Jonathan L. Ready

University of Michigan

Department of Classical Studies

2119 Angell Hall

435 South State Street

Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1003

jready@umich.edu 812-360-7287

# Areas of Special Interest

Ancient Greek Literature and Culture, Homeric Poetry, Narrative Theory, Folkloristic

Approaches to Ancient Texts

**Employment**

Professor of Classical Studies, University of Michigan, 2020–

Professor of Classical Studies, Indiana University, 2019–2020

Associate Professor of Classical Studies, Indiana University, 2012–2019

Adjunct status in the Department of Folklore and Ethnomusicology, Indiana University, 2016–2020

Assistant Professor of Classical Studies, Indiana University, 2006–2012

Assistant Professor of Classics, University of Miami, 2005–2006

Visiting Assistant Professor of Classics, University of Miami, 2004–2005

Adjunct Lecturer (Basic Greek), The Latin/Greek Institute, The City University of New York,

Summers 2000–2005

# Education

University of California, Berkeley PhD (Classics), 2004

University of California, Berkeley MA (Greek), 2000

Yale University BA (Greek and Latin) *magna cum laude*, 1998

American School of Classical Studies, Summer 1997

Athens, Greece

# Research Publications

Books:

*Immersion, Identification, and the Iliad* (Oxford University Press [Oxford], 2023).

Available Open Access: please click [here](https://academic.oup.com/book/46708?searchresult=1).

*Orality, Textuality, and the Homeric Epics: An Interdisciplinary Study of Oral Texts, Dictated Texts, and Wild Texts* (Oxford University Press [Oxford], 2019).

Runner-up, The Katharine Briggs Award 2020, Folklore Society (UK)

Reviewed by Mark Bender, *Journal of Folklore Research Reviews* (published online on May 20, 2021); Yukai Li*, Phoenix* 74 (2020): 319–321; Gregory Nagy, *Gnomon* 95 (2023): 389–393; Frog, *Journal of American Folklore* 136: 341–343

*The Homeric Simile in Comparative Perspectives: Oral Traditions from Saudi Arabia to Indonesia* (Oxford University Press [Oxford], 2018).

Reviewed by Naoko Yamagata*, Classics for All* (published online on May 13, 2018); Richard P. Martin, *Journal of Folklore Research Reviews* (published online on August 30, 2018); Miklós Petí, *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2018.11.54; Frog, *Elore* 25.2 (2018): 182–185; Johannes Haubold, *Phoenix* 72 (2018): 361–362; Stephen Scully, *New England Classical Journal* 45 (2018): 111–114; Margalit Finkelberg, *Classical Philology* 114 (2019): 310–313; Blaz Zabel, *Sehepunkte* 19 (2019), Nr. 5 (15.05.2019); Alexander Forte, *The Journal of Hellenic Studies* 139 (2019): 237–238; Bernardo Ballesteros, *Gnomon* 93 (2021): 193–196

*Character, Narrator, and Simile in the Iliad* (Cambridge University Press [New York], 2011;

paperback 2013).

Reviewed by Rebecca Muich, *Classical Journal-Online* 2012.07.07; Irene J. F. de Jong, *Mnemosyne* 65 (2012): 787–789; Paola Bassino, *The Journal of Hellenic Studies* 133 (2013): 159; Miklós Petí *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2014.05.37

Journal Articles:

“Minor Characters in Homer’s *Iliad*,” *Classical Antiquity* 39 (2020): 284–329.

“Odysseus and the Suitors’ Relatives,” *Yearbook of Ancient Greek Epic* 3 (2019): 117–135.

“The Epiphany at *Iliad* 4.73–84,” *Hermes* 145 (2017): 24–40.

“The Textualization of Homeric Epic by Means of Dictation,” *TAPA* (formerly *Transactions of the American Philological Association*)145 (2015): 1–75.

“ATU 974 *The Homecoming Husband*, the Returns of Odysseus, and the End of *Odyssey* 21,”

*Arethusa* 47 (2014): 265–285.

