

Paul Christesen

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Education

Columbia University, Joint Doctoral Subcommittee for Classical Studies, 1992-2001

Ph.D. conferred May 2001

Dissertation title: *Society and Economy in Archaic and Classical Greece*

City University of New York, post-baccalaureate studies in Latin and Greek, 1988-1991

Dartmouth College, A.B., History and Classical Studies, 1984-1988

Academic Positions

Dartmouth College, William R. Kenan Professor of Ancient Greek History, 2016-present

University of Cambridge, Clare Hall, Life Fellow, 2017-present

Dartmouth College, Professor, 2012-2016

Dartmouth College, Associate Professor, 2007-2012

Dartmouth College, Assistant Professor, 2001-2007

Awards, Honors, Fellowships

Leventis Foundation Fellowship, 2020 (£30,000)

Leventis Foundation Fellowship, 2018-2019 (£75,000)

Loeb Foundation Fellowship, 2018-2019 (declined)

New Directions in Humanities Scholarship and Arts Practice Grant, Dartmouth College, 2018-2020 (\$16,650)

Clare Hall, University of Cambridge

Visiting Fellow with stipend, 2016-2017

elected Life Fellow, August 2017

Senior Faculty Fellowship, Dartmouth College, 2016-2017

Lynette S. Autrey Visiting Faculty Fellow, Humanities Research Center, Rice University, Winter-Spring 2010

Linda and Paul Gridley Faculty Fellow, Dartmouth College, 2008-2009

Russell Ladd Newcomb Fellowship, Dartmouth College, 2007-2008

John M. Manley Huntington Memorial Award for Newly Tenured Faculty, Dartmouth College, May 2007

Council for Advancement and Support of Education and Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching New Hampshire Professor of the Year, 2006

Margo Tytus Visiting Scholar, University of Cincinnati, Summer 2005

Class of 1962 Fellowship, Dartmouth College, Winter-Spring 2005

Selected Current and Recent Service to the Profession

Member, Managing Committee (current) and Committee on Committees (2017-2020) at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens

I intermittently serve as an external examiner for Ph.D. students in the United Kingdom, most recently for James Lloyd's thesis "Music in Ancient Sparta" at the University of Reading in Fall 2019.

I regularly evaluate scholarly articles and manuscripts for journals and presses. Some of the journals and presses I have worked with recently are: *Ancient History Bulletin*, *European Journal for Sport and Society*, *Hesperia*, *Historia*, *Histos*, *Illinois Classical Studies*, *International Journal of the History of Sport*, *Journal of Ancient History*, *Law and History Review*, *Phoenix*, Bloomsbury Press, Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press, Routledge, University of California Press, and Wiley-Blackwell. I also review project proposals for foundations and governmental agencies such as the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada and the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study.

Supervising professor in the Master's Degree Programme in Olympic Studies at the International Olympic Academy/University of the Peloponnese, Olympia, Greece, Fall 2020

Supervising professor of the 21st International Seminar on Olympic Studies for Postgraduate Students at the International Olympic Academy, Olympia, Greece, Fall 2014

Supervising professor of the 20th International Seminar on Olympic Studies for Postgraduate Students at the International Olympic Academy, Olympia, Greece, Fall 2013

Selected Current and Recent Service to Dartmouth College

Chair, Department of Classics, 2015-2016, 2017-18

Director of Dartmouth's Foreign Study Program in Greece (eight times)

I regularly serve on hiring committees for tenure-track and adjunct faculty as well as search committees for staff positions at Dartmouth College including the committee that hired Dartmouth's current provost.

Co-organizer (with Paul Cartledge) of a conference, "Diversity and Uniformity in the Archaic Greek World," held at Dartmouth College in May 2018

Principal Investigator of ongoing longitudinal study, “Long-term Effects of Humanities Teaching on Undergraduate Students’ Conceptions of Culture and Identity,” as part of the Gateway Initiative at Dartmouth College

Faculty advisor to the women’s and men’s alpine and Nordic ski team, 2015-present

Faculty advisor to Sigma Delta sorority, 2016-2018

Work in Progress

• Books

The Oxford History of the Archaic Greek World, co-edited with Paul Cartledge.

- a multi-volume series that will consist of 27 studies (all intended for a scholarly audience) covering 34 different Greek sites across the Mediterranean basin in the Archaic period (c. 750 – c. 480 BCE)
- total expected length c. 1.5 million words
- 22 of 27 essays received and edited with remainder of work progressing apace
- under contract with Oxford University Press
- will be published in hard copy and digitally in stages starting in 2021

note: a detailed project description can be found at the end of this document

Spartan Origins, co-authored with Paul Cartledge.

- a detailed study of the history and archaeology of Sparta in the Archaic period
- will form one entire volume of the *Oxford History of the Archaic Greek World*
- completed manuscript will be delivered in December 2021

Leisure as Luxury in Ancient Sparta

- a detailed study arguing that luxury was a fundamental part of the Spartiate lifestyle in the Archaic and Classical periods
- serves (along with the *A New Reading of the Damonon Stele* [see below] and several articles) as a foundational study for *Spartan Origins*
- not under contract as yet, but Oxford University Press is the likely publication venue
- manuscript will be completed by December, 2021

• Articles

“The Cyclades,” co-authored with Erica Angliker, Grégory Bonnin, Edward Henderson, Clayton Howard, Alexander Karsten, Yannis Kourayos, and Alexandra Sfyroera in *The Oxford History of the Archaic Greek World*, P. Cartledge and P. Christesen (eds.), New York: Oxford University Press.

