

BENJAMIN O. MCCLOSKEY
Curriculum Vitae

Kansas State University
Department of Modern Languages &
Department of History
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

<u>Aug. 2023-present</u>	Kansas State University , Associate Professor of Classical Studies and History
<u>Aug. 2018-July 2023</u>	Kansas State University , Assistant Professor of Classical Studies and History
<u>Aug. 2016-Jul. 2018</u>	Kansas State University , Visiting Assistant Professor of Classical Studies
<u>Aug. 2015-Jul. 2016</u>	Kansas State University , Instructor of Classical Studies
<u>Jan. 2013-Aug. 2015</u>	Kansas State University , Adjunct Instructor of Latin
<u>Sept. 2006-Dec. 2012</u>	The Ohio State University , Graduate Teaching Assistant

FIELDS OF INTEREST

Philosophy, Xenophon of Athens, Dialectic, Narratology, Democracy.

EDUCATION

Dec. 2012	Ph.D. Greek and Latin , Ohio State University. Dissertation: “Xenophon’s <i>Kyrou Amathia</i> : Deceitful Narrative and The Birth of Tyranny” Director: Anthony Kaldellis.
Dec. 2008	M.A. Greek and Latin , Ohio State University.
May, 2006	B.A. Classical Studies , University of Missouri—Columbia.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

“The Narrator of the *Cyropaedia*: Making Cyrus Ideal.”
Solicited chapter submitted May 2021 to volume *Debating Cyrus: Leadership and Empire in Xenophon’s Cyropaedia*. Comments received February 2022. Revisions submitted April 2022. Volume accepted by book series—under external review by press as of February 2024. Volume passed external view, February 2025. Final corrections and author’s biography submitted April 2025. 4779 words.

“Themistogenes of Syracuse”
de Gruyter Greek & Roman Humanities Encyclopaedia.
Copyright signed. Forthcoming in 2025-2026. 4200 words.

“Finding a New Sophist: on Polyphony and Xenophon’s *Cyropaedia*.”
Illinois Classical Studies 47.2. Fall 2022. 269-292.

“On Xenophontic Friendship.”
TAPA 149.2. Autumn 2019. 261-286.

“Xenophon’s Democratic Pedagogy.”

Phoenix 71.3/4. Fall-winter/automne-hiver 2017. 230-249.

“Xenophon the Philosopher: *E Pluribus Plura*.”

American Journal of Philology, 138.4. December 2017. 605-640.

“Achilles' Brutish Hellenism: Greek Identity in the *Heroikos*.”

Classical Philology, 112.1. January 2017. 63-85.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS IN REVIEW PROCESS

“Xenophon the Great: Dialectic in the *Anabasis*.”

Chapter submitted January 2022 to volume *Leadership and Authority in Xenophon*. Comments received November 2022. Abstract for publisher submitted November 2022. Chapter revisions submitted April 2023. Book approved by series editors and sent to external reviewers by publisher May 2025. 13044 words.

“Xenophon's Solution to the Problems of Writing: Dialectic Genre.”

For volume resulting from panel at *The Celtic Conference in Classics* in July 2022.

Abstract submitted September 2022. Positive reader reports from external readers in May 2024.

Chapter submitted to book editors November 2024. 9870 words.

“The Polemical Xenophon: Simonides as an Attack on the Aristippus of *Memorabilia* 2.1.”

For volume resulting from panel at the *International Society for Socratic Studies, Latin America Regional Meeting: Intra-Socratic Polemics* in October 2023.

Chapter submitted to book editors December 2024. 9087 words.

“‘I know myself now’: Xenophon, Apollo, and Scyllus.”

For special issue of *Illinois Classical Studies* resulting from *International Society for Socratic Studies North American Region* 2024 meeting. Submitted February 2025. 8846 words.

“The End(s) Of Education in Xenophon, or the Choice of Euthydemus.”

For edited volume resulting from *International Xenophon Society* 2024 meeting. Abstract submitted December 1st, 2024. Chapter submitted to book editors April 2025. 7492 words.

