

## NEIL COFFEE

Department of Classics  
The University at Buffalo, SUNY  
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### EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Classics. The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, August 2003  
Dissertation: "*Belli Commercica: Violent Exchange in Vergil's Aeneid*"  
Advisors: Shadi Bartsch, David Wray, Martha Nussbaum
- M.A. Classics. The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, June 1999
- B.A. English, *cum laude*. Columbia University, New York, NY, 1992

#### Additional Training

- Summer Session. American School of Classical Studies at Athens, 1999  
Post-Baccalaureate Classics Program. Univ. of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, 1996-7

### EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor of Classics, University at Buffalo, SUNY, Buffalo, NY, 2003 – present

### PUBLICATIONS

#### Book

- *The Commerce of War: Exchange and Social Order in Latin Epic*. 2009. University of Chicago Press.

#### Articles in Refereed Journals

- "Stattius' Theseus: Martial or Merciful?" *Classical Philology* 104.2 (2009): 221-8
- "Wallace Stevens' Epicurean Emperor" *Classical and Modern Literature* (forthcoming vol. 28.22 (2008); 23 manuscript pp., 6,133 words, incl. notes and bib.)
- "Eteocles, Polynices, and the Economics of Violence in Stattius' *Thebaid*" *American Journal of Philology* 127.3 (2006): 415-52
- "The φορτηγοί of Theognis 667-82" *Classical Quarterly* 56.1 (2006): 29-30

#### Article in Edited Volume

- "Social Relations in Lucan's *Bellum Ciuile*" *Brill's Companion to Lucan*, ed. P. Asso. (under contract, forthcoming fall 2009; 21 manuscript pp., 6,769 words, incl. notes and bib.)

## Reviews

- Review of McNelis, C. *Statius' Thebaid and the Poetics of Civil War*. *Classical Journal*. Forthcoming 105.2 (2009).
- Review of Rossi, A. *Contexts of War: Manipulation of Genre in Virgilian Battle Narrative*. *Classical Philology* 100.4 (2005): 372-6

## Articles under Review

- "Caesar *Chrematopios*." (23 manuscript pp., 7,233 words, incl. notes and bib.)

## Work in Progress

- Book project: *The Rhetoric of Economics in Classical Rome*
- "Tesserae Project." Ongoing project to produce software to scan for similar phrases in the corpus of Latin texts, and those of other languages (tesserae.caset.buffalo.edu)
- "Lucan's Discordant Machine." Article on Lucan's use of Epicureanism and debt to Lucretius

## GRANTS AND AWARDS

- \$3,330 grant from Digital Humanities Institute at Buffalo for 2008-2009 "Textual Analysis Working Group" supporting work on Tesserae Project. Co-P.I. with J.-P. Koenig, University at Buffalo Department of Linguistics, and Susan Cole, emerita University at Buffalo Professor of Classics.
- \$2,600 grant from Digital Humanities Institute at Buffalo for Stage 1 development of "Classical Intertextual Scanning Software" Project. Summer 2008. Co-P.I. with J.-P. Koenig, University at Buffalo Department of Linguistics. Renamed the "Tesserae Project"
- University at Buffalo Humanities Institute Faculty Research Fellowship, spring 2009 for book project *The Rhetoric of Economics in Classical Rome*
- \$1,200 grant from University at Buffalo College of Arts and Sciences Fund for Conferences and Lectures for June 27-29, 2008 *Conventiculum Buffaloniense Spoken Latin Workshop*

## LECTURES AND APPEARANCES

Conference panels organized through peer-review process

- "Reciprocity and Genre", Organizer-refereed panel, to be held at the APA Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX, January 2011

Conference papers and workshops accepted through peer-review process

- "Caesar *Chrematopios*", CAMWS Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN, April 2009
- "Exchange Poetics", Roundtable discussion leader, APA Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, January 2008
- "Introducing Oral Latin in the Second Year", APA Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, January 2007
- "Concord and Forms of Exchange in the *Aeneid*", APA Annual Meeting, Montreal, Quebec, January 2006

