

Byron MacDougall

EDUCATION

2015 PhD Classics, Brown University
2007 BA Classics, Harvard University

PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

2022-23, '24- Visiting Assistant Professor, Literary Arts and Studies, Rhode Island School of Design
2021-22, '23 Lecturer, Literary Arts and Studies, Rhode Island School of Design
2023-25 Research Fellow, Department of Culture and Language, University of Southern Denmark
2021 Adjunct Lecturer, Department of Philosophy, Salve Regina University
2020-21 Lecturer, Department of Classics, University of California, Davis
2018-20, '22 Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Classics, Brown University
2017-18 Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Seeger Center for Hellenic Studies, Princeton University
2015-17 Postdoctoral Research Fellow, University of Vienna, under the ERC Consolidator Grant: "9 SALT: Reassessing Ninth Century Philosophy. A Synchronic Approach to the Logical Traditions"
2014-15 Junior Fellow in Byzantine Studies, Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection, Washington, DC
2007-9 Classics teacher, Dexter Southfield Schools, Brookline, MA

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Essays on Scripture, Theology, and Philosophy: the Amphilochia of Photios (Greek text and English translation, under contract with Harvard University Press for the Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library)

2022 *Philosophy at the Festival: The Festal Orations of Gregory of Nazianzus and the Classical Tradition* (Brill)
Reviews: R. Edwards, *Reviews of Biblical and Early Christian Studies* 2023.02.03; N. Heimlicher, *Zeitschrift für Antikes Christentum/Journal of Ancient Christianity* 28.2 (2024) 354-357; M. Cassin, *Revue des sciences philosophiques et théologiques* 107.3 (2023) 533-538; M. Kruse, *Journal for the History of Rhetoric* 27.3 (2024) 423-427; B. Harris, *Classical Review* (2025)

Journal Articles

* "Practising what you preach: Hermogenes and meta-demonstration in *On Forms of Style*," *Classical Quarterly* (accepted)

2025 "Joy of Division: John Doxapatres' Commentary on Hermogenes' *On Issues* and the Role of Porphyry's *Isagoge* in the Byzantine Rhetorical Curriculum," *Scandinavian Journal of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies* 9/10 (2023/24), 49-80.

- 2023 "Byzantine Figures: A New Edition and Translation of the Two-Part Anonymous Iconophile Treatise against John the Grammarian," *Revue des Études Byzantines* 81, 5-48.
- 2022 "A Pontic Ophir: A Proposed Emendation to Gregory of Nazianzus's *Epistle* 4 on Basil's Monastery," *Vigiliae Christianae* 76.4, 463-468.
- 2022 "Individuality in Byzantine Literary Style and the Logical Tradition: from Hermogenes to John Sikeliotes via Porphyry's *Isagoge*," *Palaeoslavica* 30, 208-218.
- 2021 "Better Recognize: *Anagnorisis* in Gregory of Nazianzus's First Invective against Julian," *Harvard Studies in Classical Philology* 111, 483-496.
- 2020 "Hierotheus at the 'Dormition': Pseudo-Dionysius the Areopagite on his Teacher's Rhetorical Performance in *On Divine Names*," *Journal of Early Christian Studies* 28.2, 233-253.
- 2020 "Callicles after the *Gorgias*: Platonic Heroism in the Lives of Moses, Basil of Caesarea, and Emperor Julian," *Classical Philology* 115.4, 705-721.
- 2018 "The Byzantine Reception of Porphyry's *Isagoge*," (co-authored with Christophe Erismann), *Medioevo: Rivista di storia della filosofia medievale* 43, 42-72.
- 2018 "Aristotle at the Festival: The Orations of Theodore the Stoudite and Byzantine Logical Culture," *Jahrbuch der Österreichischen Byzantinistik* 68, 251-260.
- 2018 "Babies and the Beasts? Aristotle's *Rhetoric* 1371a9-17," *Mnemosyne* 71, 485-488.
- 2017 "Living Images and Authors of Virtue: Theodore of Stoudios on Plato of Sakkoudion and Gregory of Nazianzus on Basil," *Byzantinische Zeitschrift* 110.3, 691-712.
- 2017 "John of Sardis' Commentary on Aphthonius' *Progymnasmata*: Logic in Ninth-Century Byzantium," *Greek, Roman, and Byzantine Studies* 57.3, 721-744.
- 2016 "Gregory Thaumaturgus: a Platonic Lawgiver," *Dumbarton Oaks Papers* 70, 25-42.
- 2016 "Gregory of Nyssa's *Life of Gregory Thaumaturgus* and the Conversion of Neocaesarea," *Scrinium: Journal of Patrology and Critical Hagiography* 12, 281-290.
- 2016 "The Book of Isis and the Myth of Er," *American Journal of Philology* 137.2, 251-285.

