

SARA R. JOHNSON

Associate Professor
Department of Literatures, Cultures and Languages
365 Fairfield Way, Unit 1057
University of Connecticut
Storrs, CT 06269-1057

22 Oliva Ct
East Hartford, CT 06108
(860) 289-8897
sara.johnson@uconn.edu

Areas of Special Interest:

Hellenistic Judaism
Hellenistic History
Ancient Fictions
Classical Tradition in Japanese Anime

Education:

University of California at Berkeley	1992-1996	Ph.D.
University of California at Berkeley	1990-1992	M.A. (Roman History)
Oxford University (Somerville College)	1988-1990	B.A., First Class
Bryn Mawr College	1984-1988	B.A., Magna Cum Laude
Washington International School	grad. 1984	International Baccalaureate

Employment

Associate Professor, University of Connecticut at Storrs, 2004-present
Assistant Professor, University of Connecticut at Storrs, 1998-2004
Visiting Assistant Professor, University of Rochester, 1996-1998

Publications:

Monographs

Historical Fictions and Hellenistic Jewish Identity: Third Maccabees in its Cultural Context. Berkeley: University of California Press (2004).

Edited Volumes

Reading and Teaching Ancient Fiction: Greco-Roman, Early Jewish, and Christian Narrative. Edited by Sara R. Johnson, Ruben Dupertuis and Christine Shea. Writings from the Greco-Roman World. Atlanta, GA: SBL Press. In preparation.

Articles in Journals, Book Chapters, and Reference Works

- “Persecution.” *T&T Clark Companion to Second Temple Judaism*. Vols 1-2. Edited by Daniel M. Gurtner and Loren T. Stuckenbruck. London: Bloomsbury/T&T Clark, 2017 (in press).
- “Xerxes, Lost City in the Desert: Classical Allusions in *Fullmetal Alchemist*.” *Son of Classics and Comics*. Edited by G. Kovacs and C.W. Marshall. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016. 95-110.
- “3 Maccabees.” *Routledge Dictionary of Ancient Mediterranean Religions*. Edited by E. Orlin. New York: Routledge, 2016.
- “3 Maccabees.” *The T&T Clark Companion to the Septuagint*. Edited by J. Aitken. London: T&T Clark, 2015. 292-305.
- “Shining Genji and the Women of the Heian Court in the *Genji Monogatari*.” *Critical Insights: Gender, Sex, and Sexuality*. Edited by Margaret Breen. Amenia, NY: Salem Press/Grey House Publishing, 2014. 87-105.
- “Third Maccabees”. *Outside the Bible: Ancient Jewish Writings Not Included in Scripture*. Edited by L. Feldman, J. Kugel, and L. Schiffman. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 2013. 3:2681-2707.

- “3 Maccabees.” *Women’s Bible Commentary*. Revised and Updated. Edited by C. A. Newsom, S. H. Ringe, and J. E. Lapsley. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press. 2012. 450-454.
- “Court Tales.” *The Eerdmans Dictionary of Early Judaism*. Edited by J. Collins and D. Harlow. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2010. 489-491.
- “Maccabees, Third Book of.” *The Eerdmans Dictionary of Early Judaism*. Edited by J. Collins and D. Harlow. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2010. 907-909.
- “Novels.” *The Eerdmans Dictionary of Early Judaism*. Edited by J. Collins and D. Harlow. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2010. 1001-1004.
- “Novelistic Elements in Esther: Persian or Hellenistic, Jewish or Greek?” *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 67:4 (2005) 571-589.
- “Third Maccabees: Historical Fictions and the Shaping of Jewish Identity in the Hellenistic Period.” *Ancient Fiction: The Matrix of Early Jewish and Christian Narrative*. Edited by J. Brant, C.W. Hedrick and C. Shea. SBL Symposium Series 32. Atlanta, GA: Society of Biblical Literature (2005). 185-197.
- “Antiochus IV’s Procession at Daphne (166 BC): A Roman Triumph? A Case Study in the Relations of Rome and Syria 175-164 BC” *JAGNES* 4.1 (1993) 23-34.