“Zeus, Ancient Near Eastern Notions of Divine Incomparability, and Similes in the Homeric Epics,” *Classical Antiquity* 31 (2012): 56–91.

“Why Odysseus Strings his Bow,” *Greek, Roman, and Byzantine Studies* 50 (2010): 133–157.

“The Comparative Spectrum in Homer,” *American Journal of Philology* 129 (2008): 453–496.

“Toil and Trouble: The Acquisition of Spoils in the *Iliad*,” *Transactions of the American Philological Association* 137 (2007): 3–43.

“*Iliad* 22.123–128 and the Erotics of Supplication,” *Classical Bulletin* 81 (2005): 145–164.

“A Binding Song: The Similes of Catullus 61,” *Classical Philology* 99 (2004): 153–163.

Book Chapters:

“The Tension between Memory and Emotion in Homer’s Audience,” in *Memory and Emotions in Antiquity: Ancient Emotions IV*, eds. George Kazantzidis and Dimos Spatharas (De Gruyter, 2024):21–44.

“Performance, Oral Texts, and Entextualization in Homeric Epic,” in *Homer in Performance: Rhapsodes, Narrators, and Characters*, eds. Jonathan L. Ready and Christos C. Tsagalis (University of Texas Press, 2018): 320–350.

“Introduction,” with Christos C. Tsagalis, in *Homer in Performance: Rhapsodes, Narrators, and Characters*, eds. Jonathan L. Ready and Christos C. Tsagalis (University of Texas Press, 2018): 1–26.

“Omens and Messages in the *Iliad* and *Odyssey*: A Study in Transmission,” in *Between*

*Orality and Literacy: Communication and Adaptation in Antiquity (Orality and Literacy*

*in the Ancient World, vol. 10)*, ed. Ruth Scodel (Brill, 2014): 29–55.

“Comparative Perspectives on the Composition of the Homeric Simile,” in *Orality, Literacy*

*and Performance in the Ancient World (Orality and Literacy in the Ancient World, vol.*

*9)*, ed. Elizabeth Minchin(Brill, 2012): 55–87.

“Homer, Hesiod, and the Epic Tradition,” in *The Cambridge Companion to Archaic Greece*,

ed. H. Alan Shapiro (Cambridge University Press, 2007): 111–140.

Editorial Work:

*The Oxford Critical Guide to Homer’s Iliad* (Oxford University Press, in press).

*Homer in Performance: Rhapsodes, Narrators, and Characters*, co-edited with Christos C. Tsagalis (University of Texas Press, 2018).

Reviewed by Manolis Spanakis, *Classical Journal-Online* 2020.01.07; Katherine Kretler, *Classical World* 113 (2020): 369–371; Andrew Ford, *The Journal of Hellenic Studies* 141 (2021): 242–243

*Yearbook of Ancient Greek Epic*, co-edited with Christos C. Tsagalis (Brill, volume 1 2017; volume 2 2018; volume 3 2019; volume 4 2020; volume 5 2021; volume 6 2022; volume 7 2024).

Brill’s Research Perspectives in Classical Poetry, associate editor

Encyclopedia Entry:

“Narrative,” in *Cambridge Guide to Homer*, ed. Corinne Pache (Cambridge University Press, 2020): 176–178.

**Service Publications**

Book Reviews:

*Jangar: The Heroic Epic of the Kalmyk Nomads* by Saglar Bougdaeva in *Journal of Folklore Research Reviews* (*JFRR*). Published online on November 21, 2023.

*Hearing Homer’s Song: The Brief Life and Big Idea of Milman Parry* by Robert Kanigel in *JFRR*. Published online on March 25, 2022.

*Postoral Homer: Orality and Literacy in the Homeric Epics* by Rainer Friedrich in *The Journal of Hellenic Studies* (*JHS*) 141 (2021): 241–242.

*Ukrainian Epic and Historical Song: Folklore in Context* by Natalie Kononenko in *JFRR*. Published online on February 11, 2021.

*Metaphor in Homer: Time, Speech, and Thought* by Andreas T. Zanker in *American Journal of Philology* (*AJP*) 141 (2020): 665–668.

