

Maria V. Kovalchuk

Curriculum vitae, October 2025

Wake Forest University
Department of Classics
Tribble Hall C306
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Greek and Latin poetry, Theocritus, cognitive classics, childhood studies, religion, Herakles/Heracles, literary theory, translation, classical reception in Byzantine, Medieval Latin, and Middle English texts

EMPLOYMENT

2024 – 2026 Visiting Assistant Professor, Wake Forest University

EDUCATION

2024 PhD in Classical Studies, University of Pennsylvania
Dissertation: “Irony and the Interpretation of Theocritus’ *Idylls* 24, 18, and 26”
Committee: Cynthia Damon (supervisor), Sheila Murnaghan, Ralph Rosen
Graduate Certificate in Global Medieval & Renaissance Studies
Graduate Certificate in University and College Teaching

2021 – 2022 Fulbright Research Grant, Classical Philology, University of Heidelberg

2017 MPhil, Classics, Newnham College, University of Cambridge

2014 BA, Classics, Northwestern University

PUBLICATIONS

Monograph

In progress *Fixable Errors: Theocritus, Euripides, and Ptolemaic Destiny*

Chapters in Volumes

Forthcoming “Swine or Be Mine: Transformations of Circe in Greek and Roman Epic,” in *Transtextual Characters in Ancient Greek and Roman Epic*, ed. Silvio Bär (De Gruyter)

Forthcoming “Ω μοι and Helplessness in Homer,” in *Epic Interjections*, ed. Diana Librandi (De Gruyter)

Edited Text

2022 Kovalchuk and Cynthia Damon, eds. “35.3” and “36.4–5,” *Bellum Alexandrinum*. Studies on the Text. The Digital Latin Library: 292–308.

In Preparation: “Reading the Moralizing Interjection in Theocritus’ *Idyll* 26” (article)
Maximus Planudes Translates Ovid’s *Heroides*” (article)
“Circe,” an entry for the *Greek and Roman Humanities Encyclopedia*

ADDITIONAL COURSEWORK

2024 – 2025 New Faculty Learning Community, Wake Forest University

2022 Paleography, Institute of Classical Studies, University of Ghent

2021 Inclusive & Equitable Teaching, Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Pennsylvania

2021 Creative Coding, Price Lab for Digital Humanities, University of Pennsylvania

2019 Medieval Greek, American School of Classical Studies at Athens

2017 Linear B, British School at Athens
 2013 Summer Session, American School of Classical Studies at Athens

TEACHING & ADVISING

At Wake Forest:

Spring 2026 Intensive Elementary Greek (textbook: *From Alpha to Omega*)
 Classical Epic: *Iliad*, *Odyssey*, *Aeneid*
 Introduction to Latin Poetry: Ovid

Fall 2025 Intensive Elementary Latin (textbook: Keller and Russell)
 Classical Epic: *Iliad*, *Odyssey*, *Aeneid*

Spring 2025 Intermediate Latin: Dido & Hannibal (2 sections)
 Introduction to Latin Poetry: Martial
 Age of Augustus

Fall 2024 Intensive Elementary Latin (textbook: Keller and Russell)
 Intermediate Latin: Dido & Hannibal (2 sections)

At Penn:

Summer 2023 Ancient Drama (Instructor)
 Spring 2020 Greek & Roman Mythology (TA)
 Fall 2019 Post-baccalaureate Greek (TA)
 Spring 2019 Intermediate Latin (Poetry) (Instructor)
 Fall 2018 Intermediate Latin (Prose) (Instructor)

Elsewhere:

Summer 2024 Ancient Plagues, Penn Summer High School Program (Instructor)
 Fall 2022 Rhetoric and Composition, Garden State Correctional Facility, Princeton Prison Teaching Initiative (Co-Instructor)

Summer 2021 Ancient Monsters, Penn Summer High School Program (Instructor)
 Summer 2020 "Facilitating Live Sessions Online," Penn Center for Teaching and Learning (Instructor)
 2015 – 2016 Architecture Tour, the Getty Villa, Pacific Palisades, CA (Docent)

Student mentored:

Second reader. Kevin Dunn, "Beyond the Battlefield: Contextualizing the *Iliad*'s Characters through Myth" (Spring 2025)

INVITED PAPER

2021 "The Pedagogy of Heracles' Education,"
 University of Heidelberg, Klassisches Forschungskolloquium

SELECT PAPERS PRESENTED

2026 "Greek Etymologies in Geraldus Cambrensis"
 Medieval & Early Modern Studies Seminar, Wake Forest University

2025 "Transformations of Circe in Greek and Roman Epic"
 Celtic Conference in Classics, Coimbra, Portugal

2025 "Reading the Moralizing Interjection in Theocritus' *Idyll* 26"
 Society for Classical Studies, Philadelphia, PA
 Work in Progress Talk, Wake Forest University