Translations

- Ute E. Eisen. “Narrative Pathology or Strategy for Authorization and Making Present? Metalepsis in Early Christian Literature.” In *Reading and Teaching Ancient Fiction: Greco-Roman, Early Jewish, and Christian Narrative*. Translated from German. Writings from the Greco-Roman World. Atlanta, GA: SBL Press. In preparation.

Book Reviews

- Review of Susanna Drake, *Slandering the Jew: Sexuality and Difference in Early Christian Texts*. *Review of Biblical Literature* 5/2015.
- Review of C. Habicht, *Athens from Alexander to Antony*, trans. D. Schneider, Cambridge 1997, *New England Classical Journal*, February 2000.

Professional Talks:

- “A Weapon Called Poseidon and a Lost City Called Xerxes: Exotic Worldbuilding with Western Classics in Japanese Manga and Anime.” Paper (34 pp in MS) circulated in advance; presentation and discussion on March 25, 2017. UCHI (University of Connecticut Humanities Institute) Workshop, organized by the UConn Graphic Novel Initiative (co-chaired by Cathy Schlund-Vials and Harry van der Hulst): “Re-Reading, Re-Thinking, and Re-Seeing Comics: Language, Cognition, and Culture,” March 24-25, 2017. Storrs, CT.
- “Writing Fiction in the Shadow of Empire.” Presented as part of multi-day, multi-stream seminar “Writing Between Worlds: Multilingualism as a Creative Force.” Annual Meeting for the American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA), March 17-20, 2016. Cambridge, MA.
- “The Great Mirror: Historical Fictions at Court, From Hellenistic Egypt to Heian Japan.” Annual Meeting of the Society for Biblical Literature, November 24, 2014. San Diego, CA.
- “Migration and Diaspora - the Hellenistic Jewish Diaspora.” Spring 2014 Social Science and Humanities Research Forum, University of Connecticut. April 22, 2014.
- “Not Lost in Translation: The Greek Bible from Aristeas to the Rabbis.” Medieval Studies Outreach, University of Connecticut/Storrs. April 5, 2014.
- “Greek Drama and Noh Drama.” Annual Greek Day, Paideia, Storrs. November 4, 2013.
- “Writing Fictions in the Shadow of Empire: Court Tales from Josephus to Japan.” Regional Meeting (NE) of the Society for Biblical Literature, Newton, MA. April 27, 2012.
- “Writing Fictions in the Shadow of Empire.” UCHI Faculty Luncheon Series, University of Connecticut. April 19, 2011.
- “Framing Greek Civic Identity under Roman Empire: Syracuse and Athens in Chariton’s *Callirhoe*.” Panel: The Humanities and Diachronic Genres: The Open-ended Form of the Novel. Humanities Institute Tenth Anniversary Conference, University of Connecticut. April 7, 2011.
- “Writing Fictions in the Shadow of Empire: from the Second Sophistic to the Heian Imperial Court.” Annual Meeting of the Classical Association of New England, March 20, 2010.

Chair, Panel Session, "Ancient Fiction and Early Christian & Jewish Narrative: Literary Portraits." Annual Meeting of the Society for Biblical Literature, New Orleans, LA, November 24, 2009.

"The Many Afterlives of Nero." University of Connecticut Classics and Ancient History Club, April 21, 2009.

Conference organizer and President, Annual Meeting of the Classical Association of Connecticut, "Greeks, Romans and Others." Greater Hartford Classical Magnet School, Hartford, CT. October 21, 2006.

Panelist, Panel Review of *The Acts of Peter, Gospel Literature, and the Ancient Novel: Rewriting the Past*, by Christine Thomas (Oxford, 2003). Annual Meeting of the Society for Biblical Literature, Philadelphia, PA, November 21, 2005.

Chair, Introductory Remarks, Panel Discussion, "Gruen's Heritage and Hellenism: The Reinvention of Jewish Tradition." Annual Meeting of the Association for Jewish Studies, Boston, MA, December 18, 2000.

