Department of Classical Studies Loyola University Chicago 1032 W Sheridan Road Chicago, IL 60660

Crown Center 575 jtownshend@luc.edu 773-508-3656

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Latin Literature of the Late Republic and Early Empire Ancient Aesthetics – especially of the Grotesque Reception Studies
Ancient Greek and Roman Law

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Loyola University Chicago

Assistant Professor of Classical Studies

current

University of Miami

Visiting Assistant Professor of Classics

2018-2020

EDUCATION

Harvard University

Ph.D., Classical Philology

Dissertation: Horace and the Ancient Grotesque

Committee: Richard F. Thomas; David Elmer; Adrian Staehli

Special Exams: Homer; Virgil; Roman Law

A.M., Classical Philology

University of Auckland

M.A. (Hons), Latin with First Class Honours

M.A. Thesis: "The Use of the Technical Terminology of Divination in Virgil's Aeneid."

B.A. (Hons), Latin with First Class Honours

Honours Thesis: "Haec Nomina Confundunt Poetae: Furies in Virgil's Aeneid."

LL.B. (Hons), Public Law

Law Thesis: "Quis custodes ipsos custodiet? Section 7 of the NZ Bill of Rights Act 1990 and Parliamentary Privilege."

B.A., Latin and Classical Studies

PUBLICATIONS

"Towards a Taxonomy of Witnesses in Roman Law." In *The Learned and Lived Law: Essays in Honor of Charles Donahue*. Legal History Library Vol. 70, edited by Elizabeth Papp Kamali, Saskia Lettmaier, and Nikitas Hatzimihail. Nijhoff: Brill, 21–62. (https://doi.org/10.1163/9789004710696_003)

"Mulier Testabilis: Women as Witnesses in Roman Law." In Female Agency in the Ancient Mediterranean, edited by Greg Gilles, Karolina Frank, Christine Plastow, and Lewis Webb. Liverpool: University of Liverpool Press, July 2024. (https://liverpooluniversitypress.co.uk/doi/book/10.3828/9781802071856)

"Shut Up! You Can't Even Read Latin!" Ancient Greek and Roman Material in Natsume Sōseki's *I Am a Cat.*" *International Journal of the Classical Tradition* (2023). https://doi.org/10.1007/s12138-023-00648-8

"O ego non felix: Inachia, Lesbia, and Horace's Epodes." *American Journal of Philology* (2020) 141.4: 499–536. (https://doi.org/10.1353/ajp.2020.0028)

"Lex Claudia (218 BC)" and "Lex Villia Annalis (180 BC)" in The Oxford Classical Dictionary, digital ed. Ed. Sander M. Goldberg. New York: Oxford University Press, March 2017.

"Stop me if you've heard this one: Faux Alexandrian Footnotes in Vergil." Vergilius (2015) 61: 77–96.

"William Shakespeare" in *The Virgil Encyclopedia*, R. Thomas and J. Ziolkowski (eds). Malden MA: Wiley-Blackwell (2014).

Review of G. B. Cobbold (trans.) Vergil's Aeneid: Hero – War – Humanity. (Wauconda II., 2005): Prudentia (2007) 39.2: 127–129.

PRESENTATIONS AND PANELS

"To Have and To Hold? The 'Decline' of Manus Marriage in the Late Republic and Early Empire." Invited Talk at the University of Illinois Chicago. (Chicago, IL: 13 November 2025).

"Revisiting the 'Marriage' of Dido and Aeneas." Annual Meeting of the Illinois Classical Conference. (Lincolnshire, IL: 19 October 2025).

"Silenus and the Theory of the Grotesque in Virgil *Ecloque* 6." 121st Annual Meeting of the Classical Association of the Midwest and South. (Urbana-Champaign, IL: 22 March 2025).

"Latin Lyric Poetry 1: Panel Chair." 121st Annual Meeting of the Classical Association of the Midwest and South. (Urbana-Champaign, IL: 20 March 2025).

"Horace's Grotesque Ars." Annual Meeting of the Illinois Classical Conference. (Monmouth, IL: 2 November 2024).

"Camilla and Virgil's Aesthetic of the Grotesque." 120th Annual Meeting of the Classical Association of the Midwest and South. (St Louis, MO: 4 April 2024).

"Damnum Infectum: Indeterminacy and Power in Roman Law." Annual Meeting of the American Society for Legal History. (New Orleans, LA: 6 November 2021).

"Mulier Testabilis: Women as Witnesses in Roman Law." University of Miami Roman Law Conference: "The Legacy of Roman Law." (Coral Gables, FL: 23–24 January 2020); Women in Ancient Cultures: Women Disrupting the Patriarchy. (London via Zoom: 9 February 2021).

"Keep Quiet! You Can't Even Read Latin!" The Satirical Purpose of Western Classics in Natsume Sōseki's *I Am a Cat.*" 151st Society for Classical Studies Annual Meeting. (Washington, DC: 4 January 2020).

"Camilla and Virgil's Aesthetics of the Grotesque." Meeting of the Antiquities Interdisciplinary Research Group, University of Miami. (Coral Gables, FL: 3 December 2019).

"Fighting evil by moonlight; quoting Virgil by daylight': an unexpected reference to Virgil in *Sailor Moon*." Drawing on the Past: the Pre-modern World in Comics. (London: 11 September 2018)

Respondent to Éva Jakab "Deals, Deeds, and the Law: Sale in Ancient Rome and the Provinces." Law, Economy, and Society: Purchase and Sale in Ancient Law and its Reception. A Workshop at Harvard University. (Cambridge MA: 22–23 April 2016).

"Inachia, Horace, and Neoteric Poetry." 147th Society for Classical Studies Annual Meeting. (San Francisco, CA: 9 January 2016).