“Sophocles the Stymphalian,” *de Gruyter Greek & Roman Humanities Encyclopaedia*.

Contribution solicited; submitted September 2025.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS IN PREPARATION

Monograph: *The Pedagogy of Praxis: Xenophon's Philosophical Dialectic*

As of August 2025, drafts of four of six projected chapters (not including introduction and conclusion).

Included, by invitation, as a prospective volume in a proposal for a new series via Bloomsbury, *Expanding Ancient Philosophy*. Proposal submitted in November 2024.

“The *Xenophontopaedia*; or, the Education(s) of Xenophon” on topic of ‘Xenophon and education: public and private school systems, dialogic learning and its effect on interlocutors, didactic narrators and exempla.’

Submission invited for *Bloomsbury Handbook of Xenophon*. Due March 2026.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2026 “Ischomachus: a Man Resistant to Dialectic.” *International Xenophon Society*, Santiago de Chile. Upcoming: March 2026.

2025 “Thinking Against Ideas in the *Memorabilia*.” *Socratica VI*, University of Crete.

- 2024 “Xenophon’s Socrates and the Divine Laws of Human Behavior.” *Sokratikoi Logoi, Platonikoi Logoi*, Pontificia Universidad Católica Argentina.
- 2024 “On (Not) Becoming Adequate: Pedagogical Self-deception in Xenophon.” *International Xenophon Society*. Universidad de Buenos Aires and Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas, Argentina.
- 2024 “Xenophon’s Impious Failure to Know Himself—and the Croesean Outcome.” *International Society for Socratic Studies, North American Regional Meeting: Gods, piety, and impiety in the Socratic Philosophers*. University of Illinois.
- 2023 “The Polemical Xenophon: Simonides as an Attack on the Aristippus of *Memorabilia* 2.1.” *International Society for Socratic Studies, Latin America Regional Meeting: Intra-Socratic Polemics*. Universidad de Buenos Aires and Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas, Argentina.
- 2022 “Socratic Dialectic as the Genre of Xenophon’s Corpus.” *The Celtic Conference in Classics*. École normale supérieure de Lyon, France.
- 2022 “Finding a New Sophist: on Polyphony in Xenophon.” *Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy 45th Annual Ancient Philosophy Workshop*. University of Illinois.
- 2021 “Xenophon the Great and the Dialectic of the *Anabasis*.” *Xenophon 2021*. United Kingdom. Four-week conference-workshop held over Zoom. University of Liverpool.
- 2019 “The *Hieron*, the *Memorabilia*, and Philosopher-Kings.” *Classical Association of the Middle West and South (CAMWS)*.
- 2019 “Historiography and Propaganda in the *Mirabiles Auscultationes*.” *Kansas Association of Historians*.
- 2018 “The Vicious Rich: Socrates’ Democratic Philosophy in Xenophon.” *CAMWS*.
- 2016 “The Alcibiadic Xenophon: Where Did It All Go Right?” *CAMWS*.
- 2015 “Villainous Persian Kings: Xenophon’s Cyrus Reconsidered,” *International Conference on the Ancient Novel, Fifth Meeting*.
- 2015 “Cowards and Slaves: Greeks on the Periphery in the *Cyropaedia*,” *CAMWS*.
- 2014 “Socrates on the *Cyropaedia*’s Pedagogy: Persia’s Zero Tolerance Education,” *CAMWS*.
- 2013 “Gobryas’ Unreliable Speech; *Cyropaedia* 4.6.1-10,” *CAMWS*.
- 2012 “Reclaiming Greek Identity: Hostility to ‘Others’ in *Heroikos* 56-57,” *CAMWS*.
- 2011 “Allusions to Alexander in Heliodorus; Guiding the Reader’s Expectations in *Aithiopika* 9.3-22,” *CAMWS*.