- 85,000 words

“Spartan Grave Markers and Epitaphs.”

- in progress

“Powerful Prisoners: The Status of Women in Ancient Sparta.”

- in progress

Work Completed but Not Yet in Print

- Articles

“Chios, Lesbos, Samos,” co-authored with Giuseppe Lentini, Sarah Murray, and Matthew Simonton, in *The Oxford History of the Archaic Greek World*, P. Cartledge and P. Christesen (eds.), New York: Oxford University Press.

- 85,000 words

-publication expected at some point in 2021

“Luxury, Lost in Translation: τροφή in Plutarch’s Sparta,” in *Luxury and Wealth in the Archaic to Hellenistic Peloponnese*, C. Gallou and S. Hodkinson (eds.), Swansea: Classical Press of Wales.

- 8,000 words

- publication expected in June 2021

“Theories of Greek and Roman Sport and Spectacle,” in *The Oxford Handbook of Sport and Spectacle in the Ancient World*, A. Futrell and T. Scanlon (eds.), Oxford: Oxford University Press.

- 7,000 words

- publication expected in June 2021

- Reviews

Zinon Papakonstantinou, *Sport and Identity in Ancient Greece*, in *Journal of Hellenic Studies*.

Work in Print

- Books

The Bloomsbury Cultural History of Sport in Antiquity, co-edited with Charles Stocking, London: Bloomsbury, 2021.

A New Reading of the Damonon Stele, *Histos* Supplement 10, 2019.

(available online at: <https://research.ncl.ac.uk/histos/documents/SV10.ChristesenDamononStele.pdf>)

How to Do Things with History, co-edited with Danielle Allen and Paul Millett, New York: Oxford University Press, 2018.

A Companion to Sport and Spectacle in Greek and Roman Antiquity, co-edited with Donald Kyle, Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2014.

Sport and Democracy in the Ancient and Modern Worlds, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012.

Olympic Victor Lists and Ancient Greek History, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007.

- Articles

“Introduction,” in *The Bloomsbury Cultural History of Sport in Antiquity*, P. Christesen and C. Stocking (eds.), London: Bloomsbury, 2021: pp. 1-22.

“The Purpose of Sport,” co-authored with Rose MacLean, in *The Bloomsbury Cultural History of Sport in Antiquity*, P. Christesen and C. Stocking (eds.), London: Bloomsbury, 2021: pp. 23-48.

“Herodotus 9.85 and Spartan Burial Customs.” *Classica et Mediaevalia* 69 (2020): 1-72.

“The Typology and Topography of Spartan Burials from the Protogeometric through Hellenistic Periods: Re-thinking Spartan Exceptionalism and the Ostensible Cessation of Adult Intramural Burials in the Greek World,” *Annual of the British School at Athens* 113 (2018): 307-363 (plus an additional c. 20,000 words of supplementary information in the form of data tables available (only) online on the Cambridge University Press website).

“Sparta and Athletics,” in *A Companion to Sparta*, A. Powell (ed.), Malden, MA: Blackwell, 2018, vol. 2: pp. 543-64.

“Dreams of Democracy, or The Reasons for *Hoosiers*’ Enduring Appeal,” *International Journal of the History of Sport* 34 (2017): 1-41.

“Xenophon on Sparta,” in the *Cambridge Companion to Xenophon*, Michael Flower (ed.), Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2017, pp. 376-400.

Essays in *Brill’s New Jacoby* on Euhemeros of Messene (27,000 words), Myron of Priene (16,000 words), Baton of Sinope (4,000 words), and Euthymenes (900 words).

- these essays, which appeared in 2015 and 2016, form part of an online database of translations of and commentaries on historical writings from ancient Greece and Rome that survive only in fragments

“Sport and Democratization in Ancient Greece (with an excursus on athletic nudity),” in *A Companion to Sport and Spectacle in Greek and Roman Antiquity*, P. Christesen and D. Kyle (eds.), Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2014, pp. 211-235.

“Sport and Society in Sparta,” in *A Companion to Sport and Spectacle in Greek and Roman Antiquity*, P. Christesen and D. Kyle (eds.), Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2014, pp. 146-158.

“Ladas: A Laconian Perioikic Olympic Victor?,” in *Kultur(en): Formen des Alltäglichen in der Antike. Festschrift für Ingomar Weiler zum 75. Geburtstag*, P. Mauritsch and C. Ulf (eds.), Graz: Leykam Verlag, 2013, pp. 41-50.

“Athletics and Social Order in Sparta in the Classical Period,” *Classical Antiquity* 31 (2012): 193-255.

“*Hellanodikai*” in the *Encyclopedia of Ancient History*, R. Bagnall, K. Brodersen, C. Champion, A. Erskine, and S. Huebner (eds.), Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012 (published electronically, not paginated).

“Introduction” to a revised third edition of Stephen Miller’s *Arete* (2012).

“When *Were* the First Olympics?,” *Significance* (the journal of the American Statistical Association and the Royal Statistical Society) 9.2 (2012): 43-45.

“Treatments of Spartan Land Tenure in Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century France: From François Fénelon to Fustel de Coulanges,” in *Sparta in Modern Thought: Politics, History, and Culture*, S. Hodkinson and I. Macgregor Morris (eds.), Swansea: Classical Press of Wales, 2012, pp. 165-230.