- “Social Status and the Perils of Exchange in Vergil’s *Aeneid*”, CAMWS Annual Meeting, Madison, WI, April 2005
- “Vice Versa: Domitian’s Corruption in Suetonius and Statius”, APA Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, January 2005
- “Conspicuous Consumption: Buying, Using, and Losing Lives in Statius’ *Thebaid*”, APA Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, January 2003
- “Reconsidering Vergilian ‘Restraint’ in the *Aeneid*”, APA Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, January 2002
- “Virtuous Violence in Statius’ *Thebaid*”, CAMWS Annual Meeting, Provo, UT, April 2001
- “The Hero’s Tale: The Historical Perspective of Archaic Greek Elegy”, CAMWS Annual Meeting, Knoxville, TN, April 2000
- “Theognis’ Riddle: A Reexamination of Theognis 667-682”, APA Annual Meeting, Dallas, TX, December 1999
- “The Uses of Violence in Lucan’s *Bellum Civile*”, CAMWS Annual Meeting, Cleveland, OH, April 1999
- “The Homeric and Historic Narrators of the *Aeneid*”, Yale University Graduate Student Colloquium “Intertextuality in the Ancient World,” April 1998

#### Invited lectures

- “Dido’s Sword: Classics and Economic Criticism”, University at Buffalo Humanities Institute Faculty Fellowship lecture, Buffalo, NY, March 2009
- “Lucan’s *Civil War* and Caesar’s Politics of Generosity”, Brock University Archaeological Society Annual Scholarly Symposium, Brock University, St. Catharines, ON, March 2008
- “Economic and Moral Corruption in Lucan”, Wooster College, Wooster, OH, November 2005
- “Economic and Moral Corruption in Lucan”, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH, November 2005

#### Public lectures and non-peer reviewed appearances

- “Active Latin and Emerging Technologies: Practice and Prospects” Annual Meeting of the Classical Association of Western New York, University at Buffalo, October 2008
- “*De gratia Caesaris in commentariis de bello ciuili*”, lecture given in Latin at the University of Kentucky *Conuenticulum Aestiuum*, Lexington, KY, July 2008
- Respondent, “Human Trafficking” Conference, University at Buffalo Humanities Institute, October 2007
- “Achilles, Aeneas, and the Responsibilities of Power”, University at Buffalo Cutting Edge Lecture Series, University at Buffalo, April 2005
- “Social Status and the Perils of Exchange in Vergil’s *Aeneid*”, University at Buffalo, Dept. of Classics, April 2005
- “Natural Questions about Seneca”, University at Buffalo, Dept. of Classics, February 2004
- “Spoken Latin in the Classroom”, Annual Meeting of the Classical Association of Western New York, University at Buffalo, October 2003
- “Rethinking Vergilian ‘Restraint’”, Rhetoric and Poetics Workshop of the University of Chicago, April 2001
- “The Hero’s Tale: The Historical Perspective of Archaic Greek Elegy”, Rhetoric and Poetics Workshop of the University of Chicago, October 1999

#### Media appearance

- “Spoken Latin Today” radio interview, Public Radio Station WBFO, Buffalo, NY, March 2004

### **COURSES TAUGHT, UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO**

#### Graduate Seminars

- Exchange Ideologies in Classical Literature
- Vergil and his Critics

#### Graduate and Undergraduate Reading Courses

- History of Latin Literature (graduate)
- Horace and Catullus
- Latin Epistolography
- The Poetry and Philosophy of Lucretius
- Senecan Tragedy and Philosophy

#### Graduate Tutorials

- Senecan Stoicism, fall 2008
- Homer and Epic, fall 2007
- Classical Epic Tradition in translation, spring 2004

#### Undergraduate Lecture Courses

- Roman Civilization
- Warfare in the Ancient Mediterranean World

#### Undergraduate Language Courses

- Intermediate Latin (Latin 201 and Latin 202)
- Introductory Ancient Greek

#### Undergraduate Tutorials

- Lucan’s *Bellum Ciuile*, fall 2007

### **ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

- Editorial Assistant, *Classical Philology*, The University of Chicago, 1997-8
- United States Peace Corps, Viimsi, Estonia, June 1993 to June 1995  
Volunteer high school teacher of English as a foreign language