"Third Maccabees: A Jewish Novel? Historical Fictions and Jewish Self-Fashioning in the Hellenistic Period." Annual Meeting of the Society for Biblical Literature, Nashville, TN, November 20, 2000.

Panelist, Plenary Discussion, "Ecce Discipuli: Secondary/Post-Secondary Articulation." Annual Meeting of the Classical Association of Connecticut, Storrs, CT, October 14, 2000.

"Vox Populi in Fiction and History: From Thucydides to Chariton's Callirhoe (revised)." Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT, May 4, 2000.

Respondent, Ma'yan Jewish Feminist Research Group, New York, NY, April 6, 2000. Responding to paper read by Susan Marks, "Buried in Her Wedding Veil: Death Imagery and Jewish Brides in the Greco-Roman World."

"Novelistic Elements in Esther: Persian or Hellenistic, Jewish or Greek?" Annual Meeting of the Association for Jewish Studies, Chicago, IL, December 20, 1999.

"Vox Populi in Fiction and History: From Thucydides to Chariton's Callirhoe." Annual Meeting of the Classical Association of Connecticut, Hartford, CT, October 23, 1999.

"The Politics of Redaction: the Apocalyptic Reframing of the Court Tales in the Book of Daniel." Edson Memorial Lectures, University of Wisconsin-Madison, October 19, 1999.

"Imagining Identities: Hellenistic Jewish Historical Fictions." Judaic Studies Faculty Forum Luncheon Lectures, March 24, 1999.

"Daughter of Noah, Teacher of Homer: The Third Sibylline Oracle." University of Rochester, Rochester, NY, February 18, 1998. Also given, in revised form, for the CLCS Colloquium Series, at the University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT, November 2, 1998.

"Inebriated Elephants and Other Historical Curiosities: Third Maccabees, Jewish "Romance" and Hellenistic Jewish Identity." University of Rochester, Rochester, NY, April 23, 1996.

Fellowships, Scholarships and Academic Honors:

Junior Faculty Summer Fellowship	Summer 2000
Research Council (Small Grant)	1999-2000
1999 Edson Memorial Lectures, invited junior scholar	Oct. 1999
Mabelle McLeod Lewis Memorial Fellowship	1995-1996
Newhouse Foundation Fellowship	1995-1996

Teaching Experience:

My regular teaching responsibilities at Connecticut include elementary Greek and intermediate Latin (on a rotating basis), a large lecture course in Roman Civilization offered each spring, a variety of small tutorial studies in advanced Latin and Greek texts (normally one or two each semester – formerly 299 or 281/282, now 3101/3102), and 3000-level courses in translation (Ancient Fictions, The Hellenistic World, and Ancient World in the Cinema, taught on a two-year rotation, along with other topics). CAMS 3298 Topics are offered primarily as graduate seminars, with some undergraduate enrollment.

University of Connecticut

CAMS 3298/CLCS 5306	The Premodern Novel	Spring 2016
CAMS 3298/CLCS 5306	Alexander the Great in Fact and Fiction	Spring 2015
CAMS 3298/JUDS 5397	Topics in Second Temple Judaism	Spring 2011
CAMS 3246	Ancient World in Cinema	Spring 2009-2017 (alt years)