“Kings Playing Politics: The Heroization of Chionis of Sparta,” *Historia (Zeitschrift für Alte Geschichte)* 59 (2010): 26-73.

- “Macedonian Religion,” co-authored with Sarah Murray, in the *Companion to Ancient Macedonia*, J. Roisman and I. Worthington (eds.), Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell Publishers, 2010, pp. 428-445.
- “Spartans and Scythians, A Meeting of Mirages: The Portrayal of the Lycurgan *Politeia* in Ephorus’ *Histories*,” in *Sparta: The Body Politic*, A. Powell and S. Hodkinson (eds.), Swansea: Classical Press of Wales, 2010, pp. 211-263.
- “Video Games and Classical Antiquity,” co-authored with Dominic Machado, *Classical World* 104.1 (2010): 107-110.
- “Whence 776? The Origin of the Date for the First Olympiad,” *International Journal of Sport History* 26.2 (2009): 161-182 (republished in *Sport in the Cultures of the Ancient World: New Perspectives*, Z. Papakonstantinou (ed.), London: Routledge, 2010, pp. 13-34).
- “The Transformation of Athletics in Sixth-Century Greece,” in *Onward to the Olympics*, G. Schaus and S. R. Wenn (eds.), Waterloo: Wilfrid Laurier University Press, 2007, pp. 59-68.
- “The Olympic Victor List of Eusebius: Background, Text, and Translation,” co-authored with Zara Martirosova-Torlone, *Traditio (Studies in Ancient and Medieval History, Thought and Religion)* 61 (2006): 31-93.
- “Xenophon’s *Cyropaedia* and Military Reform in Sparta,” *Journal of Hellenic Studies* 126 (2006): 47-65.
- “Imagining Olympia: Hippias of Elis and the First Olympic Victor List,” in *A Tall Order: Writing the Social History of the Ancient World (Essays in Honor of William V. Harris)*, Z. Várhelyi and J.-J. Aubert (eds.), Munich: K. G. Saur, 2005, pp. 319-356.
- “Utopia on the Eurotas: Economic Aspects of the Spartan Mirage,” in *Spartan Society*, T. Figueira (ed.), Swansea: Classical Press of Wales, 2004, pp. 309-337.
- “Athletic Nudity at Olympia,” in *Ancient Greece and the Modern World (Proceedings of the Second World Congress, Ancient Olympia, 12-17 July 2002)*, University of Patras (ed.), Patras: Panepistemio Patron: 2003, pp. 561-569.
- “Economic Rationalism in Fourth-Century B.C. Athens,” *Greece and Rome* 50 (2003): 1-26.
- “The Economy of Italy: 1000 BCE-500 CE,” in the *Oxford Encyclopedia of Economic History*, 5 vols., J. Mokyr (ed.), Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003, III: 173-175.
- “On the Meaning of γυμνάσιον,” *Nikephoros (Zeitschrift für Sport und Kultur im Altertum)* 15 (2002): 7-37.
- “*Ex omnibus in unum, nec hoc nec illud*: Genre in Petronius,” co-authored with Zara Torlone, *Materiali e Discussioni* 49 (2002): 1-38.
- “Finance,” “Taxation,” and “Transhumance,” in the *Encyclopedia of Greece and the Hellenic Tradition*, 2 vols., G. Speake (ed.), Chicago: Fitzroy, Dearborn, 2000, I: 616-618, II: 1603-1604, 1661-1662.

- Reviews

P. Cartledge and A. Powell (eds.), *The Greek Superpower: Sparta in the Self-Definition of Athenians*, *Classical Review* 69.2 (2020): 509-511.

T. H. Nielsen, *Two Studies in the History of Ancient Greek Athletics*, *Classical Review* 69.1 (2019): 198-201.

Lukas Thommen, *Die Wirtschafts Sparta*, in *Klio* 100 (2018): 302-303.

Paul Rahe, *The Spartan Regime. Its Character, Origins, and Grand Strategy*, in the *Classical Review* 68.1 (2018): 134-136.

Josiah Ober, *The Rise and Fall of Classical Greece*, in *Polis: The Journal for Ancient Greek Political Thought* 34 (2017): 137-146.

Thomas Scanlon (ed.), *Sport in the Greek and Roman Worlds*, in *Classical World* 109 (2015): 138-141.

Bernd Steinbock, *Social Memory in Athenian Public Discourse: Uses and Meaning of the Past*, in *Classical Philology* 109 (2014): 170-174.

Nigel Crowther, *Sport in Ancient Times*, in the *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2010.07.45.

Mark Golden, *Greek Sport and Social Status*, in the *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2009.10.15.

Katherine Clarke, *Making Time for the Past: Local History and the Polis*, in the *Journal of Hellenic Studies* 129 (2009): 181-182.

Fred W. Jenkins, *Classical Studies: A Guide to the Reference Literature* (second edition), in the *Classical Bulletin* 83.2 (2007): 253-255.

Nigel James Nicholson, *Aristocracy and Athletics in Archaic and Classical Greece*, in the *American Journal of Philology* 128.1 (2007): 125-129.

Jason König, *Athletics and Literature in the Roman Empire*, in the *New England Classical Journal* 34.1 (2007): 95-98.

Zahra Newby, *Greek Athletics in the Roman World*, in the *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2006.07.32.

Georg Gerster, *The Past from Above*, in the *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2005.09.28.

Stephen Miller, *Ancient Greek Athletics* and Wm. Blake Tyrell, *The Smell of Sweat*, in the *Journal of Sport History* 31.2 (2004): 401-412.

