Dr Aileen R. Das

Associate Professor, Department of Classical Studies

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**PRINCIPAL TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Science, Technology and Society (STS) in the pre-modern world (esp. in Greco-Roman antiquity, medieval Islam); science communication and rhetoric; disciplinarity and disciplinary histories (esp. medicine and philosophy); pre-modern intellectual history; Orientalisms

**EDUCATION**

• 2010–2013: **PhD in Classics**, University of Warwick

• 2008–2009: **MA in Classics**, University of Wisconsin at Madison

• 2004–2008: **BA in Latin and Greek with a Latin emphasis**, awarded with highest distinction, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

**POSITIONS**

* 2022–2023: **Director of the STS Graduate Certificate**
* 2022–: **Dry Appointment in History**
* 2021–: **Dry Appointment in the Frankel Center for Judaic Studies**
* 2020–2021: **Director of the Interdepartmental Program in Ancient History** (IPAH)
* 2020–: **Associate Professor of Classical Studies and Middle East Studies,** University of Michigan
* 2015–2020: **Assistant Professor of Classical Studies**, University of Michigan.
* January–April 2015: **Research Associate** on the ERC funded project ‘Arabic Commentaries on Hippocrates’ *Aphorisms*’, University of Manchester.

**AWARDS**

* Winter 2025: ‘*From Greek to Arabic: Jewish Orientalisms in the 20th Century and the Remaking of a Scientific Past*’, Associate Professor Support Fund, University of Michigan, (PI, $30,000)
* Fall 2019: ‘The Art in Brief: Time and Exegesis in Greco-Roman and Islamicate Medicine’, Center for Hellenic Studies, Harvard University, 4-month Junior Fellowship, (PI, $18,000).
* 2019–2020: ‘Vernacularizing the “Abrahamic Religions”’, Mcubed, University of Michigan (co-PI with Hussein Fancy, Ryan Szpiech, Ellen Muehlberger, Ruth Tsoffar, Gottfried Hagen, Bryan Roby, Sol Hart, Yasmin Moll, Cameron Cross, and Rebecca Wollenberg, $60,000)
* 2017–2018: ‘Classical and Medieval Traditions of Transdisciplinarity: Plato’s *Timaeus* in Arabic’, Charles P. Brauer Faculty Fellowship, Institute for the Humanities, University of Michigan (PI, $71,000)
* 2014-2015: ‘Al-Rāzī and the Arabic *Timaeus*’, British Academy/Leverhulme Small Research Grant (co-PI with Pauline Koetschet, £4,030)
* 2014–2015: ‘Medicine, Philosophy, and the Rhetoric of Genre in the Arabic Middle Ages’, Frances A. Yates Short-term Fellowship, Warburg Institute (PI, £4,800)
* October 2013–July 2014: IAS Early Career Fellowship, University of Warwick (PI, £5,710)
* Fall 2010–2013: ‘Galen and the Arabic Traditions of Plato’s *Timaeus*’, Warwick Postgraduate Research Scholarship, University of Warwick (PI, £52,000)

**PUBLICATIONS**

***Books***

* *Galen and the Arabic Reception of Plato’s Timaeus* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2020)
  + Winner of the [**2021 Charles J. Goodwin Award of Merit**](https://classicalstudies.org/scs-news/2021-goodwin-awards-merit), Society for Classical Studies
  + Reviewed in *Mind* (2022), *Speculum* 97.3 (2022); *Aestimatio* 2.2 (2021); *Journal of Hellenic Studies* 142 (2022).
* *Greek Science and Semitic Secularisms: Greco-Arabic Studies in the 20th Century* [in preparation, sample to be submitted to University of Chicago Press in Spring 25]

***Edited Volumes***

* [*Galen’s Humanistic Medicine*: *The Essay* Quod Optimus Medicus](https://www.mohrsiebeck.com/en/book/galens-humanistic-medicine-9783161619571?no_cache=1), Scripta Antiquitatis Posterioris ad Ethicam Religionemque pertinentia, vol. XLIII (Mohr Siebeck, May 2023).

