

**MELISSA MUELLER**  
Department of Classics  
University of Massachusetts Amherst  
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**Professional Positions:**

Professor of Classics at the University of Massachusetts Amherst (2021-present)  
Frederick Burkhardt ACLS Fellow at the National Humanities Center, RTP, North Carolina (2019-20)  
Associate Professor of Classics at the University of Massachusetts Amherst (2014-2021)  
Assistant Professor of Classics at the University of Massachusetts Amherst (2007-14)  
Junior Fellow at The Center for Hellenic Studies, Washington, D.C. (2009-10)  
Visiting Assistant Professor of Classical Studies at Wellesley College (2006-7)  
Visiting Assistant Professor of Classical Studies at Wesleyan University (2005-6)  
Assistant Professor of Classics at University of Texas, Austin (2002-5)

**Education:**

|   | Dates     | Degrees                                     |
|---|-----------|---|
| University of California, Berkeley      | May 2002  | Ph.D. in Classics                           |
| ASCSA Regular Member                    | 2000-2001 |   |
| King's College, University of Cambridge | June 1995 | B.A. 1 <sup>st</sup> , Classics             |
| Barnard College, Columbia University    | May 1993  | B.A. in Classics,<br><i>summa cum laude</i> |

**Dissertation:**

*Speaking through Objects: Reciprocity and Gender in Euripides* (Donald J. Mastronarde, Chair; Mark Griffith; Leslie Kurke)

**Awards, Fellowships, and Honors:**

|   | Dates     |
|---|-----------|
| Spotlight Scholar at UMass Amherst  | 2023      |
| National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship                          | 2021-22   |
| ACLS Frederick Burkhardt Residential Fellowship at NHC                    | 2019-20   |
| Flex Teaching award to attend "Reacting to the Past" institute, NYC       | 2014      |
| Residential First-Year Experience (RFYE) Student Choice Award             | 2011-2012 |
| UMass Provost's Exceptional Merit Award                                   | 2011-2012 |
| Fellowship at the Center for Hellenic Studies in D.C.                     | 2009-2010 |
| Loeb Classical Library Foundation Fellowship                              | 2004-2005 |
| Columbia University Society of Fellows Postdoctoral Fellowship (declined) | 2002      |
| Mary Isabel Sibley Fellowship (Phi Beta Kappa)                            | 2001-2002 |
| WCC Graduate Student Award (for best paper presented at the APA)          | 2002      |
| Lucy Shoe Merritt Fellowship (at ASCSA)                                   | 2000-2001 |
| Chancellor's Opportunity Fellowship (UC Berkeley)                         | 1995-1997 |
| Phi Beta Kappa, Barnard College   | 1992      |

**Books:**

## MELISSA MUELLER

1. Mueller, Melissa. 2016. *Objects as Actors: Props and the Poetics of Performance in Greek Tragedy*. The University of Chicago Press.
2. Mueller, Melissa. 2024. *Sappho and Homer: A Reparative Reading*. Cambridge University Press.
3. *The Materialities of Greek Tragedy: Objects and Affect in Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides*, 2018, Bloomsbury Press, edited with Mario Telò.

### Journal Articles (Peer-Reviewed):

1. “The Language of Reciprocity in Euripides’ *Medea*,” (2001) *American Journal of Philology* 122.4: 471–504.
2. “Penelope and the Poetics of Remembering,” (2007) *Arethusa* 40: 337–62.
3. “Helen’s Hands: Weaving for *Kleos* in the *Odyssey*,” (2010) *Helios* 37: 1–21.
4. “Athens in a Basket: Naming, Objects, and Identity in Euripides’ *Ion*,” (2010) *Arethusa* 43: 365–402.
5. “Phaedra’s *Defixio*: Scripting *Sophrosune* in Euripides’ *Hippolytus*,” (2011) *Classical Antiquity* 30: 148–77.
6. “The Politics of Gesture in Sophocles’ *Antigone*” (2011) *Classical Quarterly* 61.2: 412–425.
7. “Re-Centering Epic *Nostos*: Gender and Genre in Sappho’s Brothers Poem,” (2016) *Arethusa* 49: 25–46.
8. “The Disease of Mortality in Hesiod’s *Theogony*: Prometheus, Herakles, and the Invention of *Kleos*” (2016) *Ramus* 45.1: 1-17.
9. “Recognition and the Forgotten Senses in the *Odyssey*,” (2016) *Helios* 43.1: 1-20.