CAMS 3245	Hellenistic World	Fall 2008-2016 (alt years)
CAMS 244	Ancient Fictions	Fall 1999-2015 (alt years)
CAMS 298	Special Topics: Ethnicity and Identity	Fall 2006
CAMS 3102	Advanced Latin (Catilanian Conspiracy)	Spring 2017
CAMS 3102	Advanced Latin (Apollonius of Tyre)	Spring 2016
CAMS 3102	Advanced Latin (Livy & Tacitus)	Fall 2015
CAMS 3102	Advanced Latin (Apuleius)	Fall 2013
CAMS 3102	Advanced Latin (Caesar)	Spring 2013
CAMS 3102	Advanced Latin (Petronius, Satyricon)	Fall 2011
CAMS 3102	Advanced Latin (Plautus)	Spring 2011
CAMS 3101	Advanced Greek (Attic Tragedy)	Spring 2014
CAMS 3101	Advanced Greek (Xenophon)	Fall 2012
CAMS 3101	Advanced Greek (Homer, Odyssey)	Fall 2010
CAMS 3101	Advanced Greek (Homer, Iliad)	Spring 09, Fall 2014
CLCS 5318	Advanced Greek (New Testament)	Spring 2010
CAMS 281	Advanced Greek (Koine)	Spring 2007
Classics 299	Latin Lyric (Catullus and Horace)	Spr 2001, Spr 2006
Classics 299	Cicero's Pro Caelio	Fall 2003
Classics 299	Ovid's Metamorphoses	Spring 2003
Classics 299	Suetonius' Caligula	Fall 2002
CAMS 1123	Intermediate Latin I	Fall 2000-2002 (alt years), Fall 2016
CAMS 1124	Intermediate Latin II	Spring 2007-2009 (annually)
CAMS 1171	Elementary Greek I	Fall 1998-2008 (alt. years)
CAMS 1172	Elementary Greek II	Spring 1999-2007 (alt. years)
CAMS 102	Roman Civilization	Spring 1999-2009 (annually)
CAMS 103	Classical Mythology	Summer 1999, 2003

Previous teaching experience

Classics 141	Ancient World	Spring 1998	Rochester
Greek 110-111	Beginning New Testament Greek	1997-1998	Rochester
Latin 104/204	Catullus	Fall 1997	Rochester
Classics 200	Classical Mythology	Spring 1997	Rochester
Latin 203	Ovid's Metamorphoses	Spring 1997	Rochester
Classics 141	The Ancient World	Fall 1996	Rochester
Latin 103	Intermediate Latin (Virgil)	Fall 1996	Rochester

Professional Service

Faculty consultant, SAT Latin Development Committee, 2016-2017.
Faculty consultant, Advanced Placement Latin examination reading, Educational Testing Service, Princeton NJ. June 2002, 2004-2006, 2008-2016 (annually).
Early College Experience Faculty Coordinator for Classics. 2010-present.
Member, Executive Committee, Comparative Literature and Cultural Studies (2010-present).
Member, University Committee for Academic Adjustments, 2007-present.
Faculty liaison representing Modern & Classical Languages, Transfer credit office, 2007-present.
Administration of Arjona/Luckey Memorial Fund for short-term graduate student loans, 2000-present.
Steering Committee Member, SBL Ancient Fictions and Early Christian and Jewish Literature Section, 2008-2014. At-Large Member, 2015-present.
Site Coordinator, CANE Annual Meeting 2013 (2012-2013). Storrs, CT. March 15-16, 2013.
Consultant, AP Course Audit, 2007-2009. Educational Policy Improvement Center, Eugene, OR. 2008-10.
Member, Executive Committee, Judaic Studies, 1998-2014.
Member, Executive Committee, Medieval Studies (2009-2012).
Committee to reorganize the MCL PhD program (2010-2011).

Member, Board of Directors, University of Connecticut Humanities Institute (2008-2010).
Member, Board of Directors, Classical Association of Connecticut (1998-2007).
Past President, Classical Association of Connecticut (2006-2007).
President, Classical Association of Connecticut (2005-2006).
Vice President, Classical Association of Connecticut (2004-2005).

Professional Societies:

Society for Biblical Literature
American Philological Association
American Comparative Literature Association
American Classical League
Classical Association of New England
Classical Association of Connecticut

Languages

In addition to certification in the usual modern (French, German) and ancient (Greek, Latin) languages at the Ph.D. level, I have also studied modern and biblical Hebrew, and have obtained certification of reading proficiency in modern Japanese.

Japanese Language Proficiency Test, Level 3 (low-mid intermediate), passed December 2004
Japanese Language Proficiency Test, Level 2 (high intermediate), passed December 2005
Japanese Language Proficiency Test, Level 1 (adult proficiency), passed December 2009
Japanese Language Proficiency Test, N1 (adult proficiency, updated), passed Dec 2014, Dec 2016
[professional norms require updated certification every two years]