Panel Chair: "Law, Pluralism, and Justice in Ancient Athens." Annual Meeting of the American Society for Legal History. (Washington, DC: 30 October 2015).

"In Search of the Ancient Grotesque: Revisiting Horace's *Ars Poetica*." Seminar Series of the Department of Classics and Ancient History, the University of Auckland. (Auckland, NZ: 19 May 2014).

"Pallas goes off to war: a *portentum* in Virgil's *Aeneid*." 145th American Philological Association Annual Meeting. (Chicago, IL: 4 January 2014).

"Crawling between Heaven and Earth: Insect Similes in the *Iliad*." Corhali Colloquium XXII: The Similes of the *Iliad*. (Ithaca, NY: 1 June 2013).

"Haud Ignota Loquor: Palamedes, Sinon, and the Alexandrian Footnote in Aeneid 2." 109th Annual Meeting of the Classical Association of the Midwest and South. (Iowa City, IA: 19 April 2013).

"Prospero at the End of the *Aeneid*: An Overlooked Allusion to Virgil in Shakespeare's *The Tempest*." 110th Annual Conference of the Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association. (Seattle, WA: 21 October 2012).

"Cicero, Antony, and the Auspices: Divination in the *Philippics*." Seminar Series of the Department of Classics and Ancient History, the University of Auckland. (Auckland, NZ: 5 May 2009).

"Sive deae seu sint dirae obscenaeque volucres: the Harpies in Virgil's Aeneid." Seminar Series of the Department of Classics and Ancient History, the University of Auckland. (Auckland, NZ: 9 October 2007).

COURSES TAUGHT

Loyola University Chicago

LATN 101: Latin I

LATN 102: Latin II

LATN 271: Introduction to Reading Latin

LATN 286: The Age of Nero

LATN 364: Seneca

LATN 388: Readings in Latin Literature I

LATN 389: Readings in Latin Literature II

UCLR 100C: Interpreting Literature (Classics)

CLST 362: Roman Law (writing intensive)

CLST 378: Ancient Sport (writing intensive)

University of Miami

Greek 103/491: Intensive Greek
Latin 101: Elementary Latin I
Latin 201: Intermediate Latin I
Latin 301: Catullus
Latin 311/401: Cicero and Caesar

Latin 321: Virgil's *Aeneid* Classics 221: Sport & Society in the Ancient World Classics 242: Roman Civilization Classics 304: The Roman Empire (Julio-Claudians)

Harvard University

Greek Ac: Review and Reading Greek Ba: Introduction to Attic Prose

Greek S-Aab: Beginning Greek (Summer) Greek H: Intro to Greek Prose Composition

Greek E-1A: Elementary Classical Greek (Ext. School)

Latin Aa: Beginning Latin

Latin Ab: Beginning Latin continued

Latin Aab: Intensive Beginning Latin

Latin Ab: Beginning Latin continued

Latin Ab: Intensive Beginning Latin

Latin H: Intro to Latin Prose Composition

Latin 10: Intermediate Latin (Caesar & Catullus)

Latin S-Aab: Intensive Beginning Latin (Summer)

Latin S-100: Roman Satire (Summer)

Latin E-1A: Latin for Beginners (Ext. School) Classics 98: Ancient Law

Gen. Ed.: Classical Mythology Gen. Ed.: Virgil: Poetry and Reception

Gen. Ed.: Concepts of the Hero in Classical Greek Civilization

University of Auckland

Latin 100: Introduction to Latin I Latin 101: Introduction to Latin II

Classics 110: Myth through Tragedy (Gen. Ed) Classics 130: Love & Death in Greek & Roman Lit.

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Harvard University

Harvard Presidential Fellowship Charles P. Segal Fund Travel Award

Bowdoin Prize for Latin Composition Merit Award Term-time Research Fellowship

Loeb Fellowship Fred N. Robinson Fellowship

Bok Center Certificate of Excellence in Teaching Joseph Benjamin Moors Fellowship Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association Graduate Student Scholarship

University of Auckland

National Latin Exam Graduate Scholarship
Senior Prize in Law
Freemasons University Scholarship
Gary Davies Memorial Prize for Mooting

Greg Everard Memorial Prize for Mooting Russell McVeagh Law Scholarship

Winner, Australasian Law Students' Association Mooting Competition Winner, Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Competition World Final

Winner, Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Competition Asia-Pacific Regional Final Best Oralist, Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Competition Asia-Pacific Regional Final

Senior Scholarship in Latin Annual Prize in Greek

Senior Prize in Latin

Senior Prize in Classical Studies

Annual Prize in Latin

Annual Prize in Classical Studies

National Latin Exam Undergraduate Scholarship Auckland Classical Association Prize (Classical

Studies)

SERVICE

Loyola University Chicago

Director, Post-Baccalaureate Certificate Program
Academic Council (By laws Subcommittee)

Faculty Search Committees
Chair, Classics Department Racial Justice Examen Committee

current
Spring 2022–24
Spring 2025, 2021–22, 2020–21
Chair, Classics Department Racial Justice Examen Committee

University of Miami

Faculty adviser to Classics Club and Honors Society

Harvard University

Coordinator: Biennial Harvard Classics Department Graduate Student Conference Coordinator: "Law, Economy, and Society: Purchase and Sale in Ancient Law and its Reception. A Workshop at Harvard University." (Cambridge MA: 22–23 April 2016).

University of Auckland

Student Representative to Classics Department Student-Faculty Consultative Committee

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Society for Classical Studies (formerly the American Philological Association) Classical Association of the Middle West and South Illinois Classical Conference (By laws Committee) American Society for Legal History Vergilian Society