

Dr John Serrati

McGill University
Adjunct Professor
Department of History and Classical Studies
855 Sherbrooke Street West
Montréal, Québec H3A 2T7
Office: 514-398-4889
Fax: 514-398-8365
john.serrati@mcgill.ca

<http://webpages.mcgill.ca/staff/Group2/jserra7/web/serrati.html>

John Abbott College
Associate Professor of Classics and History

Education

Doctorate

University of St Andrews 1995-2001

Supervisor: Dr Christopher J. Smith

Dissertation Title: Sicily and the Imperialism of Mid-Republican Rome (289-191 BC)

Specialisations: Roman Republic, Roman provincial administration, imperialism, Sicily, grain trade, Roman transport, general military, early Christianity

Bachelor of Arts with Honours

McGill University 1990-1994

Specialisations: Classics and History

Diploma of Collegial Studies

Graduated Dean's List

Dawson College 1987-1990

Specialisations: Classics and History

Publications

Books

Fighting Techniques of the Ancient World 3000 BC-AD 500: Equipment, Combat Skills, and Tactics. New York: St Martin's, 2002 (co-author with S. Anglim *et al.*), 256 p.

Sicily from Aeneas to Augustus: New Approaches in Archaeology and History. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2000 (co-editor with C.J. Smith), 241 p.

Publications (cont.)

Forthcoming Books (under contract)

Roman Imperialism in Sicily: 289-70 BC. London: Routledge.

Rome and the Establishment of Empire: Forms of Control and the Origins of the Provincial System (327-146 BC). Oxford: Blackwell.

Money and Power in the Roman Republic. Oxford: Oxford University Press (co-editor with H. Beck and M. Jehne).

Articles

‘The Rise of Rome to 264’, in D. Hoyos (ed.), *The Blackwell Companion to the Punic Wars.* Oxford: Blackwell, 2011: 9-27.

‘Neptune’s Altars: The Treaties Between Rome and Carthage (509-226 BC)’, (republishing of 2006 article, *infra*), *The Best Classical Scholarship of the Last Sixty Years: Classical Quarterly Special Issue* (2011): 113-134.

‘Ancient Labour Action and the *Sucessio Plebis*’, *Locus* 39.2 (2009): 51-54.

‘A Syracusan Private Altar and the Development of Ruler-Cult in Hellenistic Sicily’, *Historia* 56 (2008): 80-91.

‘Warfare and the State’, in P. Sabin, H. van Wees, and L.M. Whitby (eds), *The Cambridge History of Greek and Roman Warfare.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007: 461-497

‘Neptune’s Altars: The Treaties Between Rome and Carthage (509-226 BC)’, *Classical Quarterly* 66 (2006): 1-29.

‘Garrisons and Grain: Sicily between the Punic Wars’, in Smith and Serrati 2000: 115-133.

‘Ammianus Marcellinus on Siege Warfare’, *Archaeo* 4 (1997) 53-62.

Forthcoming Articles (in press)

‘Warfare in the Hellenistic World’, in B. Campbell and L. Trittle (ed.), *The Oxford Handbook of Ancient Warfare.* Oxford: Oxford University Press, forthcoming 2011: 189-245.

Various entries, in R.S. Bagnall *et al.* (eds), *The Encyclopedia of Ancient History.* Oxford: Blackwell, forthcoming 2011.

Publications (cont.)

Forthcoming Articles (in press) (cont.)

‘Imperial Expansion and the Fall of the Roman Republic: *Post Hoc, Propter Hoc*’, in D. Hoyos (ed.), *The Companion to Roman Imperialism*. Leiden: Brill, forthcoming 2012.

‘Warfare and the *Polis*’, in H. Beck (ed.), *The Blackwell Companion to Ancient Greek Government*. Oxford: Blackwell, forthcoming 2012.

Forthcoming Articles (in progress)

‘Early Provincial Economies in the West: The *lex Hieronica* and the Financing of Roman Conquest’, in H. Beck, Jehne, and Serrati, forthcoming 2012.

‘The Decline of the Ptolemaic Kleruchy System’, to be submitted to *Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik*, 2013.

‘The Language of Power: The First Punic War and mid-Republican Latin’, to be submitted to *Classical Philology*, 2013.

Editing

Dalongeville, A. *et al.* *Regards sur les sociétés*. Anjou: CEC, 2010 (high school textbook for which I served on the editorial board).

