

Matthew Chaldekas

Visiting Assistant Professor
University of Missouri
chaldeka@gmail.com

107 Park Hill Ave.
Columbia, MO 65203
+491781006303

Employment History

2026-2027	Visiting Assistant Professor, Classics, Archaeology and Religion, University of Missouri
2023-2026	Postdoctoral Researcher, Philologisches Institut, Gräzistik, University of Tübingen
June 2025	Guest Professor, Center for Research on Ancient Civilizations, University of Warsaw
2019-2023	Postdoctoral Researcher, Sonderforschungsbereich 1391 Andere Ästhetik, Tübingen Teilprojekt C01, 'Andere' Poetiken der Ekphrasis in der hellenistischen Dichtung
2018-2019	Visiting Assistant Professor, Classics and Comparative Literature, UC-Riverside
2016-2017	Assistant Lecturer (Latin), University of Southern California (USC)
2014-2015	Consultant / Tutor, Writing Center, USC
2013-2014, 2015-2016	Assistant Lecturer (College Writing), USC
2011	Assistant Lecturer (Greek), USC
2010-2013	Teaching Assistant (Various Courses), USC
2008-2009	Assistant Lecturer (Latin), Tulane University

Education

2017	Ph.D. in Classics, University of Southern California –Dissertation: "Vision in Theocritus: Perception, Performance, Poetics"
2009	M.A. in Classical Studies, Tulane University –Thesis: "Cosmology and Space in Early Greek <i>Epos</i> "
2007	B.A. in Classical Studies, Michigan State University <i>magna cum laude</i> , additional major in English

Research Interests

Greek poetry (esp. Hellenistic, epigram, *epos*), ancient aesthetics, gender and ethnicity in antiquity, magic and medicine, Hellenistic philosophy, intellectual history, reception studies

Publications

Monographs

in press (2026), *Idyllic Visions: Sight and Social Power in Theocritus*, under contract with Peeters Publishers (series: Hellenistica Groningana.) Leuven / Paris.

forthcoming, *The Semantics of Aesthetic Experience in Hellenistic Poetry and Philosophy*, under contract with De Gruyter (series: Andere Ästhetik – Studien) Berlin / Boston

Edited Volumes

2025, *The Poetics of Greek Ekphrasis From the Hellenistic Period to Late Antiquity* (De Gruyter: Trends in Classics). Berlin / Boston (with Irmgard Männlein).
<https://doi.org/10.1515/9783112207697>

2024, *Hellenistic Aesthetics: Approaches and Frameworks*, special issue of *BICS* 67.2 (with Thomas J. Nelson). <https://academic.oup.com/bics/issue/67/2>

in preparation, *Women, Divinity, and Politics in the Hellenistic Period*, under contract with Routledge, expected 2027 (with Michele Solitario).

Articles & Book Chapters (* = peer-reviewed)

*forthcoming, “After Alexandria: Theodoridas of Syracuse’s Rewritings of Callimachus,” in: J.J.H. Klooster / M.A. Harder / R.F. Regtuit / G.C. Wakker (eds.) *Beyond Alexandria* (Hellenistica Groningana), Leuven / Paris.

*2025c, “Female Philosophers in Early Ptolemaic Alexandria: Prosopographical Perspectives,” *Mnemosyne* 78.6: 1009–1035. <https://doi.org/10.1163/1568525x-bja10296>

2025b, “Leonidas of Tarentum and Hellenistic Ekphrasis,” in: M. Chaldeckas / I. Männlein (eds.) *The Poetics of Greek Ekphrasis From the Hellenistic Period to Late Antiquity* (Trends in Classics), Berlin / Boston: 45–67. <https://doi.org/10.1515/9783112207697-003>

2025a, “Introduction,” in: M. Chaldeckas / I. Männlein (eds.) *The Poetics of Greek Ekphrasis From the Hellenistic Period to Late Antiquity* (Trends in Classics), Berlin / Boston: 1–12 (co-author with Irmgard Männlein). <https://doi.org/10.1515/9783112207697-001>