### **MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

- American Philological Association (APA)
- Classical Association of the Middle West and South (CAMWS)
- Vergilian Society

- North American Institute of Living Latin Studies (SALVI)

## SERVICE

To profession:

- Book manuscript referee, University of Chicago Press
- Journal manuscript referee, *American Journal of Philology*, *Classical Journal*, *Classical Philology*

University at Buffalo, SUNY, University-level:

- University Grievance Committee, fall 2004-present

University at Buffalo, SUNY, College-level:

- Humanities Institute Planning and Executive Committees, 2003-8
- Humanities Institute Liaison to Digital Humanities Initiative at Buffalo, 2007-8
- Lecturer, UB 101, Fall 2008
- Lecturer, Cutting Edge public lecture series, April 2005

University at Buffalo, SUNY, Department-level:

- Director of Undergraduate Studies, 2006-7
- Member, Classics Dept. Advisory Committee to Chair, 2005-present
- Director of Latin 101 Graduate Student Teaching, fall 2005
- Website Administrator, fall 2007-present
- Founder and organizer, "Arethusa Seminar Series," bringing eight speakers to the department to lecture and participate in seminars, 2004-present
- Organizer of visits of seven visiting scholars outside of Arethusa Seminar Series, 2003-present
- Founder and organizer, annual Classics Dept. Open House for high school students, spring 2005-spring 2008
- Founder and organizer, weekly *Grex* spoken Latin table, fall 2004-present
- Co-organizer, weekly Greek and Latin sight reading group, 2005-6
- Initiator and organizer, "Undergraduate Convivium" year-opening reception for majors, fall 2004, fall 2005
- Faculty Meeting Secretary, fall 2003-fall 2005, fall 2006-spring 2008
- Undergraduate Classics Club Advisor, fall 2006-present
- Representative, UB Open House for prospective undergraduates, fall 2003, fall 2006, spring 2007
- Member, curriculum review committee, rationalizing sequence of course offerings, spring 2005
- Presenter, workshop for graduate students on classics job market, fall 2005, fall 2006
- Presenter, workshop for undergraduates on classics graduate school, fall 2003, fall 2007, fall 2008

Community Service:

- Translated medieval Latin songs for Western New York Chorale performance, February 2007
- Guest speaker, class on career paths of Michael Johnson, Buffalo State University, April 2004
- Assisted with translation of text of Copernicus for Bert Gambini of WBFO in preparation for the Meet the Author visit of Owen Gingerich speaking on his book *The Book that Nobody Read: Chasing the Revolutions of Nicolaus Copernicus*, April 2004

**GRADUATE STUDENTS SUPERVISED**

Ph. D. Dissertation Committees:

- Stephen Kershner (Ph.D. August 2008)
- Scott Sobolewski (director)
- William Duffy
- Christopher Forstall
- Katie Lamberto
- Rhodora Venarucci

Reader, Ph. D. qualifying exams:

- William Duffy (fall 2008)
- Christopher Buczek (spring 2008)
- Jack Foran (spring 2008)
- Scott Sobolewski (spring 2008)

M.A. thesis committee member:

- William Duffy (M.A. 2007)

**SPOKEN LATIN ACTIVITIES**

- Founder and organizer, *Conuenticulum Buffaloniense*  
Weekend workshop for Latin teachers and others on spoken Latin, with area Latin instructors as co-organizers, June 27-29, 2008, June 26-28, 2009
- Founder and organizer, *GreX*, University at Buffalo, SUNY  
From fall 2003 to present lead weekly spoken-Latin discussion group of undergraduate and graduate students
- *Conuenticulum Aestiuum*.  
Session leader at one week spoken Latin workshop, The University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY, summer 2001, 2004-8

**LANGUAGES**

- French, German, Latin (reading and speaking ability)
- Ancient Greek, Italian (reading ability)
- Spanish (reading and intermediate speaking ability)