Panos Valavanis, *Greek Games and Sanctuaries*, in the *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2005.01.20.

C. M. Reed, *Maritime Traders in the Ancient Greek World*, in the *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2004.07.22.

Lecture Series

Fordyce Mitchel Lecture Series at the University of Missouri, Columbia, delivered 8-11/10/2018

-“Spartans Getting Naked: Ancient Sparta and the Origins of Greek Athletic Nudity”

-“How Athletic Nudity Made Ancient Greece: Sports, Nudity, and Identity”

-“How Athletic Nudity Made Democracy: Sports, Nudity, and Politics”

-“How Athletic Nudity Made Greek Aesthetics: Sports, Nudity, and Embodiment in Ancient Greece”

Selected List of Presentations

“Mind over Body: Sports as Education in Ancient Greece,” delivered 9/13/19 as a keynote address at the The Olympic Museum of the International Olympic Committee, during the Congress of the European Committee for Sports History, Lausanne, Switzerland

“Ancient Greece without Athens: How to Decenter the Study of the Greek World in One (Seemingly) Easy Step,” delivered 7/10/19 as invited lecture at Clare Hall, University of Cambridge

“What’s New in Ancient Sparta: Some Archaeological and Epigraphic Reflections on the Spartan Way of Death,” co-delivered with Paul Cartledge, delivered 2/12/2019 as the Annual Lecture at the Centre for Spartan and Peloponnesian Studies at the University of Nottingham

“Spartans Living the Good Life? Luxury, Leisure, and Austerity in Ancient Sparta,” delivered 1/23/2019 as an invited research seminar at the University of Reading

“Athletics and Glocalization, Ancient and Modern,” delivered 9/20/2018 at the conference “Athletics and Identity in Ancient and Modern Cultures,” at the University of St. Andrews

“The Typology and Topography of Spartan Burials from the Protogeometric through Hellenistic Periods: Re-thinking Spartan Exceptionalism and the Ostensible Cessation of Adult Intramural Burials in the Greek World,” delivered 01/05/18 at the annual meeting of the Archaeological Institute of America

“How the Olympics Made Ancient Greece: The Role of Sports in Constituting Ethnic Identity in the Ancient Greek World,” delivered 11/30/17 as an invited lecture at the University of Rochester, Rochester, New York

“Herodotos 9.85 and Spartiate Burial Customs,” delivered 7/21/17 at the International Sparta Seminar at the Celtic Conference in Classics at McGill University, Montreal, Canada

“Powerful Prisoners: The Paradoxical Statuses of Spartiate Women,” delivered 6/22/17 as an invited keynote address at the conference “Gender and Identities in Peloponnesian Antiquity,” at the University of Nottingham’s Centre for Spartan & Peloponnesian Studies

“Spartan Burial Customs,” delivered 2/20/17 as an invited seminar at the Faculty of Classics, University of Cambridge

“‘Big History:’ The Promise, Perils and Processes of Constructing Grand Historical Narratives,” delivered 1/24/17 as invited talk at Clare Hall, University of Cambridge

“Sport, Religion, and Glocalization in Ancient Greece,” delivered 11/24/16 as an invited keynote address at the conference “Sport, Spectacle, and Religion in Antiquity” at Universidad Carlos III, Madrid, Spain

“A New Reading of the Damonon *Stele*,” delivered 11/15/16 as an invited lecture at the University of Nottingham’s Centre for Spartan & Peloponnesian Studies

“Athletics and Glocalization, Ancient and Modern,” delivered 7/8/16 as an invited lecture at the 5th annual symposium organized by Harvard’s Center for Hellenic Studies at the International Olympic Academy, Olympia, Greece

“Leisure as a Consumption Good in Archaic and Classical Sparta,” delivered 4/15/16 as an invited lecture at the conference “Luxury and Wealth in the Archaic to Hellenistic Peloponnese” at the University of Nottingham’s Centre for Spartan & Peloponnesian Studies

“Pulling the Pieces Together: Social Capital and the Olympics, Ancient and Modern,” delivered on 1/9/16 at the annual meeting of the Society for Classical Studies

“Olympism as a Peace Movement, Ancient and Modern,” delivered 7/6/15 as an invited lecture at 4th annual symposium organized by Harvard’s Center for Hellenic Studies at the International Olympic Academy, Olympia, Greece

Lecture series on sport and democratization delivered 9/2-9/14 as supervising professor of the 20th International Seminar on Olympic Studies for Postgraduate Students at the International Olympic Academy, Olympia, Greece

“Conspicuous In(equality): Athletic Nudity as Political Ritual,” delivered 6/28/14 as the closing paper at the conference “Sport in der Antike” at Karl-Franzens-Universität in Graz, Austria

“Reconstructing Rhythm: Digital Modeling and Rendering as Tools for Evaluating the Play of Light and Shadow on the Parthenon,” delivered 6/20/14 in conjunction with Aurora McClain at the annual meeting of the European Architectural History Network in Turin, Italy

“The Unstarted Journey: Foucault and His Impact on Writing the History of Ancient Greece,” delivered 3/27/14 at the conference “Foucault 2014: Beyond *Sexuality*” at Hofstra University

Lecture series on sport and democratization delivered 9/1-8/13 as supervising professor of the 20th International Seminar on Olympic Studies for Postgraduate Students at the International Olympic Academy, Olympia, Greece