*2024c, “Ecphrasis and Manual Labour: The Aesthetics of Woodwork in Leonidas,” *BICS* 67.2: 54–70. <https://doi.org/10.1093/bics/qbae026>

2024b, “Introduction: Approaching Hellenistic Aesthetics” (with Thomas J. Nelson), *BICS* 67.2: 1–13. <https://doi.org/10.1093/bics/qbae030>

- *2024a, “An Erotic-Ecphrastic Pastiche: *Anth.Pal.* 12.61–62,” *GRBS* 64.2: 316–325. (Open-Access: <https://grbs.library.duke.edu/index.php/grbs/article/view/16961>)
- *2023c, “Melancholy as a Technical Term and Literary Model in Sophocles’ *Trachiniae*,” in: *Jahrbuch Literatur und Medizin* 14: 13–38.
- 2023b, “Ecphrastic Medea: Between Intermediality and Intermateriality,” in: J. Stellmann / D. Wagner (eds.) *Materialität und Medialität: Grundbedingungen einer anderen Ästhetik in der Vormoderne*, Leiden / Boston: 367–389. (Open-Access: <https://doi.org/10.1515/9783110988413-015>)
- 2023a, “Trügerischer Anschein und Nachdenken im ekphrastischen Epigramm und in der hellenistischen Philosophie,” in: A. Gerok-Reiter / M. Kovacs / V. Leppin / I. Männlein-Robert (eds.) *Schein und Anschein: Dynamiken ästhetischer Praxis in der Vormoderne*, Leiden / Boston: 303–342. (Open-Access: <https://doi.org/10.1515/9783110725391-012>)
- *2022, “An Intersectional Approach to Theocritus, Idyll 15,” *Helios* 49: 1–24. <https://muse.jhu.edu/pub/76/article/862506/pdf>
- *2021, “Seeing Statues: Authority, Erotic Power, and the Gendered Gaze in Theocritus,” in: J.J.H. Klooster / M.A. Harder / R.F. Regtuit / G.C. Wakker (eds.) *Women and Power in Hellenistic Poetry*. *Hellenistica Groningana* 26, Leuven / Paris: 59–82.
- *2020, “The Ethnographic Eye: Verbal and Visual Identification in Theocritus *Idyll* 22,” *Phoenix* 74: 15–35. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/10.7834/phoenix.74.1-2.0015>

Translations

- forthcoming, *An Introduction to the Herculaneum Papyri in the Digital Age* by Kilian Fleischer, under contract with Routledge, revision and translation of K. Fleischer, 2022, *Die Papyri Herkulaneums im Digitalen Zeitalter: Neue Texte durch neue Techniken – eine Kurzeinführung*. Berlin / Boston.
- 2024, “Judaism and Hellenism,” in: M.R. Niehoff, *Judentum und Hellenismus* (Tübingen): 6–84.

Book Reviews

- M. Kanellou (2025), *Greek Erotic Epigram: A Diachronic Approach*. Oxford, in: *Classical Journal Online* 2025.11.02 [permalink not yet available].
- F. Scicolone (2024), *The Language of Objects: Deixis in Descriptive Greek Epigrams*, Leiden / Boston,” in: *BMCR*, <https://bmcr.brynmawr.edu/2025/2025.04.29/>
- P. Kyriakou / E. Sistakou / A. Rengakos (2021), *Brill’s Companion to Theocritus*, Leiden / Boston, in: *BMCR*, <https://bmcr.brynmawr.edu/2024/2024.05.39/>
- A. Sens (2020), *Hellenistic Epigrams: A Selection*, Cambridge, in: *BMCR*, <https://bmcr.brynmawr.edu/2021/2021.11.36/>

C. Cusset / C. Kossai / R. Poignault (2017), *Présence de Théocrite*, Clermont-Ferrand, in: *Classical Review* 69.1 (2019): 73–76.