*Epic Performances: From the Middle Ages into the Twenty-First Century* edited by Fiona Macintosh et al. in *JHS* 140 (2020): 294–295.

*The Singer of Tales* by Albert B. Lord (3rd edition), edited by David F. Elmer in *JFRR*. Published online on February 27, 2020.

*Device and Composition in the Greek Epic Cycle* by Benjamin Sammons in *Classical Philology* 113 (2018): 495–498.

*Tales of the Narts: Ancient Myths and Legends of the Ossetians* edited by John Colarusso and Tamirlan Salbiev in *JFRR*. Published online on June 21, 2018.

*The Epic Rhapsode and his Craft: Homeric Performance in a Diachronic Perspective* by José M. González in *Classical Journal* in *Classical Journal (CJ)-Online* 2017.01.02 and in *Classical Journal* 112 (2017): 494–504.

*Homeric Durability: Telling Time in the Iliad* by Lorenzo F. Garcia Jr. in *CJ-Online* 2014.04.05.

*Soviet Heroic Poetry in Context: Folklore or Fakelore* by Margaret Ziolkowski in *JFRR*.

Published online on February 26, 2014.

*Bharath: An Epic of the Dungri Bhils* translated by Nila Shah and edited by Bhagwandas Patel

in *JFRR*. Published online on November 21, 2013.

*Homeric Contexts: Neoanalysis and the Interpretation of Oral Poetry* edited by Franco

Montanari, Antonios Rengakos, and Christos Tsagalis in *Classical Review* (*CR*)63.2 (2013): 321–323.

*A Lexicon of the Homeric Dialect: Expanded Edition* by Richard John Cunliffe (with a new

preface by James H. Dee) in *CR* 63.2 (2013): 323–325.

*The Use of Anonymous Characters in Greek Tragedy: The Shaping of Heroes* by Florence Yoon in *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* (*BMCR*) 2013.05.07.

*Homer: Iliad Book XXII* by Irene J. F. de Jong in *CJ-Online* 2013.01.04.

*Homer: Iliad Book VI* by Barbara Graziosi and Johannes Haubold in *JHS* 132 (2012): 173.

*Writing Homer: A Study Based on Results from Modern Fieldwork* by Minna Skafte Jensen in

*JFRR*. Published online on September 12, 2012.

*›Kleine Leute‹ und große Helden in Homers Odyssee and Kallimachos’ Hekale* by Markos

Skempis in *Classical World* (*CW*)105.2 (2012): 275–276.

*Homer’s Odyssey and the Near East* by Bruce Louden in *BMCR* 2011.8.25.

*Zeus in the Odyssey* by James Marks in *AJP* 131.1 (2010): 155–158.

*The Oral Palimpsest: Exploring Intertextuality in the Homeric Epics* by Christos Tsagalis in *New England Classical Journal* 36.1 (2009): 39–41.

*Edige: A Karakalpak Oral Epic* edited by Karl Reichl in *JFRR*. Published online on April 30,

2008.

*Homeric Voices: Discourse, Memory, Gender* by Elizabeth Minchin in *BMCR* 2007.09.54.

*Collaborative Representations: Interpreting the Creation of a Sámi Ethnography and a Seto Epic* by Kristin Kuutma in *JFRR*. Published online on July 19, 2007.

*Sanctified Violence in Homeric Society: Oath-Making Rituals and Narratives in the Iliad* by Margo Kitts in *BMCR* 2006.06.09.

*Stories from the Mountains, Stories from the Sea: The Digressions and Similes of Oppian’s*

*Haleutica and the Cynegetica* by Adam Nicholas Bartley in *CW* 98.3 (2005): 358–360.

**Fellowships**

Institute for the Humanities, University of Michigan, Summer 2021

Loeb Classical Library Foundation Fellowship, Fall 2018

College Arts and Humanities Institute Faculty Fellowship, Indiana University, Fall 2017

# Conference Presentations

“How Euripides *Cyclops* 503–10 Revises *Odyssey* 9,” at the Society for Classical Studies (SCS; formerly the American Philological Association [APA]) Annual Meeting, Chicago, 2024.