“King Pausanias's Protégés: Athenian Democracy *Restituta* vis-a-vis Sparta,” delivered 7/5/13 as an invited lecture at the University of Cambridge

“Democratization, Sports, and Choral Dancing in Sixth- and Fifth-Century BCE Athens,” delivered 1/5/13 at the annual meeting of the American Philological Association

“*Natura facit saltus*: Sudden Economic Change in Modern Theory and in Classical Athens,” delivered 6/21/12 as an invited lecture at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

“Sports and Democracy: A Theory and Two Case Studies,” delivered 11/3/10 at the annual meeting of the North American Society for the Sociology of Sport

“Songs About Me: Why the Humanities Matter More than Ever,” delivered 7/12/10 at the Classical Association of New England Summer Institute as the 2010 Bradley Lecture

“Sports, Choral Dancing, Meritocracy, and Democracy in Ancient Athens,” delivered 4/5/10 at the University of Texas, Arlington as the 2010 Barksdale Lecture

“Kings Playing Politics: The Heroization of Chionis of Sparta,” delivered 1/9/09 at the annual meeting of the American Philological Association

“Ephorus and the Lycurgan *Politeia*,” delivered 11/21-2/08 as invited two-day seminar at Princeton University

“Thucydides and the Origin of Athletic Nudity in Ancient Greece,” delivered 7/10/08 at the International Sparta Seminar, Cork, Ireland

“Generals, Gods, and Games: Video Games and Classical Antiquity,” delivered 1/5/08 at the annual meeting of the American Philological Association

“The Origins of Greek Athletic Nudity: Citizens, Soldiers and Athletes in Archaic Greece,” delivered 11/2/07 as an invited seminar at the University of Ottawa, Canada

“Reason to Believe: The Spartan Mirage in Nineteenth-Century Political Thought,” delivered 9/20/07 at the conference, “Sparta: Comparative Approaches and Classical Tradition,” at the University of Nottingham’s Centre for Spartan & Peloponnesian Studies

“Fragmentary History: Olympic Victor Lists as an Historical Genre,” delivered 5/16/07 at the conference “Doing Fragmentary History in a Global Context,” at The College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, Massachusetts

“A New Look at the Textual Tradition of Eusebius’ *Chronika* and a New Edition of the Eusebian Olympic Victor List,” delivered 1/6/07 at the annual meeting of the American Philological Association

“Ephoros’ Portrayal of the Lycurgan *Politeia*,” delivered 8/30/06 at the International Sparta Seminar, Lampeter, Wales

“The Origins of Greek Athletic Nudity: Citizens, Soldiers and Athletes in Archaic Greece,” delivered 3/3/06 as the keynote address at the Fifth Annual Undergraduate Conference at Miami University of Ohio

“*Olympionikai*: Olympic Victor Lists in Ancient Greece,” delivered 1/6/06 at the annual meeting of the American Philological Association

“Whence 776? The Origin of the Date for the First Olympiad,” delivered 1/9/05 at the annual meeting of the American Philological Association

“Greek Athletes and Greek Soldiers,” delivered 8/10/04 as an invited seminar presentation at Colby-Sawyer College, New London, New Hampshire

“Athletics, Nudity and Politics in Archaic Greece,” delivered 01/4/04 at the annual meeting of the American Philological Association

“The Birth of the *Periodos*,” delivered at 10/4/03 at the conference “Olympic History, Ancient to Modern” at Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada

“Athletic Nudity and Homoeroticism in Ancient Greece,” delivered 9/15/03 as an invited seminar presentation at Barnard College, New York

“The Sixth-Century Transformation of Greek Athletics,” delivered 03/19/03 as an invited talk at the University of Manchester, England

“The Function of Competition in Archaic and Classical Greece,” delivered 1/4/03 at the annual meeting of the American Philological Association

“Economic Aspects of the Spartan Mirage,” delivered 9/5/02 at the International Sparta Seminar, Glasgow

“Athletic Nudity at Olympia,” delivered 7/16/02 at the Second World Congress on Ancient Greece and the Modern World, Olympia, Greece

“Situating the *Satyricon*,” delivered 4/6/02 at the annual meeting of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South, Austin, Texas

“Undress as Ritual: A Reconsideration of the Emergence of Athletic Nudity in Ancient Greece,” delivered 1/19/02 at the conference “The Clothed Body in the Ancient World” at the Open University, Milton Keynes, England

“Odysseus at the Academy: The Evolution of the Socio-Political Context of Greek Athletics c. 800-500 BCE and the Rise of the *Polis*,” delivered 12/28/95 at the annual meeting of the American Philological Association

“The Sting of Silver: The Impact of Changing Economic Conditions on Inter-Generational Relations in Fifth-Century BCE Athens and Aristophanes’ *Wasps*,” delivered 12/29/94 at the annual meeting of the American Philological Association

Classroom Teaching at Dartmouth College

Classical Studies 1, Antiquity Today (nine times)

Classical Studies 11, Ancient Greek Athletics (three times)

Classical Studies 11, Early Sparta and Corinth (co-taught with Jeremy Rutter, twice)

Classical Studies 11, Sparta: The Birth and Death of an Empire

Classical Studies 11, Sport and Democratization (three times)

Classical Studies 14, The History of Greece: 1600-323 BCE (twelve times)

Classical Studies 15, Alexander the Great and the Macedonian Kings (four times)

Classical Studies 19, Methods and Theory in Ancient History (four times)

Greek 10, Readings in Greek Prose (twice)