Teaching Experience

University of Missouri

Elementary Ancient Greek – Fall 26
Media and Communication in Antiquity – Fall 26
Hellenistic Literature and Culture (upper division) – Fall 26
Hellenistic Literature and Culture (graduate level) – Fall 26

Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen (☆ = taught in German)

☆Proseminar: Epiktet – Winter 25
Sex and Gender in Ancient Greece – Summer 25
☆Proseminar: Euripides, *Herakles* – Winter 23
☆Intermediate/Advanced Greek: hellenistische Epigrammen – Summer 21

University of California, Riverside

Intermediate/Advanced Latin: Seneca, *Apocolocyntosis* – Spring 19
Monsters, Folklore and Magic in Greece and Rome – Spring 19
Mythology (upper division) – Spring 19, Spring 18
Intermediate/Advanced Latin: Vergil, *Eclogues* – Winter 19
Ancient Approaches to Race and Ethnicity – Fall 18
Intermediate/Advanced Latin: Livy – Spring 18
The Ancient World in Film and Television – Fall 18, Winter 18
Intermediate/Advanced Greek: Herodotus – Winter 18

University of Southern California

Introductory Greek – Spring 17, Spring 11
Introductory Latin – Fall 16
Writing & Critical Reasoning (‘Freshman Comp’) – Spring 16, Fall 15, Spring 14, Fall 13

Tulane University

Introductory Latin (School of Continuing Studies) – Summer 09
Introductory Latin – Spring 09, Fall 08

Languages

English (native), German (fluent), Latin (teaching competence, basic speaking competence), Ancient Greek (teaching competence), French (reading competence), Italian (reading competence), Spanish (reading competence)

Event and Activity Organization, Trainings, External Funding

- Mentoring at Mizzou Training, Participant – August 19, 2026
Full-day workshop on mentoring practices, led by accredited mentoring instructors
- Panelist at *Navigating Contingent Positions and the Precarity of the Faculty Pipeline*,
Workshop at SCS/AIA Annual Meeting, San Francisco – January 9, 2026,
Presentation title: “The Contingent Faculty Track in Europe”
- Session Leader at *Beyond - Behind - Below? Hades- und Jenseitsvorstellungen in antiken Griechenland*, Workshop for Gymnasium (secondary) students – November 29, 2025, Tübingen
Session Title: “Gebete - Flüche - Wünsche: Das Jenseits in den Ritualen des Diesseits”
- Session Leader at *Female Choices - Female Voices: Frauen in der griechischen Antike*,
Workshop for Gymnasium students – November 23, 2024, Tübingen
Session title: “Hypatia: Versionen einer Philosophin”
- Co-organizer (with Thomas J. Nelson) - *The ‘Silver Age’ of Hellenistic Poetry*
Panel at SCS Annual Meeting, New Orleans – January 8, 2024
- Co-organizer (with Michele Solitario) - *The Politics of Female Divinity in the Hellenistic Period*
International Conference, Tübingen – November 3-4, 2022
–outside funding: Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (Project: 512656303) = 7000€
- Co-organizer (with Irmgard Männlein-Robert) - *Zur Poetik der Ekphrasis in der griechischen Dichtung*, International Workshop, Tübingen – October 13-14, 2022
- Co-organizer (with Thomas Nelson) - *Pragmatics and Poetics of Hellenistic Aesthetics*
Panel at SCS Annual Meeting, San Francisco [online] – January 6, 2022
- Theory seminar, SFB 1391 – 2020-2022 (session leader: intersectionality, neuro-aesthetics)
- Co-organizer, Ancient Economy Reading Group, SFB 1391 – 2020-2021
- Organizer, Spoken Latin group, UC-Riverside – 2018-2019
- Co-organizer (with Hannah Čulik-Baird & Jessica Wright) - *Ethical Engagement and the Study of Antiquity* - Roundtable and Workshop, USC – April 20-21, 2017
- Co-organizer (with Ambra Spinelli & Robert Matera) - *The Edges of the Body: Extremities and Knowledge in Antiquity and Beyond* - Classics/Art History Graduate Conference, USC – Jan 31-Feb 1, 2014