***Translations***

* “Compendium of the *Timaeus*”, with Pauline Koetschet, in [*Galen: Writings on Plato's Timaeus*](https://www.cambridge.org/gb/universitypress/subjects/classical-studies/ancient-philosophy/galen-writings-platos-timaeus-compendium-platos-itimaeusi-commentary-medical-statements-platos-itimaeusi?format=HB&isbn=9781009552677), *Cambridge Galen Translations*, edited by P. van der Eijk, Cambridge University Press (June 2025).

***Journal Articles***

* ‘Paul Kraus, Richard Walzer, and Galen’s *Com.Tim.*’, *Arabic Sciences and Philosophy* 31 (2021) 253–84.
* ‘Probable New Fragments and a Testimonium from Galen’s Commentary on Plato’s *Timaeus*’, *Classical Quarterly* 69.1 (September 2019), 1–18.
* ‘New Material from Galen’s *On the Authentic and Spurious Works of Hippocrates*’, *Classical Philology* 113 (2018) 305–29.
* “The Hippocratism of ʿAlī ibn Riḍwān: Autodidacticism and the Creation of a Medical Isnād”, *Journal of Islamic Studies* 28.2 (2017) 155–77.
* “Two New Pharmacological Texts by al-Rāzī: *On How to Administer Whey* and *On the Benefits of Whey*, with Dr. Pauline Koetschet, *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 137.1 (2017) 25–42.
* “Adaptation in Medieval Islamicate Medical Compilations: The Example of Arrow Extractions”, *Journal of Semitic Studies* 62.1 (2017) 153–80.
* ‘Maximianus Medicus: Greek Medical Theory and the Greek Girl’s “Gravior Morbus” (El. 5.108)’, with Dr I. Fielding, *Philologus* 160 (2016) 151–62.
* ‘Reevaluating the Authenticity of the Fragments from Galen’s *On the Medical Statements in Plato’s Timaeus* (Scorialensis Graec. Φ-III-11, ff. 123r–126v), *Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik* 192 (2014) 93–103.
* ‘Textual Note on Paul of Aegina, *Pragmateia* 6.88ʼ, *Classical Quarterly* 64.2 (2014) 867–9.

***Chapters in Edited Volumes***

* ‘Loeb and Kraepelin’s Disciplinary Visions’, in ed. R. Thomas, *James Loeb and the History of Psychiatric Medicine*, Harvard University Press (in press, 2025).
* ‘Galen Beyond Baghdad’, in R. Rosen and P. Singer (eds.), *Oxford Companion to Galen* (2024) 535–57.
* ‘Para-Plutarchan Traditions in the Medieval Islamicate World’, with Dr Pauline Koetschet, in S. Xenophontos and K. Oikonomopoulou (eds.), *The* *Brill Companion to the Reception of Plutarch* (2019) 373–386.
* ‘Beyond the Disciplines of Medicine and Philosophy: Greek and Arabic Thinkers on the Nature of Plant Life’, in P. Adamson and P. E. Pormann (eds.), *Philosophy and Medicine in the Formative Period of Islam* (London: Warburg Institute Press) (2018) 206–217.
* ‘Regimen for a Cosmic Prince: Timaean Pediatrics in San. Tu. 1’, in T. Tieleman (ed.), *Galen on Human Nature* (Leiden) (submitted).

***Dictionary and Encyclopaedia Entries***

* ‘Ibn Sarabiyun (Yuhanna)’, *Encyclopedia of Islam, Third Edition* (2019) [online]; (2020) 62a–63a.
* Entries on ‘Medicine’, ‘Surgery’, ‘Cassius Felix’, and ‘Helvius Vindicianus’, in O. Nicholson and M. Humphries (edd.), *Oxford Dictionary of Late Antiquity* (2018).
* Chapters on ‘Ophthalmology’ and ‘Gynaecology’, P. E. Pormann (ed.), *1001 Cures: Medicine in the pre-modern Middle East* (Manchester: Foundation for Science Technology and Medicine, 2018) 86–95, 104–111.