INVITED TALKS

- 2025 “The Inadequacy of Apollo’s τὸ γνῶθι σαυτόν: Xenophon, Croesus, and Scyllus.” College of Charleston, *Classical Charleston Lecture Series*. February 2025.
- 2022 “The First War Memoir: Xenophon of Athens’ ‘Auto’biography.” *Kansas Military History Seminar Lecture Series*.
- 2020 “Against Pleasure: Xenophon’s *Hieron* as Critique of Aristippus.” University of Kansas, Department of

Classics.

- 2016 “Socrates and the Case for Illiteracy: Plato in Twenty-Five Minutes.” *The Remnant Trust Hale Library Lecture Series*, Kansas State University.
- 2016 “Fog of War and Fog of History in Xenophon’s *Cyropaedia*,” *Kansas State University Interdisciplinary Research Group Lecture Series*.
- 2015 “Who is ‘I’? Narrative Identity in Xenophon of Athens,” *Kansas State University, Department of Modern Languages Signatures Lecture Series*.

AWARDS AND GRANTS

- 2025 Application for K-State Faculty Development Award to attend *Socratica VI* in Greece in October 2025.
- 2024-2025 Full year sabbatical.
- 2024 K-State University Faculty Development Award.
Awarded \$3,000 to support travel to Argentina in November to attend *International Xenophon Society* conference.
- 2022 “Listening to Learning: An Oral History of Rural Kansas Education.” Joint application with colleagues from Theatre and the Primary Texts Certificate for a Kansas State University Chapman Center Interdisciplinary Research Grant.
We requested \$12,000 to fund a pilot project in public humanities in Kansas centered on historical experiences with public education.
December 1, 2022: advanced as one of two finalists. Ultimately not selected.
- 2022 Open/Alternative Textbook Initiative for Medical Terminology; Kansas State University, Hale Library.
Awarded \$5000 to fund development of alternative textbook for high enrolling Medical Terminology course.
- 2022 2022 Kansas State University Honors Program Teaching and Mentoring Award.
Awarded \$500 in prize money.
- 2022 K-State University Small Research Grant.
Awarded \$3,500 to support travel to France in July to attend *The Celtic Conference in Classics*.
- 2021 CASE Collaborative Recruitment Grant recipient, as part of the RESC.
Grant to fund World Passport event bringing middle schoolers to campus for humanities and languages engagement.
- 2020 K-State Arts & Sciences Faculty Enhancement Award: “Historiography in Xenophon: a New Philosophical Paradigm.”
Fully funded award of \$10,000 to support residency at University of Cincinnati Burnam Classics Library and Tytus Summer Fellowship. Residency canceled due to Covid; funds repurposed to acquire archival materials.
- 2020 University of Cincinnati Classics Department’s Cincinnati Summer Residency at the John Miller Burnam Classics Library.
I was chosen as the alternate, but the Tytus residency was canceled due to Covid before final determination was made (as far as I know).

- 2020 Co-organizer of the Initiative for Professionalization, Recruitment, and Outreach for the Humanities
Developed proposal for Provost's Strategic Initiative Fund to organize an annual recruitment event series for Humanities at K-State. Initial request for \$47,900. Selected for test run supported by partial funding via the A&S Dean's office. Shelved due to Covid.
- 2018 K-State University Small Research Grant: "Xenophon, Alcibiades, and the Execution of Socrates."
Fully funded award of \$3,168 for acquisition of new research materials due to Hale Library fire.

TEACHING

Kansas State University: Courses Offered Annually:

Language Courses (Latin courses offered annually since 2013/2014):

Latin 101: Introduction to Latin 1
Latin 102: Introduction to Latin 2
Latin 301: Intermediate Latin 1—Prose
Latin 302: Intermediate Latin 2—Poetry

Greek 101: Introduction to Greek 1 (Fall 2020, Fall 2022)
Greek 102: Introduction to Greek 2 (Spring 2021, Spring 2023)

Literature Courses:

CLSCS 501: Literature in Translation (twice annually 2013-2017; annually 2018-2022):

Topics include:
Monsters—Human and Inhuman—in Classical Literature (twice)
A Survey of the Greek and Roman Novel (thrice)
Ethical Problems in Classical Literature (once)
Gender, Sexuality, and Patriotism in Roman Literature (once)
Humor, Comedy, and Satire in Classical Literature (twice)
A Survey of Classical Mythology (twice)

The Great Conversation (annually 2014-2023)

DAS 300: team-taught core course for the Primary Texts Certificate. I teach for two weeks each fall semester.