Lamarre, L., H. Gagnon, and M. Vervais, *Réalités: histoire et éducation à la citoyenneté*, second edn. Saint-Laurent: ERPI, 2010 (high school textbook for which I served on the editorial board).

Laville, C. *D’hier à demain*, second edn. Montréal: Graficor, 2010 (high school textbook for which I served on the editorial board).

Lord, F. and J. Léger, *Histoire en action*, second edn. Mount Royal: Thomson, 2010 (high school textbook for which I served on the editorial board).

Blouin, C. and J. Roby, *L’Occident en 12 événements: de la romanisation à l’essor urbain et commercial*, second edn. Laval: Grand Duc and Ministère de l’Éducation du Québec, 2009 (high school textbook for which I served on the editorial board).

Canadian Classical Bulletin (online publication of the Classical Association of Canada; co-editor; 2008-2010).

Publications (cont.)

Reviews

- ‘Review of C. Lehmler, *Syrakus unter Agathokles und Hieron II: Die Verbindung von Kultur und Macht in einer Hellenistischen Metropole*’, *Journal of Hellenic Studies* 127 (2007) 46-47.
- ‘Review of J.E. Lendon, *Soldiers and Ghosts: A History of Battle in Classical Antiquity*’, *Journal of Roman Studies* 96 (2006) 218-219.
- ‘Review of L. Cappelletti, *Lucani e Brettii: Ricerche sulla storia politica e istituzione di due popoli dell’Italia antica (V-III sec. a.C.)*’, *Mouseion* 5 (2006) 195-197.
- ‘Review of D. Hoyos, *Hannibal’s Dynasty: Power and Politics in the Western Mediterranean, 247-183 B.C.*’, *Journal of Roman Studies* 96 (2006) 265-266.
- ‘Review of S.E. Phang, *The Marriage of Roman Soldiers (13 B.C.-A.D. 235): Law and Family in the Imperial Army*’, *Journal of Roman Studies* 96 (2006) 249-251.
- ‘Review of V.M. Warrior, *The Initiation of the Second Macedonian War: An Explication of Livy Book 31*’, *Classical Review* 51 (2002) 123-124.
- ‘Review of J.L. Lamboley, *Recherches sur les Messapiens IVe-IIe siècle avant J.-C.*’, *Classical Review* 50 (2001) 670-671.
- ‘Review of P. Erdkamp, *Hunger and the Sword: Warfare and Food Supply in Roman Republican Wars (264-30 BC)*’, *Journal of Roman Studies* 90 (2000) 222-224.
- ‘Review of G. Tagliamonte, *I Figli di Marte: Mobilit, Mercenari e Mercenariato Italici in Magna Grecia e Sicilia*’, *Classical Review* 49 (1999) 170-172.
- ‘Review of W. Ameling, *Karthago: Studien zu Militär, Staat und Gesellschaft*’, *Classical Review* 49 (1999) 289-290.

Selected Invited Papers

- ‘Destruction, Excavation, and Archaeology in Rome (1000 BC-AD 2011)’, British School at Rome, June 2011.
- ‘Early Provincial Economies in the West: The *lex Hieronica* and the Financing of Roman Conquest’, McGill University, ‘Money and Power in the Roman Republic’ Conference, May 2011.
- ‘The Hellenistic Phalanx: Stagnation or Development?’, Queen’s University, DSC Annual Lecture, March 2011.

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Selected Invited Papers (cont.)