Greek 26, Readings in Herodotus (twice)

Latin 1, Introductory Latin (four times)

Latin 3, Intermediate Latin (twice)

Project Description:

The Oxford History of the Archaic Greek World

Project Directors:

Paul Cartledge, A. G. Leventis Senior Research Fellow, Clare College,
University of Cambridge

Paul Christesen, William R. Kenan Professor of Ancient Greek History,
Dartmouth College

Contents

1. Introduction/Overview
 2. Diversity and Uniformity in the Greek World
 3. The Problem
 4. The Solution: *The Oxford History of the Archaic Greek World (OHAGW)*
 5. Publication and Access
 6. What Differentiates *OHAGW*
 7. Conclusion
- Appendix 1: Sites Covered in *OHAGW*
Appendix 2: List of Contributors to *OHAGW*

1. Introduction/Overview

Imagine an historian who, in the year 4021, is writing about the United States 2,000 years before her own time. She knows quite a bit about New York and Los Angeles, but very little about any place else, and she assumes that institutions and customs in those two cities were widely replicated throughout the United States. Some of her conclusions about the United States of the 21st century would be accurate, but some would be wrong, simply because many places in the United States are quite different from New York and Los Angeles.

Historians in the year 2021 writing about ancient Greece have much in common with our imaginary scholar from the future. Historians specializing in the study of ancient Greece tend to be very well informed about Athens and Sparta and tend to assume that institutions and customs in those communities were widely replicated throughout the Greek world. However, the ancient Greek world was no more uniform than the modern-day United States. The tendency to focus on Athens and Sparta is, as a result, deeply problematic, not least because it implicitly homogenizes and inevitably impoverishes our perceptions of ancient Greece.

The directors of the project described here, Paul Cartledge and Paul Christesen, have long been concerned about the low level of attention paid to Greek communities other than Athens and Sparta. We have, therefore, established an international research project designed to greatly enhance knowledge and appreciation of ancient Greek communities throughout the Mediterranean basin. That project, the *Oxford History of the Archaic Greek World (OHAGW)*, will produce 23 detailed studies of communities, sanctuaries, and regions in the Archaic period (c. 800 – c. 480 BCE). Those studies – all aimed at an academic audience – range from 30,000 to 175,000 words in length and cumulatively total c. 1.5 million words; they will be published in both print (eight volumes) and digital form by Oxford University Press starting in 2021. Thirty-eight distinguished scholars from ten different countries have joined the project (see Appendices 1-2 for lists of sites and contributors).

One historian at Cambridge, who is not contributing to *OHAGW*, has described it as a once-in-a-generation project that will change the way scholars study and think about a crucial era in ancient Greek history. *OHAGW* will make it possible to explore, with an entirely new level of facility and detail, both the unique features of geographically dispersed individual communities and the common features that bound together those communities into a shared cultural space. Our belief, which was enthusiastically seconded by the academics who reviewed our proposal for Oxford University Press, is that *OHAGW* will rapidly become the definitive resource for Archaic Greece and will mark a watershed in the relevant scholarship.

2. Diversity and Uniformity in the Greek World

OHAGW is grounded in the complex interplay of diversity and uniformity. The ancient Greek world was remarkable for its kaleidoscopic diversity, which was, in large part, the product of a highly unusual pattern of settlement. Most cultural groups in the pre-modern world lived in well-defined, relatively compact geographical areas (think of the ancient Egyptians residing along the Nile). By c. 500 BCE, however, large numbers of Greeks had left their homeland in the southern end of the Balkan peninsula and founded settlements throughout the Mediterranean basin, ranging from Spain to Egypt and from northern Africa to the north shore of the Black Sea. As Greeks dispersed throughout the Mediterranean, the different environmental and human ecosystems they encountered and remade led almost inevitably to important differences among widely scattered settlements. Furthermore, the vast majority of the approximately 1,000 distinct Greek polities that existed c. 500 BCE were autonomous communities, each of which developed its own, unique set of sociopolitical institutions and practices.

Nonetheless, despite their dispersion and diversity, Greek communities shared important commonalities, most notably language and religion. Those communities were also bound together by a loosely structured but highly active network of commercial, cultural, diplomatic, and military ties. In addition, certain places and events – most notably Olympia and the Olympic Games – attracted participants from Greek communities throughout the Mediterranean and became sites for the production and inculcation of a deeply embedded sense of belonging to a single, distinct cultural group.

3. The Problem

Remarkable diversity and a countervailing uniformity were thus two of the defining traits of the Greek world. Historians of ancient Greece have for the most part tended to emphasize uniformity at the expense of diversity and to take Athens and Sparta as typical. To give but one example, little attention is paid to the experiences of Greeks who lived in places such as Cyprus, where the interaction of Greeks, Phoenicians, Egyptians, and Persians, among others, helped produce Greek communities with a constellation of institutions, practices, and cultural traits not found anywhere else in the Greek world. Historians of ancient Greece are not unaware of the existence of important differences between Greek communities. Nor is it the case that information about other Greek communities is unavailable. Indeed, decades of excavation and scholarship have greatly enriched our knowledge of dozens of Greek communities located throughout the Mediterranean.