Topics include:
The Odyssey, Oedipus & Antigone, and the Republic

History course (annually 2018-2024):

Topics include:
HIST 301, 581, or 597: Gender and Sexuality in Greece and Rome (2018, 2021, 2024)
HIST 566: History and Culture of Rome (2019, 2022)
HIST 565: History and Culture of Greece (2020, 2023)

Independent studies. For Classics Minors.

CLSCS 549: Independent Studies (supported by Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Research Awards) (thirteen times since 2015):

Research topics have included the rights of women in Imperial Rome, Athenian priestesses, a biography of Alcibiades, Roman Civil War Propaganda, Augustus' exploitation of religious beliefs, a survey of narratological scholarship, and the mapping of every physical location mentioned in Lycophron's *Alexandra*.

Other Courses Offered:

Medical and Scientific Terminology. High-enrolling intro-level service course for STEM students.

CLSCS 105: M & S Terminology (two to three times annually, 2013-2016)

Initially fully in person

Since 2016-2020, hybrid

Since 2020, fully online

Literature courses

MLANG 280: First Year Seminar.

Leaving Home for the First Time in Classical Literature (once)

Independent Studies

CLSCS 549: A KU undergrad who needed a 300-level Latin course over the summer (2019)

CLSCS 549: A trial run of Medical Terminology as a hybrid course with three undergrads (2016)

SERVICE

Classics Section

2023-2024	Director of the Kansas State University Medical Terminology Program. Supervise every aspect of curricular development, teaching, outreach, and recruitment for Medical Terminology. This involves supervision of a GTA and at least three undergraduate student workers. Medical Terminology enrolls between 250 and 300 students per year.
2015-2024	Director of Classical Studies at Kansas State University. Supervise every aspect of curricular development, teaching, outreach, and recruitment for Classical Studies at K-State. Under my leadership, Classics enrollment has bucked the K-State trend of declining enrollment. From Fall 2018 to Spring 2022, enrollment by Student Credit Hour in the Department of Modern Languages has declined 36% overall, with some individual languages declining up to 60%. In this same period, enrollment in the Classics section—including Medical Terminology and its course delivered annually via History—has increased 24.7%. In this same period, ten Classics minors have received funded awards from the College to pursue guided research with the section. I have also cultivated outside funding opportunities which help award several thousand dollars annually of additional need-based scholarships; moreover, they fund a Social Media worker. I have also cultivated paid Classics Minor student workers who act as TAs for my Medical Terminology course in both spring and summer.
2015-2024	Adviser for Classical Studies. Advise all Classics minors, Classics/Latin students, and prospective students.
2017-2024	Coordinator of Classics Teaching Assistants. Supervise three undergrad/graduate TAs in the spring and one in the summer semesters.
2019-2023	Supervisor of Classical Studies Social Media manager. Supervise the student worker running the Classics social media accounts.
2019-2024	Run multiple weekly reading and writing groups for Latin and Greek students.
2013-2015	Adviser for Latin program.

Advise all Latin students.

2013-2015 Coordinator of proposal for Minor in Classical Studies.
Developed, proposed, and shepherded the Classical Studies minor through the curricular process.

Department

2025-2026 Policies and Procedures Committee.

2023-2024 Coordinator of *Signatures* Lecture Series.

2023-2024 Chair of Search Committee for external search for Teaching Assistant Professor of Classical Studies.

2023-2024 Search Committee for external search for Modern Languages Department Head.

2023-2024 Chair of Modern Languages Undergraduate Recruitment Committee.
Lead and coordinate committee activities; work with other committees, units, and our department head on producing and pursuing committee agenda. Help coordinate department outreach both internally and externally.

2023-2024 RSCAD committee co-chair
Help coordinate certain research activities for department, including *Signatures* Lecture Series, *Initials Undergraduate and Graduate Research Forum*.

