

# Vincent Tomasso

Department of Classical Studies  
Trinity College  
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## **Education**

- 2004-2010 Stanford University  
Ph.D. in Classics (conferred 2010)  
Dissertation: “‘Cast in Later Grecian Mould’: Quintus of Smyrna's Reception of Homer.” Director: Dr. Richard Martin.
- 2000-2004 University of Washington  
Bachelor of Arts *magna cum laude* in Classics (conferred 2004)  
Honors Senior Thesis: “Paradigm for the Achaeans: Heraklean Themes in the Trojan Epic Cycle.” Director: Dr. Olga Levaniouk.

## **Employment**

- Fall 2016-present Assistant Professor of Classical Studies at Trinity College
- Fall 2015-Spring 2016 Visiting Assistant Professor of Classics at the University of South Florida
- Spring 2012-Spring 2015 Visiting Assistant Professor of Classics at Ripon College
- Fall 2012 Mellon Exchange Program Visiting Assistant Professor of Classics at Lawrence University
- Fall 2010-Spring 2012 Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow at Ripon College

## **Research and Teaching Interests**

Archaic Greek poetry (esp. Homer and Hesiod)  
Imperial Greek literature (esp. poetry)  
Reception studies  
Mythology and folklore  
Popular culture

## **Publications**

### **Refereed Journal Articles**

1. 2020. "The Immortality Theme in the *Odyssey* and the *Telegony*." *The Classical Journal* 116.2: 129-51.
2. 2016. "Rhapsodic Receptions of Homer in Multiform Proems of the *Iliad*." *American Journal of Philology* 137 (3): 377-409.
3. 2016. "Andy Warhol's *Alexander the Great*: an Ancient Portrait for Alexander Iolas in a Postmodern Frame." Co-authored with Travis Nygard (Art History, Ripon College). *Classical Receptions Journal* 8 (2): 253-275.

### **Book Chapters**

1. 2022. "Polychronic Intertextuality in Quintus of Smyrna's *Posthomerica*." In *Quintus Smyrna's Posthomerica. Writing Homer Under Rome*, ed. Silvio Bar, Leyla Ozbek, and Emma Greensmith. Edinburgh University Press. pp. 229-44.
2. 2018. "The Gods Problem in Gene Wolfe's *Soldier of the Mist* (1986)." In *Once and Future Antiquities in Science Fiction and Fantasy*, ed. Brett Rogers and Benjamin Eldon Stevens. Bloomsbury Academic Press. pp. 172-82.
3. 2018. "Re-(en)gendering Heroism: Reflective Nostalgia for Peplum's Golden Age of Heroes in *Hercules: The Legendary Journeys* 2.14." In *Screening the Golden Ages of the Classical Tradition*, ed. Meredith E. Safran. Edinburgh University Press. pp. 27-43.
4. 2018. "Ancient (Anti)Heroes on Screen and Classical Antiquity Post-9/11." In *Epic Heroes on Screen*, ed. Antony Augoustakis and Stacie Raucci. Edinburgh University Press. pp. 206-221.
5. 2015. "The Twilight of Olympus: Deicide and the End of the Greek Gods." In *Classical Myth on Screen*, ed. Monica S. Cyrino and Meredith E. Safran. Palgrave Macmillan. pp. 147-60.
6. 2015. "Classical Antiquity and Western Identity in *Battlestar Galactica*." In *Classical Traditions in Science Fiction*, ed. Brett Rogers and Benjamin Stevens. Oxford University Press. pp. 243-62.
7. 2013. "Gorgo at the Limits of Liberation in Zack Snyder's *300*." In *Screening Love and Sex in the Ancient World*, ed. Monica S. Cyrino. Palgrave Macmillan. pp. 113-126.
8. 2012. "The Fast and the Furious: the Reception of Homer in Triphiodorus' *Capture of Troy*." In *Brill's Companion to the Greek and Roman Epyllion*, ed. Manuel Baumbach and Silvio Bär. Brill. pp. 371-409. Reviewed by Maciver, *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2013.12.02.
9. 2011. "Hard-Boiled Hot Gates: Making the Classical Past Other in Frank Miller's *Sin City: The Big Fat Kill*." In *Classics and Comics*, ed. C. W. Marshall and George Kovacs. Oxford University Press. pp. 145-58. Reviewed by Relihan, *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2011.09.47.

