
CAMWS Award for Outstanding Accomplishment in Classics	University of Georgia	2014
HΣΦ Classics Honors Society	University of Georgia	2012-2014
Gantz prize for excellence in Greek	University of Georgia	2011

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- "By Any Other Name? Polybius' use of the terms 'Celt' and 'Gaul'" 2026
Society for Classical Studies Annual Meeting (San Francisco, CA) *Abstract Accepted*
- "βάρβαρον καὶ παράνομον θυσίαν: the Double-Standard of Human Sacrifice in Plutarch" 2025
Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting (Boston, MA) *Abstract Accepted*
- "Where the Tin Comes From: Contextualizing Early Greco-Celtic Interactions" 2025
44th Annual Harvard Celtic Colloquium (Cambridge, MA)
- "Celts, Gauls, and Galatians: the Introduction of 'Gauls' to the Greek World as Mercenaries" 2025
Classical Association of New England, 119th Annual Meeting (New Haven, CT)
- "ἔξω Ἡρακλέων στηλῶν? Herodotus on the Celts in context" 2025
Society of Classical Studies Annual meeting (Philadelphia, PA)
- "The Gallic Triumvirate" 2024
Classical Association of New England, 118th Annual Meeting (Durham, NH)
- "A Clean Celt? Ethno-Linguistic Comments in Catullus 23" 2024
Society for Classical Studies, Annual Meeting (Chicago, IL)
- "Undermining Autochthony: Ethnicity and Structure in Thucydides' Sicilian Expedition" 2023
University of Virginia Graduate Student Conference (Charleston, VA)
- "Peer-Pressure: Persuasion in the Embassy to Achilles" 2023
Society for Classical Studies, Annual Meeting (New Orleans, LA)
- "Getting to Know the Enemy: Livy's Ethnographic Introduction of the Gauls" 2022
Classical Association of New England 117th Annual Meeting (Neeham, MA)
- "How to Read History: Meta-historiography in Sallust" 2020
Classical Association of the Middle West and South, 116th Annual Meeting (Virtual)
- "Beginning to Speak Latin" (*Roundtable Discussion*) 2019
Classical Association of the Middle West and South, 115th Annual Meeting (Lincoln, NE)
- "Aequora in Lexington" 2018
Classical Assoc. of the Middle West and South, Southern Section (Winston-Salem, NC)

GUEST LECTURES

- "Who Were the Gauls? Historical, Linguistic, and Archaeological Constructions" and Oct. 2023
"Caesar's Gaul: Strategic Geography and Ethnography"
- Guest Lectures for WR120: "Understanding Race and Ethnicity in Ancient Greece and Rome"
(Freshman Writing Seminar) taught by Dr. Maya Chakravorty, Boston University

OTHER ACADEMIC WORK EXPERIENCE

- Instructional Material Creator - Geddes Language Grant (Boston University) 2023-2024
- Created instructional materials for communicatively teaching selections from the *Iliad*
- Research Assistant to Prof. Cynthia Damon (University of Pennsylvania) 2014-2015
- Cross-referencing variations in scholarly editions for Prof. Damon's Loeb of the *Bellum Civile*
- Transcribing manuscripts of the *Bellum Alexandrinum*

STUDIES ABROAD

The Gallic Sack of Delphi	Greece	BU - Graduate Research Abroad	2024
- Visited Corycian Cave (Pan's Cave), the Museum, and Archaeological site of Delphi - Examined the landscape with reference to textual accounts			
Gallic Art and Archaeology	Italy and France	BU - Graduate Research Abroad	2023
- Visited Iron Age Gallic Sites and Museums containing Iron Age Gallic artifacts - Examined Inscriptions on Victory and Funeral Monuments - Collected Materials and Visual Aids for Future Research and Teaching			
Caesar in Gaul	France	The Paideia Institute	2019
- Visited sites from the Gallic Wars and Roman Gaul and read Latin accounts of them - Attended lectures about current scholarship, issues and debates on <i>de Bello Gallico</i> - Led by Prof. Luca Grillo (Notre Dame) and Prof. Christopher Krebs (Stanford)			
Celtic and Pre-Celtic Prehistory	Switzerland and Scotland	University of Georgia	2012
- Studied Pre-Celtic, Celtic, and Roman archaeology through site visits, and guided tours - Traveled extensively throughout Switzerland and Scotland - Led by Prof. Ervan Garrison (UGA)			

CONTINUING EDUCATION

<i>Fall Classical Language Pedagogy Workshop</i>	Teaching Grammar Communicatively	2024
University of Massachusetts: Boston		
<i>Mythographers</i>	Spoken Ancient Greek	2024
Bibliophiloi (Rogelio Toledo)		
<i>Biduum Pennsylvaniense</i>	Spoken Latin & Active Pedagogies	2024
SALVI (North American Institute of Living Latin)		
<i>German for Students of Classical Studies</i>	Academic German	2021
Universität zu Köln (Online)		
<i>Ancient Greek in Virginia</i>	Spoken Ancient Greek Immersion	2019
The Polis Institute		
<i>Ὅμιλία Ἑλληνιστῶν</i>	Spoken Ancient Greek Immersion	2019
SALVI (North American Institute of Living Latin)		
<i>Conventiculum Lexingtoniense</i>	Spoken Latin Immersion	2018
Humanitas (University of Kentucky)		
<i>Rusticatio Tironum</i>	Spoken Latin & Active Pedagogies	2018
SALVI (North American Institute of Living Latin)		
<i>Biduum Georgianum</i>	Spoken Latin & Active Pedagogies	2018
SALVI (North American Institute of Living Latin)		
<i>Active Latin Pedagogy</i>	UNC Chapel Hill	2018
Indwelling Lang (Justin Slocum Bailey)		
<i>Strategies for Building Language Proficiency</i>		2018
Literacy Education Services (Tina Haargaden and Ben Slavic)		
<i>Biduum Virginianum</i>	Spoken Latin & Active Pedagogies	2017
SALVI (North American Institute of Living Latin)		

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Latin Sight Reading Group	Organizer	Boston University	2023-present
Ancient Greek Sight Reading Group	Organizer	Boston University	2023-present
Spoken Language Group	Co-leader	Boston University	2022-present
Spoken Ancient Greek Reading Group	Co-leader	University of Kentucky	2021-2022
Medieval and Renaissance Society	President (2013 - 14)	University of Georgia	2010-2014
	Vice President (2012-13)	University of Georgia	
Ár Va Alda - Germanic Studies Club	Founding Member	University of Georgia	2012-2014

LANGUAGES

Ancient	<i>Advanced:</i>	Latin, Ancient Greek
	<i>Studied:</i>	Gaulish, Old Irish
Modern	<i>Reading:</i>	French, German, Italian

REFERENCES**Zsuzsanna Várhelyi***Advisor, 1st Reader*

Associate Professor of Classical Studies;
 Director of Graduate Admissions;
 NEH Distinguished Teaching Professor

745 Commonwealth Ave.

STH 404

Boston, MA 02215

617-353-4029

varhelyi@bu.edu**Loren J. Samons II***2nd Reader*

Professor of Classical Studies (Boston University),
 Chief Academic Advisor & Executive Director
 (The Institute for Hellenic Culture and the Liberal Arts,
 The American College of Greece)

745 Commonwealth Ave.

STH 415

Boston, MA 02215

617-353-4504

ljs@bu.edu**Stephen Scully***Special Topic Advisor*

Professor of Classical Studies;
 Department Chair

745 Commonwealth Ave.

STH 402A

Boston, MA 02215

617-353-4572

sscully@bu.edu