Professional Service

- Faculty liaison for Eta Sigma Phi, University of Missouri – since 2026

- Faculty Professional Development Committee, University of Missouri – since 2026
- Outside Consultant for the DEI Committee of Antiquity in Media Studies – since 2026
- Advisory Board for the journal *eisodos* – since 2025
- Peer reviewer for the journals *Mnemosyne* and *eisodos* – since 2023
- Vertretung der Wissenschaftlichen Mitarbeiter, SFB 1391 – 2020-2021, 2022-2023
–duties: representative / advocate for graduate students and postdocs before the executive board
- President, USC Classics Graduate Student Organization – 2014-2015
- Senator, USC Graduate Student Government – 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14
–Award: Senator of the Year – 2013-14

Research Presentations (→ = invited)

- | | |
|------------|--|
| June 2026 | “εἰσὶ τρίχες: A Diachronic Study of Hair Growth as Lost Beauty in Meleager’s and Philip’s Garlands” (with Maria Kanellou) at <i>The Garlands of Meleager and Philip in Dialogue</i> (Leiden) |
| May 2026 | “Women and Children First? Antiker Stoizismus und Rechtsextremismus heute” at <i>Didaskalika 10: Antike und Rechtsextremismus</i> (Tübingen) |
| →Apr 2026 | “Hellenistic ποικιλία: Aesthetic Debates and Receptions” at University of California, Berkeley |
| Feb 2026 | “The Power of Bronze: Materiality and Self-Referentiality in Greek Epigrams” at 47th ASCS Annual Meeting (Auckland, NZ) |
| Jan 2026 | “The Hellenistic Poetics of <i>poikilia</i> : An Overlooked Literary Polemic” at <i>157th SCS Annual Meeting</i> (San Francisco) |
| Dec 2025 | “Beyond <i>Apate</i> : Ästhetische Täuschung und Lügen bei Kallimachos” at <i>Die Ästhetik der Illusion</i> (Tübingen) |
| →Sept 2025 | “Asclepiades of Samos and the Metapoetics of Magic” at University of New Mexico |
| →June 2025 | “Lessons from Love Poetry: Erotic Magic and Epicurean Philosophy in Philodemus <i>AP</i> 5.132” at <i>Seminarium Mercuriale Hellenisticum</i> (Warsaw) |
| Mar 2025 | “Queering the Family in Hellenistic Philosophy: Menedemus of Eretria” at <i>121st CAMWS Annual Meeting</i> (Champaign, IL) |

- Jan 2025 “Hellenistische *poikilia*: Quellenforschung und Perspektivierung” at *44th Metageitnia* (Geneva)
- Feb 2024 “Ekphrasis und Imperium bei Antipatros von Saloniki” at *Ekphrasis in Kaiserzeit und Spätantike* (Tübingen)
- Jan 2024 “Pyrrhon und Phantasia: Der Ursprung der hellenistischen Epistemologie” at *43rd Metageitnia* (Konstanz)
- Jan 2024 “Erotic Objectification in the Epigrams of Philodemus” at *155th SCS Annual Meeting* (Chicago)
- Sep 2023 “Effacing Alexandria? Theodoridas of Syracuse’s Rewriting of Callimachus” at *16th Groningen Hellenistic Poetry Workshop: Beyond Alexandria*
- July 2023 “Tendencies in Greek-English Translation in the 21st Century” at *5th Tübinger Demosthenes Workshop: Übersetzen griechischer Texte heute*
- Jan 2023 “*kalos kalos* in Context: Callimachus’ Unreal Aesthetics” at *154th SCS Annual Meeting* (New Orleans)
- Oct 2022 “Leonidas von Tarent und hellenistische Ekphrasis” at *Zur Poetik der Ekphrasis in der griechischen Dichtung / The Poetics of Greek Ekphrasis* (Tübingen)
- Jun 2022 “Täuschung und Nachdenken im hellenistischen ekphrastischen Epigramm” at *Die Ambiguität des Scheins / The Ambiguity of Appearance* (Tübingen)
- Jun 2022 “Ekphrasis der Person bei Theokrit: intermediale Charakterisierung” at *Ekphrastisches Erzählen III* (Graz, AT)
- May 2022 “Were there Female Philosophers in the Early Ptolemaic Court?” at *Feminism & Classics 2022: body / language* [online]
- Mar 2022 “Ecphrastic Medea: Between Intermediality and Intermateriality” at *Medialität & Materialität: Aspekte einer anderen Ästhetik* (Tübingen)
- Jan 2022 “The Aesthetics of Manual Labor: Ecphrastic Representations of Woodwork in Leonidas” at *153rd SCS Annual Meeting* (San Francisco) [online]
- Sep 2021 Response to E. Sistakou, “The Crisis of the Hellenistic Self” at *15th Groningen Hellenistic Poetry Workshop: Crisis and Resilience in Hellenistic Poetry* [online]
- Aug 2019 “Seeing Statues: Authority, Erotic Power, and the Gendered Gaze in Theocritus” at *14th Groningen Hellenistic Poetry Workshop: Women and Power in Hellenistic Poetry*
- Nov 2018 “Slavery, labor and humanity in the warrior societies of *Spartacus* (1960) and *300* (2006)” at *Film & History* (Madison, WI)