## Reviews

1. 2020. Review of *Quintus Smyrnaeus. Posthomerica*, translated by Neil Hopkinson. *New England Classical Journal* 47 (1): 25-27.
2. 2015. Review of *Triphiodorus, The Sack of Troy*, by Laura Miguélez-Cavero. *The Classical Review* 65.2: 399-401.
3. 2011. Review of *Hero to Zero, Zero to Hero*, edited by Lydia Langerwerf and Cressida Ryan. *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2011.12.42.
4. 2008. Review of *Quintus Smyrnaeus: Transforming Homer in Second Sophistic Epic*, edited by Manuel Baumbach and Silvio Bär. *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2008.09.58.

## Other

1. 2019. Academic advisor for entry on “Gene Wolfe” in Gale/Cengage Learning’s *Literature Criticism Series*.
2. 2016. Report for [www.nerdist.com](http://nerdist.com) on the Greek lettering on Wonder Woman’s armor in the film *Batman v. Superman: Dawn of Justice* (Snyder 2016). Full report and video segment incorporating my report is available at <http://nerdist.com/wonder-woman-shield-batman-v-superman/> (originally posted 03/23/16).

## Teaching

Fall 2016-present, Trinity College, Assistant Professor

Amazons Then & Now

Ancient Greece on Film & TV

Ancient Pulp Fiction (& intermediate Greek component)

First-Year Seminar: Animal Tales

Humanities Gateway: Homer in Antiquity

Humanities Gateway: The Trojan War in Antiquity

Humanities Gateway: Heroes in Antiquity

Introduction to Classical and Biblical Greek I

Introduction to Classical and Biblical Greek II

Lucian (advanced Greek)

Mythology

Science Fiction Ancient & Modern (& intermediate Greek component)

Songs of War from Ancient Greece

The Trojan Wars (& intermediate Greek component)

Vine & Cross: Christians & Pagans (& intermediate Greek component)

Gender & Performance (& intermediate/advanced Greek component)

Fall 2015-Spring 2016, University of South Florida, Visiting Assistant Professor

Ancient Greece on Film and Television

Beginning Latin I and II

Daily Life in Ancient Greece

Daily Life in Ancient Rome

Spring 2013-Spring 2015, Ripon College, Visiting Assistant Professor

Advanced Latin: Readings in Latin Literature

Ancient Greece on Film and Television

Ancient Mediterranean Women

The Ancient World on Screen

Emperors, Entertainments, and Edifices

Greek Art and Archaeology

Greek Greats: Homer to Cleopatra

Mythology

The Mythology of Hercules

The Mythology of Troy

Roman Art and Archaeology

Fall 2012, Lawrence University, Mellon Exchange Visiting Professor

Advanced Greek: Sophocles' *Ajax*

Intermediate Latin: Introduction to Literature

Fall 2010-Spring 2012, Ripon College, ACM-Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow

The Ancient World on Screen

Advanced Greek: Homer

Advanced Latin: Catullus

First-Year Seminar: Heroes Then and Now

Spring 2009, San Francisco State University, instructor

Greek and Roman Mythology

March 2007-August 2010, independent course instructor

Latin Literature and Prose Composition

2006-2008, Stanford University, instructor of record

Beginning Latin 3

Intensive Introduction to New Testament Greek

Intermediate Greek: Homer

2006, Stanford University, Teaching Assistant

Greek Mythology. Lecturer: Dr. Patrick Hunt.

Serious Laughter at Athens. Lecturer: Dr. Richard Martin.

### **Selected Presentations and Lectures**

**2021.** "Stuck in the Middle with You: Quintus of Smyrna's Reception of Homer."

Presentation at the annual meeting of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South. virtual. 4/9/21.

**2020.** "The Many Faces of Penelope." Presentation in conjunction with the Sonia Plumb Dance Company (Hartford, CT) (invited). Hartford, CT. 11/12/20. Note: this talk was

funded by a grant from CT Humanities and presented with the participation of the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum.