2021-2023 Member of Modern Languages Recruitment, Events, and Scholarship Committee.
Participate in committee activities; various supervisory responsibilities delegated to me (e.g., our under/graduate research forum, *Initials*). Help supervise scholarship awards for department.

2020-present Coordinator of proposal for Secondary Major in Classical and Ancient Mediterranean Studies.
In the process of developing a secondary major for Classical and Ancient Mediterranean Studies. This will be the only program in Kansas at a public university high school teacher certification and the Kansas Latin praxis exam.

2017-2023 Coordinator and director of Medical Terminology (twice annually)
Design, grade, record lectures and provide all instruction, develop curriculum, advertise and recruit, and supervise three student workers and a graduate student for a service course that currently enrolls 250-300 undergraduates annually.
Coordination also included (in 2018-2019) extensive involvement with the Faculty Senate curricular review process to successfully prevent the College of Health and Human Sciences from duplicating our course to siphon enrollment.

2017-2023 Environmental Health and Safety Officer, Modern Languages.
Supervised and helped coordinate safety. Liaised with Modern Languages staff and Facilities. This also supported my work on the College Safety Committee.

2019-2023 Co-coordinator of *Initials Undergraduate and Graduate Research Forum*
Coordinate, develop, advertise for, and manage the annual research forum.

2019-2022 Development of Legal Terminology.
Co-developer of a Legal Terminology online course offered for the first time in 2023.

2021	CASE Collaborative Recruitment Grant recipient Helped develop a grant application to support a recruitment event on campus.
2015-2021	Undergraduate Advisory Committee, Department of Modern Languages. Participate in committee activities; delegated various supervisory responsibilities (e.g., <i>Initials</i>).
<u>College</u>	
2023-2026	Arts & Sciences College Committee on Planning Elected to a three-year term by Arts and Humanities departments. Confidential advisory committee for Dean and Associate Dean of Academics on topics including College budget, departmental hiring requests, and future planning.
2024	Phi Beta Kappa honorary inductee. Inducted into Phi Beta Kappa as an honorary member in recognition of my mentorship of recent Phi Beta Kappa inductees. Also involved in Phi Beta Kappa leadership.
2023-2024	Arts & Sciences Freshman Wildcat Mentorship mentor. Provide mentorship support to individual new freshmen. I was assigned two in 2023. One participated and asked to renew for a second semester, so we continued our mentorship into the spring.
2021-2022	Bachelor of Arts Revision Committee Part of an interdepartmental committee to craft a proposal to modernize the K-State BA.
2019-2022	Member of the K-State Humanities Career Collective Member of committee organizing professionalization events for Humanities undergraduates.
2018-present	College of Arts & Sciences Safety Committee Member of the committee that supervises Health and Safety within Arts and Sciences as the non-STEM member. Responsibilities included liaising with thirteen department heads across Arts and Sciences for the annual collection and reporting of safety data and incidents, and my role as Health and Safety officer for Modern Languages.
2014-present	Honors Contracts and Capstone Projects Supervised many honors contracts and at least three Honors Capstone Senior projects.
Fall 2019	Supervisor, three “Research for All” undergrad projects Supervised three “ten hour” research projects giving students a first exposure to research projects and poster presentations.
2017-2018	Coordinator of proposal for Minor in Medieval and Renaissance Studies. Attempt to develop a minor to support medieval studies at K-State with colleagues from History, English, and Art History.
<u>University</u>	
2025-2028	Truth Community Healing and Transformation Campus Center Committee.
2025-	University Interdisciplinary Majors Council.