2024	“Theocritus’ <i>Idyll</i> 18 and the Invention of the Sacred” Society for Classical Studies, Chicago, IL
2023	Respondent to “Effacing Alexandria? Theodoridas of Syracuse’s Rewritings of Callimachus” by Matthew Chaldekas University of Groningen, Workshop on Hellenistic Poetry
2023	“Irony in the Catalogue of Heracles’ Education in Theocritus’ <i>Idyll</i> 24” Society for Classical Studies, New Orleans, LA
2022	“Pedagogy and Theocritus’ <i>Idyll</i> 24” Classical Association, Swansea, UK (virtual)
2022	“Female Vocational Education in Callimachus’ <i>Hymn to Artemis</i> ” Society for Classical Studies, San Francisco, CA (virtual)
2021	“The Value of the Humanities” University of Bonn, Fulbright Germany Unconference
2021	“Maximus Planudes’ (Domesticating?) Translation of Ovid’s <i>Heroides</i> 7” Society for Classical Studies, Chicago, IL (virtual)
2019	“Maximus Planudes’ (Domesticating?) Translation of Ovid’s <i>Heroides</i> 7” Classical Association of South Africa, Stellenbosch
2019	“Revealing Odysseus’ Disguise” University of London, Graduate Work-in-Progress Seminar
2018	“Describing (the Exterior of) Greece: Space in Pausanias” CAMWS, Albuquerque, NM
2018	“Reconsidering Greek Space in Pausanias” University of Oxford, Holism and the Ancient World Conference
2018	“Describing the World: Pausanias the Paradoxographer” University of Edinburgh (Scotland), Graduate Work-in-Progress Seminar
2017	“Rereading the Lunar Marvel in Lucian’s <i>True Stories</i> ” University of Toronto, “Fidelity of Fides” Graduate Conference
2015	“Why Mantinea Matters in the <i>Symposium</i> ” CAMWS, Boulder, CO

PANELS ORGANIZED & CHAIRED

2027	Co-Organizer, Classics and Eastern Europe, SCS 2027, Boston, MA
2025	Session Chair, Celtic Conference in Classics, Transtextual Characters Panel, Coimbra, Portugal
2025	Session Chair, Cicero Away-Day, Wake Forest University

UNIVERSITY & DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

At Penn:

2022 – 2023	President, School of Arts and Sciences Graduate Student Government (SASGov)
2022 – 2023	Member, School of Arts and Sciences Graduate Education Committee
2022 – 2023	Member, University Graduate Council of the Faculties
2023	Judge, Penn Grad Talks, Social Sciences Division
2021	President, School of Arts and Sciences Graduate Student Government (SASGov) [elected but resigned to take up a Fulbright fellowship]
2020 – 2021	Vice President of Financial Operations (SASGov)
2020	Teaching Mentor, Summer Session I & II, Center for Teaching & Learning
2019 – 2020	SAS Representative, Research Council & Finance Committee Member, Graduate and Professional Student Assembly (GAPSA)
2018 – 2019	Classics Representative & Finance Committee Member (SASGov)
2018	Research Assistant to Professor Emily Steiner (Dept. of English)
2017 – 2021	Co-curator of the @PennClassics Instagram Account

EVENTS ORGANIZED

At Penn:

2023	Hidden Curriculum Panel with Dean Beth Wenger and three SAS Professors
2023	SASgov Tax Workshop
2021	SASgov University Budgets 101
2021	SASgov Tax Workshop
2020	SASgov Negotiation Workshop with Ask Smarter
2019	Classical Reception Research Seminar
2019	Classical Reception Weekly Reading Group
2018	<i>Stranger Things</i> : A Graduate Conference on Marvels

SELECT ACADEMIC AWARDS AND HONORS

2025	Faculty Travel Award, Wake Forest University
2023 – 2024	SAS Dean's Dissertation Completion Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania
2023	President Gutmann Leadership Award, University of Pennsylvania
2017 – 2023	Benjamin Franklin Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania
2021 – 2022	Fulbright Germany Research Award, US Department of State
2021	Dream Lab Scholarship, University of Pennsylvania
2019	The Ezra Pound Prize for Literary Translation (first place), University of Pennsylvania
2019	A.G. Leventis Foundation Full Scholarship, ASCSA
2017 – 2018	Christine & Richard Trimble Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania
2010 – 2014	C.V. Starr Endowed Full Scholarship, Northwestern University
2014	Big Ten Conference Postgraduate Scholarship for study at Cambridge
2014	Margaret Akerstrom Academic Award (graduating student-athlete with highest GPA), Northwestern University
2014, 2011	Outstanding Accomplishment in Classical Studies Prize, Northwestern University
2013	Phi Beta Kappa (junior-year elect)
2013	Murley Prize (best Classics major), Northwestern University
2013	Charles M. Edwards Scholarship, ASCSA
2013	Manson A. Stewart Scholarship, CAMWS

LANGUAGES

Latin, ancient & medieval Greek, Linear B, Old Church Slavonic; English (native); Russian (native); Finnish (dormant native); German (proficient); French (reading)

REFERENCES

Cynthia Damon,
Professor of Classical Studies, *Emerita*
University of Pennsylvania
cdamon@sas.upenn.edu

Sheila Murnaghan,
Alfred Reginald Allen Memorial Professor of Greek
University of Pennsylvania
smurnagh@sas.upenn.edu

Michael Sloan
Professor of Classics and Chair
Wake Forest University
sloanmc@wfu.edu

Ralph Rosen

Vartan Gregorian Professor of the Humanities and Professor of Classical Studies, *Emeritus*
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James Ker,

Professor of Classical Studies
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