- 2019.** “The Homeric Arena: Quintus of Smyrna’s Disruption of Nostalgia in the *Posthomerica*.” Presentation at Skidmore College (invited). Saratoga Springs, NY. 10/28/19.
- 2018.** “Proposal for *Nostalgia in Quintus of Smyrna’s Posthomerica*.” Presentation at meeting XX of MACTe held at Boston College. 10/27/18.
- 2018.** “The Elite and Popular Reception of Classical Antiquity in the Works of Cy Twombly and Roy Lichtenstein.” Presentation at the annual meeting of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South. Albuquerque, NM. 04/12/18.
- 2017.** “You Can Never Go Home Again: Retrofitting the Classical Identity of the United States in *Wonder Woman* (Jenkins 2017).” Presentation at the annual Film & History conference. Milwaukee, WI. 11/02/17.
- 2017.** “Classical Antiquity and American Identity in *Wonder Woman* Through the Ages.” Lecture held at Ripon College (invited). Ripon, WI. 10/31/17.
- 2017.** “Teaching Ancient Greece on Screen.” Presentation at the meeting of the Classical Association of the Atlantic States. New York City, NY. 10/06/17.
- 2017.** “Pop! Go the Classics: Pop Art and Classical Antiquity.” Presentation at the Celtic Conference in Classics held at McGill University. Montreal, Canada. 07/21/17.
- 2017.** “Concluding the Age of Heroes in the *Odyssey* and the *Telegony*.” Presentation at meeting XVII of MACTe held at the University of New Hampshire (04/01/17).
- 2016.** “The Representation of Greek Gods in the Peplum Genre.” Presentation at the annual Film & History conference. Milwaukee, WI (10/28/16).
- 2016.** “Faded Gods in Petersen’s Film *Troy* (2004).” Invited lecture at Ripon College. Ripon, WI (10/25/16).
- 2016.** “Those Crazy Greeks!: Federico Fellini’s Reception of Greek Culture in *Fellini-Satyricon* (1969).” Presentation at the meeting of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South. Williamsburg, VA (03/18/16).
- 2015.** “The Journeys of the Ten Thousand in *The Warriors* (Hill 1979).” Presentation at the Film & History conference. Madison, WI (11/06/15).
- 2015.** “Classics Post-9/11 and New Heroes on Film.” Presentation at the New Heroes on Screen Conference. Delphi, Greece.
- 2015.** “Hercules for Americans: the Disney-fication of a Greek Myth.” Invited lecture for Dr. Jackie Murray’s myth class at the University of Kentucky. Lexington, KY.
- 2015.** “The Gods Problem in Gene Wolfe’s *Soldier of the Mist*.” Presentation at “The Once and Future Antiquity: Classical Traditions in Science Fiction and Fantasy” conference held at Puget Sound University. Tacoma, WA.
- 2014.** “Re-making the Golden Age of the Peplum in *Hercules: The Legendary Journeys* (1995-1999).” Presentation at the Film & History conference. Madison, WI.
- 2014.** “Alexander in the ’80s: Interpreting Microreferences to Classical Antiquity in

Modern Media.” Presentation on the presidential panel at the Classical Association of the Middle West and South. Waco, TX.

**2013.** “Nestor and Memory in the *Posthomeric*.” Invited presentation at a workshop on Quintus of Smyrna. London, UK.

**2013.** “Engaging the Homeric Past in Simmons’ *Ilium* (2003) and *Olympos* (2005).” Presentation at the “Swords, Sorcery, Sandals and Space” conference at the University of Liverpool. Liverpool, UK.

**2013.** “Frank Miller’s Thermopylaes.” Invited presentations at Beloit College and Lawrence University. Beloit and Appleton, WI.

**2013.** Organizer and Respondent, “Claiming Troy: The Reception of Homer in Imperial Greek Literature.” Meeting of the American Philological Association. Seattle, WA.

**2012.** “God is Dead: the Fatalities of Olympians on Screen.” Presentation at the Film & History conference. Milwaukee, WI.

**2012.** “Panopticism in Quintus of Smyrna’s *Posthomeric*.” Pillinger lecture at UW-Madison. Madison, WI. (invited)

**2011.** “Sins of the Father: the *Odyssey*, the *Telegony*, and the Conclusion of the Heroic Age.” Presentation at the *Nostos* Conference (University of South Carolina Comparative Literature Conference). Columbia, SC.

**2011.** “Old Gods Die Hard: Greek Religion, Mysticism, and Science in *Battlestar Galactica*.” Presentation at the meeting of the American Philological Association. San Antonio, TX.

**2010.** “The Failure of Empowerment: Gorgo in Zack Snyder’s *300*.” Presentation at the Film & History conference. Milwaukee, WI.

**2009.** “The Fast and the Furious: the Literary and Cultural Position of Triphiodorus’ *Capture of Troy*.” Presentation at the conference “The Epyllion: a Genre Without a History?” University of Zürich, Zürich, Switzerland.

**2009.** “Feel the Wrath of Their Anger: Aristoxenus’ Proem to the *Iliad* and the Rhetoric of Rage.” Presentation at the meeting of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South. Minneapolis, MN.

**2009.** “Augustus in the *Mezzogiorno*: the Role of the Roman Past in Constructing Italian-American Ethnic Identity.” Presentation at the meeting of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South. Minneapolis, MN.

