

# BRAYDEN HIRSCH

PhD candidate in Classical Studies, Boston University

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## Research Interests

ancient philosophy and rhetoric, biblical studies, ancient exegesis

## Education

- 2021-present MA and PhD in Classical Studies (Boston University *Boston, MA*)  
PhD dissertation: A Comparative Literary Study of the *Corpus Paulinum* and *Epicteti Dissertationes*  
Supervisor: Steven D. Smith
- 2020-21 MA in Classical Languages (University of Alberta *Edmonton, AB*)
- 2016-19 BA with Honors in Classics, Minor in History (UBC *Vancouver, BC*)

## Publications

- under review “Literary Quotation and Paraphrase in Epictetus”  
forthcoming (with Brian Dunkle SJ, Henry Wansbrough OSB, and Dunstan Enzor OSB), *Hilary of Poitiers: Tractatus super Psalmos*, a translation in the Fathers of the Church series, CUA Press
- forthcoming “Nazianzen *contra sophistas*: Notes on the genre and structure of *Oration 27*” in *Sacris Erudiri* 63 (2025)
- 2024 “‘Grand Words for a Common Thing’: Precursors to *The Grammar of Assent* in John Henry Newman’s Early Classical Readings (1809-1826)” in *The Newman Studies Journal* 21, no. 1, pp. 5-28:  
<https://doi.org/10.1353/nsj.2024.a934089>
- 2024 “Elementary Errors: Philosophers, Idolaters, and τὰ στοιχεῖα τοῦ κόσμου in Paul and Clement of Alexandria” in *Vigiliae Christianae* 78.4, pp. 363-84: <https://doi.org/10.1163/15700720-bja10090>

## Book Reviews

- 2025 review of Sylvain Roux, *La philosophie antique comme exercice spirituel? Un paradigme en question*, in *BMCR*:  
<https://bmcr.brynmawr.edu/2025/2025.06.24/>
- 2024 review of T.A. Brookins, *Rediscovering the Wisdom of the Corinthians: Paul, Stoicism, and Spiritual Hierarchy*, in *The Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 86, no. 3 (July, 2024), pp. 610-12:  
<https://doi.org/10.1353/cbq.2024.a931752>

## Conference Papers

- May 2025 “Origen and Hilary among Patristic Interpreters of the διάλογος (*Selah*)”  
North American Patristics Society Conference *Chicago, IL*
- Aug 2024 “The Etymology of ‘Confessing’ in Augustine’s Early Works”  
Oxford Patristics Conference *Oxford, UK*

May 2024	“The Structure and Purpose of Gregory's ‘First Theological Oration’” North American Patristics Society Conference <i>Chicago, IL</i>
March 2024	“Plato, Isocrates, and Later Treatises <i>Contra Sophistas</i> ” Classical Association of New England Annual Meeting <i>Durham, NH</i>
Jan 2024	“Blindness and Vergil's Auditory Imagination” Society for Classical Studies Annual Conference <i>Chicago, IL</i>
Nov 2023	“Elementary Errors: Philosophers, Idolaters, and τὰ στοιχεῖα τοῦ κόσμου in Paul and Clement of Alexandria” Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting <i>San Antonio, TX</i>
Oct 2023	“The Pros and Cons of Confessing: <i>Professio</i> , <i>Confessio</i> and their Cognates in Augustine's Early Works” Patristic, Medieval, and Renaissance Conference <i>Villanova, PA</i>
May 2023	“ <i>Professio</i> as a Foil to <i>Confessio</i> in Augustine's Early Works” Canadian Society of Patristic Studies Conference <i>Toronto, ON</i>
Jan 2023	“ <i>Professor</i> and <i>Profiteor</i> : Rome's First <i>Professores</i> as Sophists?” Society for Classical Studies Annual Conference <i>New Orleans, LA</i>
Oct 2022	“Materialism as Materialiturgy in Clement, <i>Protrepticus</i> 5” Patristic, Medieval, and Renaissance Conference <i>Villanova, PA</i>
Jul 2020	“Classical Epistemology and John Henry Newman's Illative Sense” Newman Association of America Conference ( <i>over Zoom</i> )