“Homerists and Kirghiz Epic,” at the Central Eurasian Studies Society Annual Meeting, Bloomington, 2022.

“The Tension between Memory and Emotion in Homer’s Audience,” at “Crete/Patras Ancient Emotions III: Memory and Emotions in Antiquity,” Rethymno, Crete, 2019.

“Scribal Performance and the Wild Papyri of the Homeric Epics: Comparative and Interdisciplinary Perspectives,” at the Society for Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Denver, 2018.

“Folkloristic Perspectives on Why Homeric Poets and Their Audiences Liked Shared Formulas,” at the SCS Annual Meeting, Boston, 2018.

“Odysseus and the Suitors’ Relatives: Homer and *The Homecoming Husband*,” at the SCS Annual Meeting, Toronto, 2017; and at the Twenty-First Annual Conference of the Association of Literary Scholars, Critics, and Writers, Dallas, 2017.

“Oral Texts and Entextualization (in Homeric Epic),” at “Orality and Literacy in the Ancient World XII: Performance and Mythic-Ritual Poetics,” Lausanne, Switzerland, 2016.

“The ‘Scribe as Performer’ and the Ptolemaic Papyri,” at the SCS Annual Meeting, New

Orleans, 2015; and at “Performers of Tales: An Ancient Studies Seminar,” Indiana University, 2015.

“The Scribe’s Voice in the Ptolemaic Papyri: The Scribe as Performer,” at “Orality and Literacy

in the Ancient World XI: Voice and Voices,” Emory University, 2014.

“Minor Characters in Homer’s *Iliad*,” at “Miniature and Minor: An Ancient Studies Conference

at Indiana University,” Indiana University, 2014; and at “Homer and His Legacy,” University of Miami, 2017.

“Classifying and Categorizing the Homeric Simile” at “‘Corhali’ Colloquium XXII: The Similes

of the *Iliad*,” Cornell University, 2013.

“A Cognitive Approach to the Homeric Simile?,” at “Oral Poetics and Cognitive Science,”

Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität, 2013.

“Omens as Messages in the Homeric Epics,” at “Lengua poética y religión en Grecia y Roma,”

University of Santiago de Compostela, 2012; and at “Orality and Literacy in the

Ancient World X: Tradition, Transmission, and Adaptation,” University of Michigan, 2012.

“Odysseus and the Suitors’ Relatives,” at “Nostos: War, the *Odyssey*, and Narratives of Return,”

University of South Carolina, 2011.

“Comparative Perspectives on the Composition of the Homeric Simile,” at “Orality and Literacy

IX: Composition and Performance,” Australian National University, 2010.

“The Sole Son in the *Iliad*,” at The Classical Association of the Middle West and South

(CAMWS) Annual Meeting, Gainesville, Florida, 2006.

“Strategies of Naming in Book 1 of Herodotus’ *Histories*: A Case Study,” at the APA Annual

Meeting, Boston, Massachusetts, 2005.

“‘Shall I Compare Thee…’: Zeus and Similes in the *Iliad*,” at the CAMWS Southern-Section Annual Meeting, Durham, North Carolina, 2004.

“The Erotics of Supplication: *Iliad* 22.123–8,” at the APA Annual Meeting, San Francisco,

California, 2004.

**Courses Taught at the University of Michigan**

Ancient Greek Myth

Homer and Hesiod in English Translation

Ancient Greek Tragedy in Translation

Beginning Ancient Greek I

Advanced Ancient Greek: Ancient Greek Prose Composition

Advanced Ancient Greek: Euripides

Advanced Ancient Greek: Herodotus

Advanced Ancient Greek: Sophocles

Survey of Ancient Greek Literature: Classical Literature

Graduate Seminar: Homer

## Courses Taught at Indiana University

Ancient Greek Culture

Classical Epics in Translation

Classical Drama in Translation

Homeric Contexts (a senior capstone seminar)