**2008.** “Epic Authority: Quintus of Smyrna’s Construction of Poetic Identity (*Posthomeric* 12.306-313).” Presentation at the meeting of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South. Tucson, AZ.

**2008.** “Thermopylae in Frank Miller’s *Sin City*: ‘The Big Fat Kill.’” Presentation at the annual meeting of the American Philological Association. Chicago, IL.

## **Awards, Scholarships, and Grants**

- 2020-2021 Center for Teaching and Learning fellow  
Trinity College (Hartford, CT)
- 2015 May Bumby Severy Award  
Ripon College (Ripon, WI)  
“The May Bumby Severy, Class of 1908, Award, given in recognition of excellence in undergraduate teaching.”
- 2010-2012 ACM-Andrew W. Mellon postdoctoral fellow in the Classics  
Ripon College (Ripon, WI)
- 2009-2010 Geballe Fellow  
Humanities Center, Stanford University (Stanford, CA)
- 2006 “Homer in the Second Millennium BC,” Summer Seminar  
Center for Hellenic Studies (Washington, DC)
- 2004-2009 Fellowships  
Department of Classics, Stanford University (Stanford, CA)
- 2003-2004 Jim Greenfield Undergraduate Scholarship  
Meg Greenfield Essay Prize  
Department of Classics, University of Washington (Seattle, WA)  
Phi Beta Kappa scholarship and membership  
University of Washington (Seattle, WA)

## **Service**

### **Conferences & Panels Organized & Moderated**

- 2018.** Co-moderator of CTW undergraduate symposium panel. Trinity College.
- 2018.** Meeting XIX of MACTe (Massachusetts and Connecticut extended) for junior and non-tenure-track Classics faculty. Trinity College.
- 2018.** “Popular Classics Revisited.” Meeting of the Classical Association of the Middle, West, and South. Albuquerque, NM.
- 2013.** “Claiming Troy: The Reception of Homer in Imperial Greek Literature.” Meeting of the American Philological Association. Seattle, WA.

### **Peer Review**

- 2021.** Referee for an article submitted to *Classical Journal*.
- 2020.** Referee for a book manuscript submitted to McFarland Press.
- 2019.** Referee for a book proposal submitted to Liverpool University Press.
- 2018.** Referee for an article submitted to *Transactions of the American Philological Association*.
- 2017.** Referee for a book manuscript submitted to McGill-Queen’s University Press.
- 2017.** Referee for an article submitted to *Classical Journal*.
- 2017.** Referee for an article submitted to *Classical World*.

**2016.** Referee for an article submitted to *Classical World*.

**2016.** Referee for an article submitted to *Classical Receptions Journal*.

**2014.** Referee for an article submitted to *Illinois Classical Studies*.

### **Service to Trinity College**

**fall 2021-spring 2022.** Academic Affairs Committee member (elected).

**2020.** Search Committee for Visiting Assistant Professor of Classical Studies.

**2017-present.** Faculty advisor to Eta Sigma Phi.

**2019-2020.** Co-president of the Archaeological Institute of America-Hartford chapter.

**2017- 2019.** Interim president of the Archaeological Institute of America-Hartford chapter.

**2018.** Instruction in Technology in Education Committee (ITEC) member (elected).

### **Service to the Profession**

**2010-2015.** Phi Beta Kappa chapter. Ripon College.

**2010-2015.** Member, Supervisory Committee, Ripon College Classical Antiquities Collection.

**2009.** Co-organizer of workshop “‘Are You Receiving Me?’: The Practices and Problems of Reception Studies.” Department of Classics, Stanford University.

2006-2009. Student librarian for the Department of Classics, Stanford University.

### **Campus Presentations**

**2016.** “Greek for Amazons: Wonder Woman’s Words Through the Ages.” Moore Lecture for the Trinity College Department of Classics.

**2016.** “Achronistic [sic] Spartans in 300.” Lecture for the Classical Society and Foam Fighting Club at the University of South Florida.

**2015.** “Iphigenia & Friends in the Hall of Mirrors.” Lecture accompanying Ripon College’s production of *Iphigenia at Aulis*.

**2014.** “Think College Early” program. Lecture and demonstration for local middle school students to encourage them to go to college and take courses in Classics.

### **References**

Dr. Monica Cyrino (University of New Mexico)	pandora@unm.edu
Dr. Eddie Lowry (Ripon College)	lowrye@ripon.edu
Dr. Richard Martin (Stanford University)	rpmartin@stanford.edu