- Oct 2018 “Finding Female Philosophers in Ptolemaic Alexandria” at *Friends of Ancient History Annual Meeting* (Cal State, Los Angeles)
- Sep 2018 “Melancholy as a Technical Term and Literary Model in Sophocles’ *Trachiniae*” at *The Words of Medicine* (North-West University, Potchefstroom, ZAF)
- Jan 2017 “The Ethnographic Eye in Theocritus’ *Hymn to the Dioscuri*” at *38th ASCS Annual Meeting* (Wellington, NZ)
- Dec 2016 “Philosophical Housewives in Theocritus” at *Paths of Knowledge in Antiquity* (TOPOI Institute/ Freie Universität Berlin)
- May 2016 “Revisioning the *Adoniazusae*: Ecphrasis and Norms of Vision in Theocritus” at *Feminism and Classics VII: Visions* (Seattle)
- Mar 2016 “Gorgo and Praxinoa as Natural Philosophers?: An Experimental Reading of *Idyll 15*” at *112th CAMWS Annual Meeting* (Williamsburg, VA)
- Sep 2015 “Lost at the Intersection: The Erasure of Egyptian Women in Theocritus’ *Adoniazusae*” at *Gender, Identity, and Intersectionality in Antiquity* (Auckland, NZ)
- Mar 2015 “Failed Visions: The Goatherd’s Cup and Daphnis in Theocritus’ First *Idyll*” at *111th CAMWS Annual Meeting* (Boulder)
- Jan 2015 “The Goatherd and the Winnowing-shovel: Signification and Interpretation in Theocritus’ Seventh *Idyll*” at *146th SCS Annual Meeting* (New Orleans)
- Apr 2013 “One of Us and No One: An Anthropology of the Singing Cyclops” at *109th CAMWS Annual Meeting* (Iowa City)

Public Scholarship

- Oct 2025 “Ein queeres Philosophenpärchen: Menedemos und Asklepiades” at *Gewitzt Wie! Science Slam* (Reutlingen)
- Oct 2025 “Antike Philosophie: Wer, Wo, Wie?” at *Mind-Akademie: Welt/Zeit/Raum* (Mannheim)

References

- Irmgard Männlein – Lehrstuhl Gräzistik, Tübingen: irmgard.maennlein-robert@uni-tuebingen.de
- William G. Thalmann – Professor of Classics / Comp Lit, emeritus, USC: thalmann@usc.edu
- Christelle Fischer-Bovet – Associate Professor of Classics / History, USC: fischerb@usc.edu
- Denver Graninger – Associate Professor of History, UC-Riverside: dgraning@ucr.edu

Monica Cyrino – Professor of Classics, University of New Mexico: pandora@unm.edu

A.J. Boyle – Professor of Classics, USC: aboyle@usc.edu

Lisa Raphals – Professor of Comparative Literature, UC-Riverside: raphals@ucr.edu