### Chapters in Edited Volumes:

1. “Antigone Reception,” (2012) co-authored with Andrés Fabian Henao Castro, for the *Literary Encyclopedia*, ed. J. Burgess (first published 5 November 2012).
2. “Economics and Gender: Greek World,” (2014) in the *Oxford Encyclopedia of the Bible and Gender Studies*, edited by Julia M. O’Brien. Oxford.
3. “Dressing for Dionysus: Statues and Material Mimesis in Euripides’ *Bacchae*,” (2016) in *Gli oggetti sulla scena teatrale ateniese: Funzione, rappresentazione, comunicazione*. Edited by Alessandra Coppola, Caterina Barone, and Monica Salvadori. CLEUP, Padua: 57-70.
4. “Gender,” (2017) in *A Companion to Euripides*, ed., L. K. McClure. Wiley-Blackwell, Malden and Oxford: 500-514.
5. “Dreamscape and Dread in Euripides’ *Iphigenia among the Taurians*,” (2018) in *Landscapes of Dread in Classical Antiquity*, edited by Debbie Felton. Routledge: 77-94.
6. “Introduction,” with Mario Telò, (2018) in *The Materialities of Greek Tragedy: Objects and Affect in Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides*. Bloomsbury.
7. “Hippolytus” (2020) chapter for *Brill’s Companion to Euripides*, ed. A. Markantonatos. Brill, Leiden: 121-138.

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8. “Bodily Rhetoric in Sophocles’ *Trachiniae*,” (2021) in *Tragic Rhetoric: The Rhetorical Dimensions of Greek Tragedy*, edited by M.Carmen Encinas Reguero and M.Quijada Sagredo. Aracne Editrice. Rome. 97-121.
9. “Sappho and Sexuality,” (2021) in *The Cambridge Companion to Sappho*, edited by P.J. Finglass and A. Kelly. Cambridge: 36-52.
10. “*Electra*: Parapoetics and Paraontology,” (2022) Chapter 16 in *Queer Euripides: Readings in Greek Tragedy*, edited by Sarah Olsen and Mario Telò. Bloomsbury: 186-194.
11. “‘Wild’ Achilles and the Epistemology of the Ferox in Homer’s *Iliad*,” (2023) *The Handbook of Classics and Queer Theory*, edited by Ella Haselswerdt, Sara H. Lindheim, and Kirk Ormand. Routledge: 29-41.
12. “An Affect Studies Approach: Reading Non-Normative Masculinities in Homer’s *Iliad*,” (2024) in *The Epic World*, edited by Pamela Lothspeich. Routledge: 60-73.
13. “Affect and Materiality in Aeschylus,” (forthcoming) chapter for Brill’s *Companion to Aeschylus II*, edited by Andreas Markantonatos and Alan Sommerstein.
14. “Introduction” to Mary Barnard’s *Sappho: A New Translation* (forthcoming) UC Press.

### Book Reviews:

1. Isabelle Torrance, *Aeschylus: Seven Against Thebes*. Duckworth. 2007. *New England Classical Journal* 35.4 (2008) 289-91.
2. Mary Stieber, *Euripides and the Language of Craft*. Brill. 2011, *Classical World* 106.4 (2013) 704–705.
3. Deborah Lyons, *Dangerous Gifts*. Austin. 2012, BMCR. First published 9/16/13 (<http://www.bmcreview.org/2013/09/20130933.html>).
4. Simon Goldhill, *Sophocles and the Language of Tragedy*. Oxford. 2012. *New England Classical Journal* 41.1 (2014) 50-52.
5. Sarah Nooter, *The Mortal Voice in the Tragedies of Aeschylus*. Cambridge. 2017. *American Journal of Philology* 140.3 (2019) 567-570.