2025-2028	Out-of-State Fees Appeals Committee. Committee established by statute of the state of Kansas to serve as a formal second-level judicial appellate body to facilitate the right under Kansas law of a student determined to be out-of-state by the Registrar to appeal. We receive a packet of FERPA-protected information generated by the student for their appeal, conduct a formal interview with the student, deliberate, and then vote. If the student disagrees with our decision, they have one final recourse of an appeal to judicial review by a Kansas county judge (although this last stage is not free for the student); this judicial review is based upon our committee's deliberations and the student's documentation.
2024	Collaborator on Staley School of Leadership Mission and Vision Statements Invited, as partner of the Staley School of Leadership, to support the School by collaborating on the development of their new Mission and Vision statements.
2023-2024	Campus-wide Undergraduate Research Symposium Proposed, spearheaded and, with the collaboration and support of the Office of Scholar Development and Undergraduate Research within the Provost's Office, led the transformation of the Modern Languages annual student research forum into an annual university-wide undergraduate research symposium. The first instantiation of this event included 116 presenters who represented six of the seven colleges at K-State that serve undergraduates. According to the Office of Scholar Development, this was the largest undergraduate research event in the history of K-State.
2024	Review Committee for the selection of students for KS Undergraduate Research Day at the Kansas State Capitol.
2023-2024	University Library Committee. Advisory committee for the Dean of the Libraries.
2023	Review Committee for the internal selection of K-State nominees for the postgraduate British Marshall Scholarship.
2023	McNair Mentor. Intensively mentored a McNair student through a summer project on Apuleius' <i>Metamorphoses</i>.
2016 and 2021	K-State representative for the Kansas Board of Regents Core Outcomes articulation process for the transfer matrix of Medical Terminology within Kansas. Worked as representative of Kansas State alongside Kansan colleagues and a representative from KBOR to articulate and standardize student learning outcomes, goals, and structure of Medical Terminology courses offered at all Kansas Regents Universities.
2020	MO-KAN-NE McNair summer workshop. Developed and taught two days for regional Missouri, Kansas, and Nebraska McNair summer workshop on preparation for the GRE.
2022-present	Graduate faculty, Kansas State University.
2022-present	K-State University Honors Program, founding Affiliated Faculty.

Profession

2022-present	Member of the International Society for Socratic Studies.
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2021-present	Member of International Xenophon Society. Founded 2021.
2018-present	Editorial Board, <i>Live Ideas; Undergraduate Primary Texts Journal</i> . Blind review articles, encourage submission of articles by students, and participate in normal board activities.
2016-present	Editorial Board, <i>Studies in 20th & 21st Century Literature</i> . Copyedit about one article a year in addition to normal board activities.
2016; 2019	Panel Moderator, <i>CAMWS</i> . Moderator of general topic panels.
2014	Panel Organizer, "Theoretical and Practical Wisdom in Classical Greek Thought," <i>CAMWS</i> . Organized and moderated a philosophy panel at <i>CAMWS</i> .

GRADUATE STUDENT SUPERVISION

Sydney Wolgast, History MA, committee member.
Thesis: "Genius equall to that which wrought another most beautifull Poem"; Classical Communication: Colonial American Women and Classical Writing.
Completed in Fall 2024.

Quenton Sass, French MA, committee member.

STUDENT AWARD PROJECTS SUPERVISED

2024	K-State Arts & Sciences Undergraduate Research Award. Four semester-long independent study research projects.
2023	McNair Scholars Undergraduate Mentor. One semester-long independent study research project. "Pinning a Tail on the Donkey? Identity and Irony in Apuleius' <i>Golden Ass</i> ."
2023	K-State Arts & Sciences Undergraduate Research Award. Two semester-long independent study research projects.
2022	K-State Arts & Sciences Undergraduate Research Award. Three semester-long independent study research projects.
2021	K-State Arts & Sciences Undergraduate Research Award. One semester-long independent study research project.
2020	K-State Arts & Sciences Undergraduate Research Award. Three semester-long independent study research projects.
2019	K-State Arts & Sciences Undergraduate Research Award. Three semester-long independent study research projects.
2017	K-State Arts & Sciences Undergraduate Research Award. One semester-long independent study research project.
2016	K-State Arts & Sciences Undergraduate Research Award. One semester-long independent study research project.
2015	K-State Arts & Sciences Undergraduate Research Award. One semester-long independent study research project.

REFERENCES

Available upon request.