- ‘The *Lapis Niger* and Public Space in Early Rome’, Vanderbilt University, February 2011.
- ‘The Hellenistic Experience with War’, University of West Georgia, February 2011.
- ‘Professionalism as an Idea in Ancient Greece and Rome’, University of Tennessee (Knoxville), January 2011.
- ‘Ancient Sparta, Slavery, and Nineteenth Century America’, University of Tennessee (Chattanooga), Black History Month Keynote Address, January 2011.
- ‘Sparta in the Twentieth Century: The Reception of the Classical Past in Western Civilisation’, Série d’histoire occidentale en action, Université de Sherbrooke, March 2010.
- ‘Sparta and Soviet Historical Writing’, John Abbott College, Humanities Lecture Series, November 2007.
- ‘Tyrants Past and Present: The Place of Sicily in the Hellenistic World’, University of Mannheim, Classics Research Seminar, June 2007.
- ‘Moscow on the Eurotas: The Reception of Spartan History in the Cold War (1945-1991)’, McGill University, Keynote Address, ‘Sparta: Military, Memory, and the Movies’ Colloquium, March 2007.
- ‘Strangers in a Conquered Land: The Macedonian Warrior Ideal and the Economics of Hellenistic Kingdoms’, Bishop’s University, Classics Research Seminar, November 2006.
- ‘Forms of Imperialism, Methods of Control: Foreign Relations in the Roman Mid-Republic’, John Abbott College, Cameron Lecture, April 2004.
- ‘Politics, Plunder, and Provinces: Imperialism, Empire, and the Roman Economy’, McGill University February 2004.
- ‘The Kings and I: the Hellenistic Monarchs and the Western Mediterranean’, University of Manchester, October 2003.
- ‘God-Kings East and West: Perceptions of Hellenistic Monarchies in the Mediterranean’, University of Nottingham Classics, October 2002.
- ‘Popes, Potentates, and Episkopoi: St Peter and the Early Bishops of Rome’, Canmore House, University of St Andrews, February 2001.
- ‘Resistance and Subjugation of the Sicilian Cities in the Punic Wars: The Making of the First Roman Province’, Rewley House, Oxford University ‘Sicily: An Archaeological Perspective’ Conference, March 2000.

Selected Invited Papers (cont.)

‘A Question of Patronage: Claudian Connections in Republican Sicily’, University of St Andrews Research Seminar, May 1997.

Awards

Republication of 2006 article (*supra*) in *The Best Classical Scholarship of the Last Sixty Years: Classical Quarterly Special Issue* (2011).

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Aid to Research Workshops Grant, February 2011: \$20,449 (in collaboration with H. Beck and M. Jehne).

Thyssen Foundation, International Grant, December 2010: €12,791 (in collaboration with H. Beck and M. Jehne).

Classroom Excellence and Special Teacher Award, John Abbott College, 2010.

Distinguished Book Award, *The Cambridge History of Greek and Roman Warfare* (2007) Society for Military History, 2009

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Standard Research Grant, 2009 (approved but not funded)

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Standard Research Grant, 2008 (approved but not funded)

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Travel Grant, May 2003-2004, 2009: \$400.

Queen’s University of Belfast, Faculty of Arts, nominated for a Distinguished Teaching Award, March 2003.

University of St Andrews, School of Greek, Latin and Ancient History Travelling Scholarship, Spring 2000: £200.

University of St Andrews, Russell Trust Travelling Scholarship, Spring 1999, £500.

University of St Andrews, St Leonard’s College Scholarship, 1995-1998, £2430 per year.

University of St Andrews Postgraduate Award in Ancient History, 1995-1998, £1500 per year.

McGill University Tuition Waiver for Autumn, 1992, Winter, 1992, Autumn, 1991: \$700 per award.

Dawson College Dean’s List for Spring, 1990.

Awards (cont.)

Hellenic Canadian Congress Travelling Scholarship, May, 1989: \$500.

Research Interests

My main area of research involves the modalities of Roman imperialism and early *provinciae*. Here, I focus primarily on the mid- and late Republic, looking at Roman provincial administration, the economy, and the non-military expansion of control in conquered territories. Sicily acts as a microcosm for this line of research. Here I examine the role of Sicily in the Roman Republic and the formation of the earliest provinciae. Included in this project is an analysis of Cicero's Verrine Orations. The aforementioned areas cross over with my broader field of study, which involves the analysis monetary and non-monetary capital in the military sphere. Here I examine the role that royal and state economies played in projections of power and in providing rulers and ruling elites the means to wage war.

Other ongoing projects include the reception of classical Sparta in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, the perception of space in the early Roman forum, and a greater study of ancient imperialism.

Teaching Experience

Adjunct Professor

Department of History and Classical Studies
McGill University (2008-present)

Associate Professor

Department of History and Classics
John Abbott College (2007-present)

Visiting Professor

History Department, Classics Programme
McGill University (2007-2008)

Assistant Professor

Department of History and Classics
John Abbott College (2004-2007)

Lecturer

School of Classics and Ancient History
The Queen's University of Belfast (2002-2004)

Lecturer

School of Greek, Latin and Ancient History
University of St Andrews (2001-2002)

Teaching Experience (cont.)