The problem is that scholars have difficulty accessing the information about any given Greek community that has been generated by excavations and scholarship because it is scattered among literally thousands of publications. Someone interested in, for instance, the Greek community of Cyrene (located in North Africa) would need to put in months if not years of work in order to identify, collect, and read the relevant scholarly literature, which includes reports from dozens of excavations conducted by various teams of American, British, French, Italian, and Libyan archaeologists starting in 1884. Even in cases where individual communities, such as Corinth and Miletus, have been the subject of scholarly monographs, the resulting publications take widely varying approaches with respect to the types of evidence considered and the methodologies used. The resulting lack of commensurability makes integration and synthesis difficult.

As a result, historians writing about ancient Greece have typically concentrated on the two communities about which information is most readily available – Athens and Sparta. That, in turn, means that textbooks about ancient Greece and writing for the general public have little to say about the hundreds of other Greek polities.

4. The Solution: *The Oxford History of the Archaic Greek World*

The directors of this project have both long been concerned about the predominance of Atheno- and Sparta-centric views of ancient Greece. In 2009 Paul Cartledge took a preliminary step toward righting the balance by writing an introduction to Greek history, *A History of Greece in Eleven Cities*, that offered a broader perspective.

However, the basic problem – the existence of a great deal of widely scattered information – remained. With that in mind in 2013 we initiated a research project specifically designed to remedy that problem at a fundamental level. That project will generate a collection of detailed studies of communities, sanctuaries, and regions, from all over the Greek world, during the Archaic period. The studies will vary in length, depending on the amount of information available about the site in question. The shortest studies will run to c. 30,000 words; the longest ones to c. 175,000 words. Each study will include at least a dozen maps and images, as well as a bibliography and guide to further reading.

The immense time span covered under the broad rubric of ancient Greek history required establishing some chronological parameters in order to keep the project to a manageable scale. The Archaic period was chosen as a focal point because it was a critical era in Greek history. During this period Greeks confronted a series of demographic, political, social, and economic challenges and generated an array of responses that transformed the ways in which they lived, worked, and interacted. Much of what is now seen as distinctive about Greek culture – democracy, stone temples, and nude athletics, to name but a few – first developed in the Archaic period. The history of this period thus merits careful study by anyone interested in the ancient Greek world and its legacy.

A key feature of *OHAGW* is that it will include the most important categories of information about each site and will present that information in a standardized format. All of the studies that we have commissioned will be structured around the same 11 rubrics:

- (1) sources, (2) natural setting, (3) material culture, (4) political history, (5) legal history, (6) diplomatic history (including warfare), (7) economic history, (8) familial /demographic history (including education), (9) social customs and institutions, (10) religious customs and institutions, (11) cultural history.

The studies in *OHAGW* are also linked together because they all employ the same methodology, which we have chosen to call archaeohistory. Careful study of the development of the Greek world during the Archaic period requires making thorough use of approaches taken from two different fields: history and archaeology. In simple terms, history explores the past on the basis of written texts, whereas archaeology achieves the same goal by means of heavy reliance on material remains such as pottery and architecture. A substantial number of literary and epigraphic texts from and about Archaic Greece have survived to the present day, but their quality and quantity are such as to make it impossible to construct a satisfactory narrative solely on the basis of written sources. At the same time, ongoing excavations at dozens of sites all over the Mediterranean basin have yielded a rich and growing collection of material evidence. That evidence is invaluable, but it has significant lacunae and limitations, and its full value is realized only when it is brought into dialog with the relevant textual sources. Textual and material evidence suggest narratives that complement and contradict each other, and the dialectic between those narratives enriches our understanding of the Archaic period. As a result, serious study of the Archaic period requires a hybridized approach that leverages methodologies and bodies of evidence associated with both history and archaeology. Much of the best scholarship on the Archaic period produced in the past 30 years is notable for combining literary and inscriptional texts with material evidence such as pottery, coins, and statuary.

OHAGW thus represents a large-scale collaborative effort to bring together a broad range of information to describe the Archaic Greek world in ways that highlight the importance and important contributions of communities such as Metapontion and regions such as Cyprus. In addition, *OHAGW* presents key categories of information about each site in a standardized format that facilitates comparison and contrast of different communities, sanctuaries, and regions. Those two features of *OHAGW* will, taken together, make it possible to generate synthetic understandings of the Greek world that have heretofore been nearly impossible to achieve.

The utility of *OHAGW* is perhaps more immediately apparent if we return to our imaginary historian from the year 4021. If she had at her disposal a reference work that enabled her to access, quickly and easily, an array of information about cities other than New York and Los Angeles, she could produce a much more complete and nuanced account of the United States in the 21st-century.

5. Publication and Access

As mentioned above, *OHAGW* will appear both in hard copy and in digital form. The hard copy will occupy eight volumes that will collectively run to close to 2,500 pages. A digital version will also be available on the Oxford University Press (OUP) website. Both hard copy and digital versions will include an index, and the digital versions will be searchable.

Individuals wishing to access *OHAGW* digitally will need a paid subscription to the OUP website. Alternatively, they will be able to purchase a digital PDF version of any given study for an as-yet undetermined price. Most research libraries in Europe and North America already maintain a subscription to the OUP website, so *OHAGW* will be readily available to scholars.

In addition, OUP has agreed to make abridged versions of the studies in *OHAGW* available on a website that can be accessed free-of-charge. That website, and the option to purchase a complete version of any given study in PDF form, means that interested individuals around the world will have immediate access to *OHAGW*.

OUP has a financial interest in ensuring that *OHAGW* is available on a continuous and continuing basis, and hence there is no doubt that *OHAGW* will be accessible via the OUP website for the foreseeable future.

