

# Charles Joseph McNamara

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## Academic Employment

- 2017–Present:  
Core Lecturer, Department of Classics, Columbia University
- 2016–2017:  
National Endowment for the Humanities/Society for Classical Studies Fellow  
*Thesaurus Linguae Latinae*, Bayerische Akademie der Wissenschaften

## Education

- Ph.D. with Distinction in Classics, Columbia University, 2016  
*Dissertation Title: Quintilian's Theory of Certainty and Its Afterlife in Early Modern Italy*  
*Supervisor: Kathy Eden, Chavkin Family Professor of English Literature and Professor of Classics*
- A.B. in Classics, Harvard University, 2007

## Publications

### Books

- *Humanist Certainty* (Manuscript in Progress)
- Co-Editor and Co-Author of Introduction: Fontaine, McNamara, and Short (eds.), *Quasi Labor Intus: Ambiguity in the Latin Language* (Paideia Institute Press, 2018)

### Peer-Reviewed Articles

- “The Common Consent of Words: An Aristotelian Element of Hobbesian Legal Rhetoric.” (Forthcoming in *Law and Poetics in Early Modern England*, Palgrave)
- “*Certum atque Confessum*: Lorenzo Valla on the Forensics of Certainty.” *Rhetorica* 36.3 (2018): 244-268
- “The Ethics of Ambiguity in Quintilian.” In Fontaine, McNamara, Short (eds.), *Quasi Labor Intus: Ambiguity in the Latin Language* (Paideia Institute Press, 2018): 205-223
- “Stoic Caricature in Lucian’s *De Astrologia*: Verisimilitude as Comedy.” *Peitho* 1.4 (2013): 235–253

### Articles in the *Thesaurus Linguae Latinae*

- Forthcoming in *Thesaurus Linguae Latinae*, Vol. IX. Leipzig: De Gruyter, 1900-:  
*nervosus* [*nervositas*], *nidus*

- Forthcoming in *Thesaurus Linguae Latinae*, Vol. XI. Leipzig: De Gruyter, 1900-: *reminiscor, remisceo, remollio, remoror, remunerator [remuneratrix], ren, renideo [renidesco], repudiatio*

### *Book Reviews and Review Essays*

- Review of *Stories of Daily Life from the Roman World* by Eleanor Dickey (Cambridge). (Forthcoming in *Gnomon*)
- “Not Tragic, Just Sad”: Review of *The Case for Trump* by Victor Davis Hanson (Basic Books). *Commonweal*, June 1 2019: 23–24
- “Highbrow Self-Help”: Review of *Ancient Wisdom for Modern Readers* Series (Princeton), including *How to be Free* (ed. and trans., A. A. Long), *How to Win an Argument* (ed. and trans., James M. May), *How to Be a Friend* (ed. and trans., Philip Freeman), *How to Die* (ed. and trans., James S. Romm). *Commonweal*, March 8, 2019: 22–24
- Review of *Aeneid Book VI* by Seamus Heaney (FSG). *Commonweal*, January 6, 2017: 32–34

### *General-Audience Writing*

- “The Cross-Examined Life: Socrates Debates the Laws.” *Lapham’s Quarterly*, March 19, 2018
- “Lead Us Not into Mistranslation.” *Commonweal*, January 26, 2018
- “If Trump Cares about Western Civilization, He Needs to Fund the Arts.” *Washington Post*, July 10, 2017
- “The Resurrection Will Be a Remix.” *Commonweal*, November 11, 2016
- “In the Image of God: John Comenius and the First Children’s Picture Book.” In Green (ed.), *The Public Domain Review, Selected Essays, Vol. 2* (PDR Press, 2014)

## Teaching

### *Columbia University*

- Contemporary Civilization. Fall 2014–Spring 2016, Fall 2017–Present
- Elementary Latin I. Spring 2013
- Intermediate Latin II. Fall 2012
- Intermediate Latin I. Spring 2012
- Elementary Latin II. Fall 2011
- History of Literary Criticism from Plato to Kant (Teaching Assistant). Spring 2011
- Intermediate Greek I (Teaching Assistant). Fall 2010

### *The Paideia Institute for Humanistic Study*

- Latin Sight Reading. Fall 2016
- Living Latin in Rome. Summer 2013, Summer 2014

### *Helena-West Helena School District—Teach for America*

- English 9, English 11, English 12. Fall 2007–Spring 2009

## Presentations and Lectures

### Conference Presentations

- Cambridge University, CRASSH, *Law and Poetics in Early Modern England and Beyond*: “Alternative Facts against the ‘Common Consent of Words’: The Controversy of Hobbesian Legal Rhetoric.” Cambridge, UK, July 2018
- Society for Classical Studies: “Neither Nasty Nor Brutish, But Short: Hobbes’ Abbreviated Translation of Aristotle’s *Rhetoric*.” Boston, Massachusetts, January 2018
- Renaissance Society of America: “Lorenzo Valla and Quintilian on the Forensics of Certainty.” Chicago, Illinois, April 2017
- Classical Association of the Middle West and South 111<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting: “The Far-Reaching Skepticism of Quintilian’s *Institutio Oratoria*, Book II.” Williamsburg, Virginia, March 2016
- Society for Classical Studies: “Water as Pastoral Danger in Sannazaro’s Ovidian *Salices*.” San Francisco, California, January 2016
- Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, New York University: “GitClassics: Collaborative Editing of Early Modern and Renaissance Texts with GitHub.” New York, New York, October 2015
- American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting: “Getting a Head Start: Scarcity of Information and Early Childhood Education in Quintilian.” New York, New York, March 2014
- II Coloquio Internacional de Retórica/I Congreso Internacional de Retórica e Interdisciplina: “Quintilian’s Enthymeme: Logic and Emotions in *Institutio Oratoria*, Book V.” Mendoza, Argentina, March 2013