Undergraduate Courses

- First Year: Ancient Chinese and Greek Worlds
Ancient Mediterranean
Beginner's Latin
Greek History to Alexander the Great
Roman History from Foundation to Augustus
- Second Year: Alexander the Great
The Eastern Mediterranean: Monarchy and Empire
The Fall of the Roman Republic
Hannibal and the World of mid-Republican Rome
Intermediate Latin
Research Methods
People of the Sown Land: A History of Sparta
- Third Year: Ancient Warfare and Imperialism
Greek History: The Hellenistic World
Republic and Empire I: The Fall of the Roman Republic (the Gracchi to Caesar)
Republic and Empire II: Augustus and the Principate
Roman History: The Imperial Period
The Roman Empire from Marcus Aurelius to Justinian
- Fourth Year: Roman Republic II: Sulla to Caesar
Archaeology of the Ancient City
The Triumph of Christianity
Honours Dissertation in Ancient History

Graduate Courses

- Ancient Historiography
The Augustan Age
Constantine and his Legacy
From the Gracchi to Caesar: Key Themes in the Fall of the Republic
Research Methods and Applications

Graduate Supervision

August 2011-present, co-supervising a master's thesis on the armies of Greek federal states.

August 2010-present, co-supervising a master's thesis on Illyria during the Roman Republic.

January-August 2002, co-supervised a doctoral thesis entitled, *The Social Relations of the Junior Magistrates of Sicily at the Time of the Verrines*.

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Teaching Experience (cont.)

Graduate Supervision (cont.)

October 2002-September 2003, successfully supervised two masters theses entitled, *The Prosopography of the Metelli Family* and *The Fragmentary Historians of Alexander the Great*.

Selected Undergraduate Supervision

January-May 2011, successfully supervised a college level dissertation entitled, *Spartan Women: An Aristotelean Interpretation*. Out of over six hundred submitted, selected the best dissertation in 2011 by John Abbott College Awards Committee

January-May 2010, successfully supervised a college level dissertation entitled, *Continuity and Change in the Augustan Principate*. Out of over six hundred submitted, selected the best dissertation in 2010 by John Abbott College Awards Committee

August-December 2004, successfully supervised a college level dissertation entitled, *A Reexamination of the Neronian Principate*. Out of over five hundred submitted, selected the best dissertation in 2004 by John Abbott College Awards Committee.

Other Academic Experience

Conferences Organised

Co-Organiser

Money and Power in the Roman Republic Conference
McGill University
May 2010

Co-Organiser

Concepts of Roman Space Workshop
McGill University
August 2008

Local Organising Committee

American Philological Association Conference in Montréal
February 2005-January 2006

Duties included supervising student volunteers and coordinating them to work with APA staff.

Co-Organiser

Sicily from Aeneas to Cicero Conference
University of St Andrews
June 1998

Other Academic Experience (cont.)

Recruiting

McGill University ‘Classics Student for a Day’ Programme

Initiated programme in the autumn of 2006 to allow high school and college students to attend McGill University for one day as a classics and/or ancient history student, with the purpose of furthering enrolment as well as classics as a discipline.

Archaeology and Travel

Tour Director and Leader

Co-Organised and led a student tour to Italy and Turkey (May-June 2011)

Co-Organised and led a student tour to Sicily and Tunisia (May-June 2010)

Co-Organised and led a student tour to Italy (May-June 2007; May-June 2009)

Co-Organised and led a student tour to Sicily (May-June 2008)

Excavation at Montallegro, Sicily

September-October 1998

Dig was under the direction of Prof. Roger Wilson (University of Nottingham). The site contained a farming village that had been occupied in fifth century BC and the fifth century AD. On this occasion, as well as on previous archaeological trips to Greece in 1989 and 1990, I served as a photographic assistant on archaeological sites. While in Sicily I was also able to use my time to conduct research for my doctoral thesis. I have since conducted an extensive tour of Sicily with Prof. Wilson where I again served as his photographic assistant, while at the same time undertaking my own research.

Television

Historical Consultant and Interviewee

Découverte (television and radio series)

CBC French Language (Radio-Canada)

Aired December 2010

Documentary on Pompeii

Historical Consultant and Presenter

Ancients Behaving Badly (television series)

History Channel

Aired November 2009-January 2010

The show featured biographies of ancient personalities.

Historical Consultant

Secrets of the Ancients (television series)

Discovery Channel

Aired November 2003-March 2004

The shows featured the reconstruction of ancient siege weapons.

Other Academic Experience (cont.)

Television (cont.)

Historical Consultant and Presenter

Building the Impossible (television show)

British Broadcasting Corporation
and The Learning Channel

Aired March 2003

Show featured a reconstruction of a Roman catapult used at the Siege of Jerusalem (AD 68-70) as it is depicted in the Bellum Judaicum of Josephus.