6. What Differentiates *OHAGW*

Although there are a number of extant reference works on ancient Greece, *OHAGW* is unique in a number of ways.

- *It will massively enhance both the breadth and depth of our understanding of ancient Greece.*
The scale of the project – the studies in *OHAGW* will collectively run to close to 1.5 million words – means that it will provide a wide-ranging view of the ancient Greek world in the Archaic period. The focus on a single time period and the selection of a representative sample of Greek sites – rather than attempting to write about every known site in all periods – means that each study will provide an in-depth look at a particular community, sanctuary, or region. Most existing reference works (e.g. Hansen and Nielsen’s *Inventory of Archaic and Greek Poleis*) have broad coverage but offer only minimal information about any given site.
- *The design of the project will make it much easier than ever before for scholars to learn about sites other than Athens and Sparta.*
The high degree of structural and methodological commensurability among the component studies will make it possible to read either vertically (reading a complete study of a single site) or horizontally (reading, for example, about the political history of a number of different sites). Reading vertically will enable scholars to familiarize themselves relatively quickly with a number of different Archaic Greek sites. This will greatly facilitate research and writing that acknowledges the relevance and importance of sites other than Athens and Sparta. Reading horizontally will enable scholars to familiarize themselves relatively quickly with how specific institutions and practices manifested themselves from place to place across the Greek world. The capacity to read both vertically and horizontally will help generate a new, more complex, more nuanced understanding of the Archaic Greek world as a whole.
- *Each study will be written by one or more leading experts (see Appendix 2 for a list of contributors).*
This project has met with a warm reception from other scholars, who recognized its vast potential, and we have been able to secure the participation of 38 distinguished researchers from ten different countries.
- *The publication of the studies in digital form means that the information in *OHAGW* can be revised regularly and hence *OHAGW* will always be up to date.*
A major problem with reference works that exist only in hard copy is that they rapidly go out of date as new finds and scholarship accumulate. *OHAGW* will be available on the website of OUP, which means that any given study can be updated any time significant new information becomes available.
- *The studies that currently comprise *OHAGW* can be indefinitely supplemented, and *OHAGW* will become more and more comprehensive over the course of time.*
The structural and methodological template we have established can be applied to any number of other places in the Greek world. Once the first tranche of studies is finished, essays on other sites written by suitably qualified individuals will be gradually added to *OHAGW* and made available on the Oxford University Press website.

7. Conclusion

If one were to open any of the current textbooks on ancient Greek history aimed at college undergraduates, one would be hard pressed to find any mention of sites such as Massalia (in southern France) or Chios (in the Aegean). Indeed, an inattentive reader might conclude that everything of significance in Greek history took place at either Athens or Sparta. This reflects the ongoing difficulties that scholars experience in accessing information about many important sites, and in synthesizing the information that is available.

Our hope is that *OHAGW* will facilitate the creation of scholarship that presents more complete and more nuanced views of the ancient Greek world. *OHAGW*, by greatly ameliorating the current difficulties in learning about the Greek world outside of Athens and Sparta, also has the capacity to help scholars bring a deeper and richer conception of ancient Greece to general audiences.

Appendix 1: Essays in *OHAGW*

Arcadia	Cyprus	Olympia
Argos	Cyrene	Rhodes
Athens	Delphi	Sicyon
Chalcis and Eretria	Macedonia	Sparta
Chios, Lesbos, Samos	Massalia	Syracuse
Corcyra	Metapontion	Thebes
Cumae and Pithecusae	Miletus	Western Sicily (Acragas, Himera, Selinus)
The Cyclades (Naxos, Paros, Delos)	Northwestern Greece	

Appendix 2: List of Contributors to *OHAGW*

Erica Morais Angliker (Institute of Classical Studies, London)	Adolfo Dominguez (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid)	Clemente Marconi (New York University)	Reinhard Senff (German Archaeological Institute at Athens)
Zosia Archibald (University of Liverpool)	Sylvian Fachard (University of Lausanne)	Valentina Mignosa (Università Ca' Foscari Venezia)	Matthew Simonton (University of Arizona)
Hélène Aurigny (Aix-Marseille University)	Hans-Joachim Gehrke (Albert Ludwig University of Freiburg)	Catherine Morgan (Oxford University)	Alexandra Sfyroera (National and Kapodistrian University of Athens)
Hans Beck (University of Münster)	Jonathan Hall (University of Chicago)	Sarah Murray (University of Toronto)	Anja Slawisch (University of Edinburgh)
Gregory Bonnin (Bordeaux Montaigne University)	Edward Henderson (independent scholar)	Robin Osborne (Cambridge University)	Lone Wriedt Sørensen (University of Copenhagen)
Joseph Carter (University of Texas)	Clayton Howard (Dartmouth College)	James Roy (University of Nottingham)	Anja Ulbrich (Ashmolean Museum)
Paul Cartledge (Cambridge University)	Alexander Karsten (Duke University)	Philip Sapirstein (University of Toronto)	Samuel Verdan (University of Lausanne)
Paul Christesen (Dartmouth College)	Yannos Kourayos (director, Archaeological Museum of Paros)	Gerald Schaus (Wilfrid Laurier University)	Andrew Ward (William and Mary)
Matteo d'Acunto (Università degli Studi di Napoli l'Orientale)	Giuseppe Lentini (Sapienza University of Rome)	Adam Schwartz (University of Copenhagen)	
Franco de Angelis (University of British Columbia)	Yannis Lolos (University of Thessaly)	Michael Scott (University of Warwick)	