### Conference Panels Organized:

1. “Objects and Affect: The Materialities of Greek Drama,” co-organized with Mario Telò, Society for Classical Studies, January 7, 2016, 1:45-4:45 (27<sup>th</sup> paper session).
2. “Intertextual/ Intratextual Objects” co-organized with Lilah Grace Canevaro, Classical Association Meeting, Edinburgh, UK, April 8, 2016, 9-11am (5<sup>th</sup> paper session).
3. “The Tenth Muse: Resonances of Sappho in Greek & Latin Poetry,” co-organized with Teresa Ramsby, Amherst, MA November 3, 2017.

### PhD Dissertation Committees served:

- King’s College London, Classics Department; external examiner for Rioghnach Sachs, “Toward a ‘Sapphic Mode’: Relocating Sappho’s Poetry in the History of Sexuality,” June 20, 2022 (via Zoom).
- Columbia University Classics Department; external reader: Maria Combatti, “Somatic Landscapes: Affects, Percepts, and Materialities in Euripides’ Select Tragedies,” chaired by Nancy Worman (defended via Zoom, 5/6/2020)

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- UMass Amherst Philosophy Department; committee member: Donovan Cox, “Socratic Piety, Reciprocity, and the Last *Elenchos* of Plato’s *Euthyphro*” (defended via Zoom, 3/23/2020)
- UMass Amherst Music Department; committee member: Rebecca Long, *Extrinsic Phrases in Early-Classical Sonata Forms* (defended, 7/13/18).
- UMass Amherst Comparative Literature Department; committee member: Shannon Farley, *Translation, Rewriting, and Fan Fiction: A Literary History of Transformative Work* (defended 7/16/15).

### Professional Activities and Other Service:

- Book Series Editor (with Lilah Grace Canevaro), *Ancient Cultures, New Materialisms*, Edinburgh University Press  
(<https://edinburghuniversitypress.com/series-ancient-cultures-new-materialisms.html>)
- Winkler Jurist (2023-25)
- Co-leader of Discussion Group for AAACC on Anne Anlin Cheng’s *Ornamentality*
- Member of the Program Committee for the *Society for Classical Studies* (elected office, 2020-2023)
- ACLS Panelist 2020-21, 2023-23 (reviewing of 50+ fellowship proposals)
- NEH Panelist 2023-24 (reviewing of 30+ proposals)
- Mentor for the AAACC (Asian and Asian American Classical Caucus), 2019-2020, 2022-present

Ad Hoc Reader for *AJPh* (2006, 2012, 2014, 2018, 2019, 2023), *Classical Antiquity*, *Classical Philology* (2023, 2024, 2025), *Classical Quarterly* (2013, 2017), *Classical World* (2014, 2017, 2022), *Eugesta* (2021), *Greece and Rome* (2017), *Helios* (2017, 2018, 2019, 2021), *Hesperia* (2018), *Illinois Classical Studies* (2021), *Journal of the Fantastic in the Arts* (2014), *Oral Tradition* (2015), *Phoenix* (2008, 2015), *Philologus* (2018), *TAPA* (2019, 2021, 2022, 2024), *YAGE* (2016), *Blackwell* (2010), University of Chicago Press (2014), *Routledge* (2016), University of Michigan Press (2018, 2024), *Cambridge Classical Journal Supplements* (2023), *CUP* (2018), *Brill* (2018), *Bloomsbury* (2019, 2021), *Princeton UP* (2024), *OUP* (2019, 2025)