Beginning Ancient Greek I and II

Intermediate Ancient Greek: Plato and Euripides

Intermediate Ancient Greek I: Prose

Intermediate Ancient Greek II: Homer

Advanced Ancient Greek: Ancient Greek Prose Composition

Advanced Ancient Greek: Aristophanes

Advanced Ancient Greek: Homer

Survey of Ancient Greek Literature I: Poetry

Survey of Ancient Greek Literature II: Prose

Upper Level Latin: Caesar

**Teaching Activities Outside of Regular Courses at Indiana University**

Director for Michael Holstead, *Homeric Arming Rituals: A Study of Oral Composition and*

*Ritual Dynamics*, PhD dissertation, Department of Classical Studies, 2010–2013

Committee Member for Robert Nichols, *The Rhetoric of Timōria in Athenian Forensic*

*Oratory*, PhD dissertation, Department of Classical Studies, 2010–2013

Primary Advisor for Paige Feary, *Helen of Troy and Modern-Day Cinema*, Senior Honors

Thesis, Department of Classical Studies, 2011

Primary Advisor for Jennifer Hoit, *Amazement in Early Greek Epic*, Senior Honors Thesis,

Department of Classical Studies, 2007–2008

**Courses Taught at the University of Miami**

Greek and Roman Mythology

Self and Other in the Ancient World

## Beginning Ancient Greek

## Beginning Latin

Intensive Latin

**Teaching Activities Outside of Regular Courses at the University of Miami**

Outside Reader for Perri Giovannucci, *The Modernizing Mission: Literature and Development in North Africa*, PhD dissertation, Department of English, 2005

**Service at the University of Michigan**

Department of Classical Studies:

Undergraduate Advisor (Fall 2023)

Review Committees (to reappoint lecturers) (Fall 2022)

Graduate Affairs Committee for Language and Literature (Fall 2020–Winter 2021; Fall 2021)

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee (Fall 2020–Winter 2021)

Executive Committee (Fall 2020–Winter 2021; Fall 2023)

## Service at Indiana University

College of Arts and Sciences:

Director, Program in Ancient Studies (2012–2020)

Steering Committee Member, Graduate Program in Ancient Studies (2007–2012)

Department of Classical Studies:

Director of Graduate Studies (Fall 2016–2020)

Greek PhD Literature Exam Committee (Fall 2011, Fall 2015, Spring 2017, Spring 2019)

## Acting Director of Graduate Studies (Fall 2010)

Supervisor for Beginning Ancient Greek I and II (Fall 2010, Fall 2013–Spring 2014, Spring 2015–)

Supervisor for Medical Terminology from Greek and Latin (Fall 2009)

Greek PhD Translation Exam Committee (Fall 2007–2020)

Lecture Coordinator (Fall 2007–Spring 2012)

Modern Language Proficiency Exam Committee (Spring 2007)

Graduate Committee (Fall 2006, Spring 2007, Spring 2009–2020)

MA Exam Committee (Fall 2006, Spring 2007, Spring 2015)

## Service at the University of Miami

College of Arts and Sciences:

College Council (2005–2006)

Curriculum Committee (2005–2006)

Department of Classics:

Co-advisor, Undergraduate Classics Club (2004–2006)

**Other Professional Service**

Referee for *American Journal of Philology*, *Antichthon*,Cambridge University Press, *Classical Antiquity*, *Classical Journal*, *Classical Philology*, *Illinois Classical Studies*, *Journal of American Folklore*, *The Journal of Hellenic Studies*, Oxford University Press, *Philologus*, *Phoenix*, *Ramus*,Routledge, *Transactions of the American Philological Association* (now *TAPA*), *Trends in Classics* Supplementary Volumes, Wiley Blackwell

Member of Editorial Board, *TAPA* 2016–2021

External referee for a promotion case at Brandeis University, 2020; University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 2022; University of Texas at Austin, 2022

External referee for tenure case at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 2016; University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2018; Cornell University, 2021; Amherst College, 2021; Gettysburg College, 2022; University of Tennessee, 2022

Updated

1/14/24