- 2016 "Callimachus and the Bishops: Gregory of Nazianzus' Second Oration," *Journal of Late Antiquity* 9.1, 171-194.
- 2016 "The Festival of Saint Demetrios, the *Timarion*, and the *Aithiopika*," *Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies* 40.1, 136-150.
- 2015 "Michael Choniates at the Christian Parthenon and the *Bendideia* Festival of Republic I," *Greek, Roman, and Byzantine Studies* 55.1, 273-299.

Chapters in Edited Volumes

- * "Sacred *Topoi*: Rhetorical Education and the Dialogues of Plato in Late Antique Hagiography," in D. Lemeni and A. Cain (eds), *Discourses of Holiness and the Education of the Soul in Late Antique Christian Monasticism* (under review with Brill, *Vigiliae Christianae Supplements*).
 - * "The *Organon* of Rhetoric: An Anonymous Byzantine Discussion on Porphyry's *Isagoge*, the Corpus of Hermogenes, and the Rhetorical Curriculum," in A. Pizzone (ed.), *Boundless Invention: The Corpus Hermogenianum and its Exegetical Tradition in the Middle Byzantine Period* (under review with Palgrave Macmillan).
 - * "After the Theologian: *Theoria* in Constantinopolitan Homiletic and the Legacy of Gregory of Nazianzus," in H. Buchinger and S. Alexopoulos (eds), *The Prehistory of the Byzantine Liturgical Year* (Peeters Publishers, in press).
- 2022 "Lend a Sympathetic Ear: Rhetorical Theory and Emotion in Late Antique and Byzantine Homiletic," in D. Cairns, M. Hinterberger, A. Pizzone and M. Zaccarini (eds), *Emotions through Time: from Antiquity to Byzantium* (Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck) 121-139.
- 2021 "The *Ethos* of a Theologian: Gregory of Nazianzus and the Reception of Classical Ethics," in S. Xenophontos and A. Marmodoro (eds), *The Reception of Greek Ethics in Late Antiquity and Byzantium* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press) 161-173.
- 2019 "Theologies under Persecution: Gregory of Nazianzus and the *Syntagmaton* of Aetius," in Éric Fournier and Wendy Mayer (eds.), *Heirs of Roman Persecution: Studies on a Christian and Para-Christian Discourse in Late Antiquity* (Abingdon: Routledge) 79-94.
- 2017 "Arianism, Asianism, and the Encomium of Athanasius by Gregory of Nazianzus," in Alberto J. Quiroga Puertas (ed.), *Rhetorical Strategies in Late Antique Literature: Images, Metatexts and Interpretation* (Leiden: Brill) 104-116.

- 2016 "Spectatorship in City and Church in Late Antiquity: *theoria* returns to the festival," in N. Matheou, T. Kampianaki, and L. Bondioli (eds.), *From Constantinople to the Frontier: The City and the Cities* (Leiden: Brill) 127-141.

Book Reviews

- 2024 R. Penella, *Stock Characters Speaking: Eight Libanian Declamations Introduced and Translated* (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2023). For *Journal for the History of Rhetoric*, 27.1, 94-99.
- 2021 H. Schmedt, *Antonius Diogenes, "Die unglaublichen Dinge jenseits von Thule": Edition, Übersetzung, Kommentar* (Berlin: De Gruyter, 2020). For *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*.
- 2021 B. Storin (tr.), *Gregory of Nazianzus's Letter Collection: The Complete Translation* (Oakland: University of California Press, 2019). For *The Medieval Review*.
- 2017 R. Cribiore (tr.), *Between City and School: Selected Orations of Libanius* (Liverpool 2015). For *The Medieval Review*.

PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks

- 2018 "Sacred *Topoi*: Religious Festivals between Plato and Late Antique Hagiography," Yale University, Hellenic Studies Program (April 30).
- 2017 "Figure Exercises: John of Sardis, Aphthonius, and Aristotelian Syllogistic," Harvard University, Department of Classics (Feb. 23).

Panels Organized

- 2024 (with Aglae Pizzone) "Desperately Seeking Doxapatres: Middle Byzantine Culture and the Corpus of Hermogenes," 50th Annual Byzantine Studies Conference (New York, Oct. 25)

Conference Papers (since 2017)

- 2024 "Teaching with the *Organon*: Commentaries on the *Corpus Hermogenianum* and Byzantine Logical Culture," at "Thinking through Rhetoric: the *Corpus Hermogenianum* in Byzantium," (Naples, Feb. 16).
- 2022 "The Figures of the Syllogism in Byzantine Rhetorical Theory and Analysis," 24th International Congress of Byzantine Studies (Venice/Padua, Aug. 22-27).
- 2020 "Prereqs for Aphthonius: An Anonymous Byzantine Commentary on Porphyry's *Isagoge*," Byzantine Studies Conference (Oct. 23-25).
- 2019 "In Good Form: Hermogenes and the Didactic Strategy of *On Forms of Style*," Society for Classical Studies Conference (San Diego, Jan. 3-6).