### Invited Talks and Workshops

- Joint Humanities Workshop with Columbia University, Freie Universität Berlin, and Universität Zürich: “The Genre of the Letter.” Sion, Switzerland, June 2019
- Duke University, Department of Classical Studies: External Reader for Book Manuscript Workshop, *Monody and the Collapse of Form in Late Euripides* by Claire Catenaccio. Durham, North Carolina, June 2018
- Columbia University, Department of Philosophy: Visiting Speaker on “Roman Rhetoric” in Elliot Paul’s Graduate Seminar, “The History of Epistemology.” New York, New York, October 2017
- Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich School of Ancient Philosophy: “The Skepticism of Certainty in Quintilian.” Munich, Germany, January 2017
- Columbia University, Joint Humanities Workshop with Columbia University and Freie Universität Berlin: “Dialogue: Plato to Lessing.” New York, New York, May 2016
- Classical Dialogues, Workshop on Tobias Reinhardt’s New Book on Cicero’s *Academica*: Commentator. New York, New York, February 2016
- Friedrich Schlegel School, Freie Universität Berlin, Joint Humanities Workshop with Columbia University, Freie Universität Berlin, and EHESS Paris: “The Literary Essay, Ancient and Modern.” Berlin, Germany, July 2015
- Columbia University, Joint Humanities Workshop with Columbia University and Freie Universität Berlin: “Tragedy from Sophocles to Hofmannsthal.” New York, New York, May 2014

### Invited Talks and Workshops: Pedagogy

- The City University of New York: “Thinking about Justice, Equality, and Civic Responsibility through Plato’s *Republic*.” New York, New York, June 2019
- Hostos Community College, The City University of New York: “Nietzsche as Core Curriculum Text.” Bronx, New York, May 2019

- Columbia University, Symposium Global Teaching Fellows: “Running Your Symposium Seminar: A Play in Three Acts.” New York, New York, February 2019
- Columbia University, Team-Teaching Pedagogy Colloquium: “Sight Reading in the Classical Language Classroom.” New York, New York, October 2014
- New York Classical Club: “*Iter Zoologicum*.” Bronx, New York, May 2014
- Connecticut College, Department of Classics: “Active Language in the Ancient Classroom.” New London, CT, March 2014
- Columbia University, Team-Teaching Pedagogy Colloquium: “A Case Study in Classroom Innovation through Technology and Bloom’s Taxonomy.” New York, New York, November 2013

### *Conferences Organized and Moderated*

- *De Arte Astronomica*: Astronomy in Antiquity, the Middle Ages, and the Renaissance: Moderator. Fordham University, New York, New York, October 2018
- *Artes Liberales*: A Seminar on the Liberal Arts from Antiquity to the Renaissance: Moderator. Fordham University, New York, New York, November 2015
- Living Latin in New York City: Assistant Moderator. Fordham University, New York, New York, February 2013, February 2014, February 2015, February 2016, February 2018
- The Long Reach of Antiquity: Organizer, Panel Moderator, and Respondent. Columbia University, New York, New York, April 2012

## Honors, Awards, & Fellowships

- Presidential Award for Outstanding Teaching, Columbia University, 2016
- NEH/SCS *Thesaurus Linguae Latinae* Fellowship, 2016
- Louis A. Parks Graduate Fellowship in Classics, Columbia University, 2016
- The Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation Fellowship, 2009-2016
- Fulbright U.S. Student ETA Award (declined), 2009
- Harvard Latin Salutatorian Commencement Award, 2007
- B.J. Whiting Prize, Harvard University, 2007
- Charles Segal Fellowship, Harvard University, 2006
- Franklin Ford Award, Harvard University, 2006

## Professional Activities

### *Editorial*

- *Open Library of Humanities*. Classics Section Editor, 2014–Present
- *Erasmus of Rotterdam Society Yearbook*. Assistant Editor, 2011–2012

### *Barnard / Columbia Ancient Drama Group*

- Seneca’s *Thyestes*, Pianist, 2013
- Euripides’ *Alcestis*, Pianist, 2012
- *Iliad* Book IX, Cast, 2011
- Plautus’ *Persa*, Cast, 2010

### *Research Supervision*

- Columbia Undergraduate Scholars Program, Summer Research Mentorship: “Religion, State, and Impiety in Ancient Athens” by Matthew Nola, Columbia University, Summer 2019

### **Modern Language Proficiency**

- German, Spanish, Italian

### **Digital Humanities Skills**

- Proficiency in HTML/CSS,  $\LaTeX$ , WordPress, Git, Markdown
- Familiarity with Python, Textual Corpus Analysis

### **References**

- Kathy Eden, Chavkin Family Professor of English Literature and Professor of Classics  
Columbia University, New York, New York  
khe1@columbia.edu, (212) 854 6432
- Katja Vogt, Professor of Philosophy  
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- Gareth Williams, Violin Family Professor of Classics  
Columbia University, New York, New York  
gdw5@columbia.edu, (212) 854 2850
- Michael Fontaine, Professor of Classics  
Cornell University, Ithaca, New York  
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- Roosevelt Montás, Director of the Center for the Core Curriculum  
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