***Book Reviews***

* V. Nutton, *A Thinking Doctor in Imperial Rome*, Routledge, 2020. *Aestimatio* 2.1 (2021) [online].
* P. Bouras-Vallianatos and B. Zipser (edd.), *Brill’s Companion to the Reception of Galen*. Leiden and Boston: Brill, 2019. *The Classical Review* 70.1 (April 2020).
* W.V. Harris (ed.), *Popular Medicine in Graeco-Roman Antiquity: Explorations*. Leiden: Brill, 2016. *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* 92.2 (2018) 372–4.
* Hayes, Evan and Stephen Nimis, *Galen Three treatises: On my own books, On the order of my own books, and That the best physician is also a philosopher. An intermediate Greek reader.* Oxford, OH: Faenum Publishing, 2014. *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* (13 August 2014).
* Stefano Valente*, I Lessici a Platone di Timeo Sofista e Pseudo-Didimo: Introduzione ed Edizione Critica*. Berlin and Boston: De Gruyter. *The Classical Review* 63.2 (2013) 398–400.
* Leigh Chipman, *The World of Pharmacy and Pharmacists in Mamlūk Cairo*. Leiden: Brill, 2010. *Social History of Medicine* 25.1 (February 2012), 566–7.

**SELECT INVITED LECTURES**

* March 2025, “The Philological Zionism of Paul Kraus (1904–1944)”, Colloque Translation and Transmission of Arabo-Byzantine Text, French School at Rome, Italy
* December 2025: “Philhellenism, Germanophilia, and Max Meyerhof’s (1874–1945) Greco-Arabic ‘Tradition’ of Science”, Faber Lecture, Princeton University.
* September 2024: “The Allochronism of Max Meyerhof’s (1874–1945) Greco-Arabic Tradition of Medicine: Progressive Science in the Timeless ‘Orient’”, Classical Studies Colloquium, Yale University.
* May 2024: ‘Past Presents: Tradition and Continuity in early 20th-century Greco-Arabic Studies’, *Medieval Studies Colloquium*, Yale University.
* June 2023: ‘James Loeb and Emil Kraepelin’s Disciplinary Visions’, *James Loeb and Psychiatry,* The Loeb Library/University of Munich.
* September 2021: ‘Timaean Pediatrics: Galen’s Regimen for a Cosmic Prince’, *Human Nature: Medical and Philosophical Perspectives in the Work of Galen of Pergamum*, Utrecht University.
* March 2019: ‘Galen and the Arabic Reception of Plato’s *Timaeus*’, Utrecht University.
* March 2018: ‘Pseudo-Plutarch in the *Book of Proofs and Reflections regarding Creation and Divine Governance*: Providence and Natural Philosophy’, conference on ‘Received Opinions: Doxography in Antiquity and the Islamic World’, LMÜ-Munich, Germany.
* October 2016: ‘Plato Arabus’, Princeton University.
* September 2016: ‘The Hippocratism of Ibn Riḍwān’, University of Pennsylvania.

**EVENTS ORGANIZED**

* January 2026, Society of Ancient Medicine and Pharmacology SCS/AIA annual panel, ‘Medicine at the Individual and Communal Levels’
* April 2025, Society of Ancient Medicine and Pharmacology Webinar, ‘New Directions in Ancient Medicine’, with Claire Bubb, Cassandra Miller, and Colin Webster
* January 2025, Society of Ancient Medicine and Pharmacology SCS/AIA annual panel, ‘Medical Modernities’
* November 2024, Society of Ancient Medicine and Pharmacology Webinar ‘The Trajectory of Ancient Medicine as a Field’, with Vivian Nutton, Ralph Rosen, and Lesley Dean-Jones
* April 8–9, 2022, Workshop on Galen’s *That the Best Doctor is also a Philosopher* [zoom]
* March 9-10, 2017, ‘The Art and Science of Healing: From Antiquity to the Renaissance’, an international symposium held at the Hatcher Library and Kelsey Museum of Archaeology.

**SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION**

*At Michigan*

* Rackham Predoctoral Candidate Fellowship Review Committee (2025–2028)
* MEMS Executive Committee (2024–2025)
* Member of Faculty Senate Assembly, University of Michigan (2022–2025)
* Executive Committee Member for Humanities Institute, University of Michigan (2022–2024)
* STS Certificate Steering Committee (2022–3)
* Tenure Review Panel Member, University of Michigan (2021)
* Executive Committee, IPAH (2018–23)
* Executive Committee, *Contexts for Classics* (2022–)
* Steering Committee, Mediterranean Cluster (2015–)
* Executive Committee, Classical Studies (2016/17, 2018/19)
* DEI Committee Member, Classical Studies (2015–2017)

*Beyond Michigan*

* Editorial Board Member, *Bulletin d'études orientales*, Beirut
* Series Advisory Board Member, *Greek/Modern Intersections*, ed. Artemis Leontis (University of Michigan Press)
* Series Advisory Board Member, *[Encounters] Between Asia and Classics*, eds. Arum Park and Young Kim (University of Michigan Press)
* President of the Society for Ancient Medicine and Pharmacology (2024–2027)
  + Vice President (2020–2023)
* Member of the SCS/AIA Committee on Diversity in the Profession (2019–2021)
* Manuscript Reviewer: Cambridge University Press (2021); Brill Middle Eastern and North African Monograph Series (2017)
* Outside reviewer of manuscripts for *Arabic Sciences and Philosophy* (2024); *International Journal of the Classical Tradition* (2015), *Classical Quarterly* (2017), *Journal of Islamic Studies* (2017)

**DISSERTATIONS ADVISED**

*Directed*

* Kaitlin Karmen, *Crip Time and Narrative in Greek Literature*, Classical Studies (in progress)
* Alanna Heatherly, *The Hermeneutics of Pain in Imperial Literature*, Classical Studies (in progress)
* Benjamín A. Figueroa Lackington, *The Non-Place of Premodern Asian Philosophies: A Methodological Contribution with Two Studies*, Comparative Literature (in progress)

Committee Member

* S. Yeager, *Evagrius and Demonic Transformations of the Body, Mind, and Soul*, Classical Studies (in progress)
* Hannah Roussel, *Mad Rabbis: The Intersection of Bodyminds with Personal, Communal, and Non-Human Relationships in the Babylonian Talmud*, History and Judaic Studies (2023)
* Salman Elamir Amir, *The Lost Tribe of Plato: The Druze Religion and Ismāʿīlī Neoplatonism*, Middle East Studies (2023)
* Emily Lamond, *Disability in the Roman Familia*, IPAH (2022)
* Anna Cornell, *An Other View: Intersectionality and Identity in Classical Greece*, Classical Studies (2022)

**TEACHING**

*Undergraduate*

* CLCIV 470: The Ancient Greek Novel
* CLCIV 392/HIST 292/STS 392: *Ancient Medicine*
* CLCIV 253/ISLAM 3XX: *The Mediterranean: Greek Science in the medieval Islamicate World*
* CLCIV 125: *The Ancient Greek Novel: Heroes, Heroines, and Pirates*
* CLCIV 120: *Women and Healthcare: From Antiquity to the Present; Sex, Birth, and Contraception in Antiquity*; *Plants, Potions and Poisons: Pharmacy in the Pre-Modern Mediterranean*
* GREEK 470: Plato’s *Symposium*; Plutarch’s *Life of Anthony*
* GREEK 301: Intermediate Greek

*Graduate*

* GREEK 870/JUDAIC 617 003: Mediterranean Theory (Seminar)
* GREEK 821: Ancient Medicine (Seminar)
* GREEK 561: Greek Medical Writers: Hippocrates and Galen
* GREEK 542:Imperial Greek Literature: Lucian, Aelius Aristides, and Galen
* HIST 630/MEMS 611 002: Ancient Mediterranean History (Seminar)
* STS 517: STS Methodologies