## Teaching

*as instructor of record (Boston University):*

Summer 2025 CL 305 Topics in Myth (Introduction to Myth and Allegory)

Spring 2024 CL 112 Latin 2 (Grammar)

Spring 2023 CL 212 Latin 4 (Readings in Ovid)

*as teaching assistant (Boston University):*

Spring 2025 CL 303 The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire

Fall 2024 CL 101 World of Greece

Fall 2023 CL 102 World of Rome

Fall 2022 CL 213 Greek and Roman Mythology

## Other Lectures

Mar 2025 “Reading in the Ancient Classroom”

Canadian Institute for Mediterranean Studies, *Toronto, ON* (*over Zoom*)

Nov 2024 “Reading in the Ancient Classroom”

Classics Day, *Boston University*

Nov 2023 “*Graecia Capta*: An Introduction to Roman Athens”

Classics Day, *Boston University*

## Honors, Awards, and Scholarships

Social Sciences and Humanities Council of Canada

2023-2026

SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship

National Institute for Newman Studies

Visiting Scholar Junior Fellowship	2022
Social Sciences and Humanities Council of Canada	
Graduate Scholarship - Master's	2020
University of Alberta	
Walter H Johns Graduate Fellowship	2020
Queen Elizabeth II Graduate Scholarship	2019
University of British Columbia	
Trek Excellence Award	2018
Dowdeswell Scholarship in Classical Studies	2018
WH MacInnes Scholarship in Greek	2018
SCS Outstanding Student Award	2017

### Languages

proficient: ancient Greek, Latin; intermediate: French; basic: German, modern Greek, biblical Hebrew

### Additional Experience

(paid) Consultation to Adam Bremer-McCollum for the Greek translations in <i>The Pearlsong</i> ( <a href="https://www.hup.harvard.edu/books/9780674301467">https://www.hup.harvard.edu/books/9780674301467</a> )	2024
Conference organization (BU Graduate Student Conference: "From Life to Literature: Genre and Performance in Hellenistic and Roman Literature (Keynote Speaker: Richard Hunter)	2024
Boston University <i>Boston, MA</i>	
Research assistantship to Kelly MacFarlane (research in later Greek epic)	2020
University of Alberta <i>Edmonton, AB</i>	

### Additional Coursework

Spring Seminar: The Greek Book	2025
University of Illinois, <i>Champaign-Urbana, IL</i>	
Fall Course: Introduction to Greek Paleography with Georgi Parpulov	2024
Pappas Patristic Institute, <i>Boston, MA</i>	
Oxford Biblical Hebrew Summer School (over zoom)	2024
Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies <i>Oxford, UK</i>	
Oxford Summer School in Greek Paleography with Christos Simelidis	2024
Lincoln College <i>Oxford, UK</i>	
Summer Seminar: Early Christian Old Testament Exegesis	2024
Lumen Christi Institute <i>Toronto, ON</i>	
Winter Course: Modern Greek for Non-Greek Speakers	2023
University of Athens ( <i>online</i> )	
Summer Seminar: Gregory Nazianzen's <i>Theological Orations</i>	2023
Lumen Christi Institute <i>Toronto, ON</i>	
Summer Course: Jews and Early Christians in the Graeco-Roman World	2023
Hellenic Education Research Center <i>Athens, GR</i>	
Summer Seminar: Origen's <i>De Principiis</i>	2022

Lumen Christi Institute *Toronto, ON*  
Graduate Certificate in Liberal Arts Education  
St. John's College *Annapolis, MD* (over zoom)

2020-21

**Society Memberships**

2021 – present	Society of Classical Studies
2021 – present	North American Patristics Society
2022 – present	Society of Biblical Literature
2023 – present	Canadian Patristics Society
2023 – present	Classical Association of New England