- 2018 "The *ethos* of a theologian: Gregory of Nazianzus on character and *theoria*," at "The Reception of Greek Ethics in Late Antiquity and Byzantium: Continuities and Transformations," (Corpus Christi, Oxford, Nov. 14).
- 2018 "Imagination Stations: *Phantasia* and the Divine from Gregory of Nazianzus to the Ninth Century," Byzantine Studies Conference (San Antonio, Oct. 4-6).
- 2018 "*Theoria* in Constantinopolitan Homiletic and the Legacy of Gregory of Nazianzus," at "Towards the Prehistory of the Byzantine Liturgical Year: Festal Homilies and Festal Liturgies in Late Antique Constantinople" (Regensburg, July 3-6).
- 2017 "Byzantine Figures: Aristotelian Syllogistic in the Anonymous Iconophile Treatise against John the Grammarian," at "Dialectic and Analytics in the Aristotelian Tradition" (Providence College, October 13-14).
- 2017 "Lend a Sympathetic Ear: Rhetorical Theory and Emotion in Byzantine Homiletic," at "Emotions through Time: From Antiquity to Byzantium" (Nicosia, Cyprus, September 27-29).
- 2017 "Individuality and Rhetorical Style," at "Understanding Individuality and Depicting Individuals in Ninth-Century Byzantium" (Vienna, March 1-3).

COURSES TAUGHT AT RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL OF DESIGN

**new course at RISD*

- *LAS-E352 Of Ethiopia: A Greek Novel of Antiquity and its Reception from Byzantium to the Harlem Renaissance (Spring 2021, '22, '23)
- LAS-E101 First-Year Literature Seminar: Just Platonic? Desire and the Divine (Fall 2021, '22, '23, '24, '25)
- LAS-E209 Epic (Fall 2022)
- *LAS-E548 Haunting Tolkien: Ghosts of the West (Spring 2023, Fall 2024, '25)
- *LAS-E363 Greek Tragedy: From Antiquity to the Age of Netflix (Spring 2025)
- *LAS-E315 Byzantium and Global Medieval Literatures (Spring 2025)

COURSE TAUGHT AT SALVE REGINA UNIVERSITY

PHILOSOPHY 231 Aristotle (Fall 2021)

COURSES TAUGHT AT UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS

- CLASSICS 10 Greek, Roman, and Near Eastern Myth (Spring 2021)
- CLASSICS 143 Greek Tragedy (Fall 2020)
- LATIN 02 Elementary Latin (Winter 2021)
- LATIN 100 Readings in Latin Prose (Fall 2020)
- LATIN 122 Early Christian Latin: Augustine's *Confessions* (Winter 2021)
- LATIN 119 Republican Latin Literature: Cicero's *Tusculan Disputations* (Spring 2021)

COURSES TAUGHT AT BROWN UNIVERSITY (AS VISITING ASSISTANT PROFESSOR)

**new course at Brown*

LATIN COURSES

LATIN 100 Essentials of the Latin Language (Fall 2019)

LATIN 1020D* Cicero at the End of the Republic: Politics, Letters and Philosophy (Fall 2018)

GREEK COURSES

GREEK 1110P Sophocles (Spring 2019)

GREEK 1830* Imperial Greek Prose (Fall 2019)

GREEK 2110F Greek Paleography and Premodern Book Cultures (Spring 2020)

COURSES IN TRANSLATION

CLASSICS 660 The World of Byzantium (Spring 2019, '20, '22)

CLASSICS 1750U* Greek Life: Athens as a College Town under the Roman Empire (Fall 2018)

ADVISING/ADDITIONAL TEACHING (AS VISITING ASSISTANT PROFESSOR AT BROWN)

Undergraduate tutorial: Cicero's *Tusculan Disputations* (Spring 2019)

Graduate “special author” preliminary exam supervision: Themistius (Spring 2019)

Guest Lectures: “Greek Paleography” (for CLAS 2000 Classics Proseminar, Fall 2018, Fall 2019); “Postclassical Literature” (for Classics Proseminar, Fall 2018); “Constantinople” (for MDVL 0360 Cities: Medieval Perspectives, Spring 2019, Spring 2020)

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Vice President, Byzantine Studies Association of North America (elected 2020-2022)

Governing Board Member, Byzantine Studies Association of North America (elected 2019-2023)

Committee on Diversity and Inclusion (2020-2022)

Program Committee, 51st Annual Byzantine Studies Conference of the Byzantine Studies Association of North America (2025)

Peer Review for *Harvard Studies in Classical Philology*; *Journal of Early Christian Studies*; *TAPA*; *Journal of Orthodox Christian Studies*; *Greek, Roman, and Byzantine Studies*; *Byzantinische Zeitschrift*; *Vox Patrum*; Brill

SERVICE TO RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL OF DESIGN

Academic Standing Committee (2022-2023, 2024-2025)