Historical Consultant

The Claw of Archimedes (episode of Secrets of the Ancients television series)

British Broadcasting Corporation

Aired September 1999

Show reconstructed the 'claw' of Archimedes.

Membership of Professional Bodies

I am a member in good standing of all of the following:

The American Philological Association

The Classical Association

The Classical Association of Canada

The Society for the Promotion of Hellenic Studies

The Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies

Staff Development

McGill University

Incorporating MINERVA and Other On Line Tools into Your Classes (March 2010)

Gender Diversity in the University Classroom (October 2008)

John Abbott College

Francophones in the Classroom (February 2006)

Running Seminars (December 2004)

The Queen's University of Belfast

Supervising Doctoral Students (April 2003)

Supervising Dissertations and Masters Theses (November 2002)

Self-Evaluation for Your Courses (October 2002)

Staff Development (cont.)

University of St Andrews

Electronic File and Paper Management Administration (January 2002)

Listening and Problem Resolution (September 2000)

Advanced Teaching Skills (September 1999)

Teaching Skills (March 1996)

Other Experience

Classics Programme Committee

McGill University

August 2008-present

Duties include course approval, scheduling, graduate admissions, programme revisions, and awards.

CÉGEP Liaison

McGill University

August 2008-present

Duties include departmental recruiting; administering the 'Classics student for a day' programme; and offering graduate seminars on employment opportunities at the collegiate level.

Secretary (elected post)

Classical Association of Canada

Governing Council

May 2008-May 2011

Faculty Professional Development Committee (elected post)

John Abbott College

May 2009-present

Duties include vetting applications from faculty for research and travel funds.

Pre-University Representative (elected post)

Classical Association of Canada

Governing Council

May 2005-May 2007

May 2007-May 2009 (re-elected)

Duties include coordinating a project to catalogue all existing pre-university classics programmes across Canada, administering the Grace Irwin Memorial award for high school teachers, and heightening the profile of the CAC at college and high school level.

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Other Experience (cont.)

Research Methods Sub-Committee

John Abbott College

January 2004-September 2007

Duties involve coordinating the Research Methods Programme across Social Science and Humanities disciplines.

Library Representative to the Department of Classics

John Abbott College

January 2004-present

The Queen's University of Belfast

September 2002-January 2004

Duties involve supervising a library budget and ordering new books.

Head of Postgraduate Studies in the School of Classics and Ancient History

The Queen's University of Belfast

June 2003-January 2004

Member of the Postgraduate Committee in the School of Greek, Latin and Ancient History

University of St Andrews

September 2001-August 2002

Duties included postgraduate admissions, programme and course design, caring for postgraduate needs within the School, conducting postgraduate reviews, and monitoring postgraduate progression.

Head of Project to Reassess the Role of Primary Texts in the Main Library

The Queen's University of Belfast

October 2002-January 2004

Duties involved heading a small team of academics and library staff to take stock of the existing primary source holdings (both originals and translations) of the Main Library, to fill in any gaps, and to reclassify and reshelve major collections so that they may better serve researchers at Queen's.

High School Liaison Officer to the School of Classics and Ancient History

The Queen's University of Belfast

September 2002-January 2004

University of St Andrews

September 2001-August 2002

Duties involved the promotion of the classics at university within local high schools and welcoming perspective students on university open days.

Member of the Teaching and Learning Assessment for Graduates University Senate Subcommittee

University of St Andrews

January-June 2002

Duties included formulating and implementing new strategies for the supervision and assessment of graduate work. Undertook a review of the graduate fee structure for the 2001-2002 academic year.

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Other Experience (cont.)

Representative to the Library Users Committee for the School of Greek, Latin and Ancient History

University of St Andrews

September 2001-August 2002

Duties involve bringing forward initiatives to increase accessibility to the Library and to foster the growth of the IT, multimedia, and print resources within the University.

Residence Director

The Queen's University of Belfast

Alanbrooke Hall

September 2003-January 2004

University of St Andrews

Andrew Melville Hall

July 1999-June 2001

New Hall

September 1998-June 1999

Duties included student support, pastoral care, and discipline.

Personal

Born: 28 May, 1970

Montréal, Québec

Citizenship: Canadian

Languages Spoken: English, French

Reading Comprehension: German, Ancient and Modern Greek, Italian, Latin