

# Charles Joseph McNamara

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## Academic Employment

- 2019–Present:  
Robert Belknap Core Faculty Fellow, Department of Classics, Columbia University
- 2017–2019:  
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 Solicited by Cambridge University Press, Under Review)
- Co-Editor and Co-Author of Introduction: Fontaine, McNamara, and Short (eds.), *Quasi Labor Intus: Ambiguity in the Latin Language* (Paideia, 2018)

### Peer-Reviewed Articles

- "Tacitean Nature" (In Preparation)
- "Fourth-Century Fakes" (Forthcoming in *Classical World*)
- "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, 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*)
- “Minds Stocked Only with Opinions”: Review of *Lost in Thought* by Zina Hitz (Princeton). *Commonweal*, July 23, 2020: 50–52
- “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

- “Gone Viral.” *Commonweal*, May 6, 2020
- “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 (No Longer Affiliated)

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

*Helena-West Helena School District (AmeriCorps / 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*

- Riverside Church, Morningside Institute: “Deep Humanities: Artificial Intelligence and the Ethics of Persuasion.” New York, New York, November 2019
- 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 and Events Organized and Moderated*

- “Athens and Its Others: Have Ancient Ways of Classifying Human Beings Shaped Modern Racism and Colonialism?” Contemporary Civilization Roundtable with John Ma (Columbia). Center for the Core Curriculum, Columbia College, New York, New York, September 2020
- *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
- The Long Reach of Antiquity: Organizer, Panel Moderator, and Respondent. Columbia University, New York, New York, April 2012

## **Honors, Awards, & Fellowships**

- Robert Belknap Core Faculty Fellowship, Columbia University, 2019
- NEH/SCS *Thesaurus Linguae Latinae* Fellowship, 2016–2017
- Louis A. Parks Graduate Fellowship in Classics, Columbia University, 2016–2017
- Presidential Award for Outstanding Teaching, Columbia University, 2016
- The Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation Fellowship, 2009–2016
- Fulbright U.S. Student ETA Award (declined), 2009
- AmeriCorps / Teach for America Mississippi Delta Corps, 2007–2009
- Latin Salutatorian, Harvard University, 2007
- B.J. Whiting Prize, Harvard University, 2007
- Charles Segal Fellowship, Harvard University, 2006
- Franklin Ford Award, Harvard University, 2006

## **Professional Activities**

### *Editorial*

- *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,  $\LaTeX$ , Pandoc, WordPress, Git
- 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  
Columbia University, New York, New York  
kv2101@columbia.edu, (212) 854 3539
- 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  
mf268@cornell.edu, (607) 255-5541