

# Bill Beck

Ballantine Hall 669, 1020 E Kirkwood Ave., Bloomington, IN 47405

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## PRIMARY RESEARCH INTERESTS

Ancient Greek epic; Homeric scholia; Ancient Greek literary scholarship; Ancient literary criticism

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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Indiana University, Bloomington

Assistant Professor, Department of Classical Studies, 2020–

Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Classical Studies, 2019–20

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## EDUCATION

### Degrees Awarded

- 2019 Ph.D., Classical Studies, University of Pennsylvania  
Dissertation: *The Narrative of the Iliad: Time, Space, and Story*. Advisor: Sheila Murnaghan
- 2013 M.A., Classical Studies, University of Pennsylvania
- 2011 B.A., Greek and Latin, Swarthmore College, Phi Beta Kappa, Highest Honors

### Non-Degree Training

- American School of Classical Studies at Athens  
Summer Session Participant, 2010; Regular Member, 2016–17; Student Associate Member, 2017–18
- 2009 Poggio Colla Field School, Mugello Valley Archaeological Project
- 2008 CUNY Latin/Greek Institute, Basic Program in Greek, *summa cum laude*
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## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

1. *The Ancient Scholia to Homer's Iliad: A Translation. Volume 1: Books 1–2*. Cambridge University Press. Forthcoming.
2. *The Ancient Scholia to Homer's Iliad: Exegesis and Interpretation*. BICS 64-1. Oxford: Oxford University Press. 2021. Pp. 136. (Co-editor with A. Kelly and T. Phillips.)

### Articles and Book Chapters

1. "On the Attribution and Interpretation of the AbT-scholion to *Iliad* 2.87." *Mnemosyne*. Forthcoming.
2. "How Did Homer's Troilus Die?" *The Classical Quarterly* 73.2 (2023) 495–507.
3. "Homer's Verbal Mimesis in the *Iliad*'s Exegetical Scholia." *Greek, Roman, and Byzantine Studies* 63 (2023) 78–102.
4. "Harshing Zeus' μέλω: Reassessing the Sympathy of Zeus at *Iliad* 20.21." *American Journal of Philology* 143.3 (2022) 359–384.
5. "Doorways and Diegesis: Spatial and Narrative Boundaries in Apuleius' *Metamorphoses*." *Classical Philology* 117.4 (2022) 706–719.
6. "Introduction," in B. Beck, A. Kelly, and T. Phillips (eds), *The Ancient Scholia to Homer's Iliad: Exegesis and Interpretation*. Oxford (2021): 1–5. (Co-author with A. Kelly and T. Phillips.)
7. "Reading for Achilles in the bT-Scholia to the *Iliad*," in B. Beck, A. Kelly, and T. Phillips (eds), *The Ancient Scholia to Homer's Iliad: Exegesis and Interpretation*. Oxford (2021): 48–58.

8. “Reassessing the Scholiastic Evidence for the Cretan *Odyssey* Theory.” *TAPA* 150.2 (2020): 357–378.
9. “Lost in the Middle: Story Time and Discourse Time in the *Iliad*.” *Yearbook of Ancient Greek Epic* 1 (2017): 46–64.
10. “*Causas Memora*: Epic Etiology and Vergil’s *Aeneid*.” *Vergilius* 62 (2016): 57–78.
11. “Provocative Contradictions in Plato’s Myth of Er.” *Proceedings of AMPAL* (2013).
12. “Tying Up Loose Ends: The Metapoetics of Closure in *Odyssey* 22.” *Rosetta* (2013).

### Book Reviews

1. “Metalepsis in the *Iliad*,” a review of Leonie von Alvensleben, *Erzähler und Figur in Interaktion. Metalepsen in Homers Ilias* (Berlin/Boston: De Gruyter, 2022). *Classical Review* 74 (2024) 148–50.
2. Katherine L. Kretler, *One Man Show: Poetics and Presence in the Iliad and Odyssey* (Washington, DC, 2020). Reviewed in *The Journal of Hellenic Studies* 142 (2022): 335–336.
3. Alexander C. Loney, *The Ethics of Revenge and the Meaning of the Odyssey* (Oxford, 2019). *Classical Philology* 117.3 (2022): 564–567.
4. Franco Montanari, ed. *History of Ancient Greek Scholarship. From the Beginnings to the End of the Byzantine Age* (Leiden, 2020). *Sehepunkte* 21:6 (2021).
5. Tobias Meyers, *Homer’s Divine Audience: The Iliad’s Reception on Mount Olympus* (Oxford, 2019). *Classical Journal*: 2021.06.02.
6. Thomas Van Nortwick, *The unknown Odysseus: alternate worlds in Homer’s Odyssey* (Ann Arbor, 2020). *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*: 2021.04.09.
7. Richard J. Defouw, *The Subtlety of Homer* (Boulder, 2018). *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*: 2019.09.44.
8. Anthony Verity, *Homer, The Odyssey* (Oxford, 2016). *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*: 2017.09.11.

### Works in Progress

1. *Fifty-One Days at Ilios: The Iliad and the Trojan War*. In preparation.
2. “Through this, Homer teaches”: The Exegetical Scholia on the Lessons of the *Iliad*.” In preparation.
3. “*Iliad* 3.121-138: Helen, Iris, and the First Nine Years of the Trojan War.” In preparation.
4. “Aristotle, *Poetics* 1459a35-37.” In preparation.
5. *The Ancient Scholia to Homer’s Iliad: A Translation*, Volume 2, Books 3–6. (Co-editor with O. Thomas and T. Phillips.) In preparation for Cambridge University Press.
6. *The Ancient Scholia to Homer’s Iliad: A Translation*, Volume 3, Books 7–9. (Co-editor with O. Thomas and T. Phillips.) In preparation for Cambridge University Press.

### Public-Facing Scholarship

1. “Honest Ads for Cars of Myth.” *Eidolon* (2019).
2. “Homeric Word Journeys.” *Unravel* (2019), co-authored with Dallas Simons.
3. “Funding Opportunities for Students and Teachers of Classics, Ancient History, Art History, and Archaeology.” *SCS Blog* (2019).
4. “OkCupīdō.” *Eidolon* (2019).
5. “The Homer We Want.” *Eidolon* (2018).
6. “Pandora’s Radio.” *Eidolon* (2018).
7. “Etymandrology.” *Eidolon* (2018).
8. “Reviewing a Digital Edition of Homer.” *SCS Blog* (2018).
9. “Pindr.” *Eidolon* (2018).
10. “The Measure of a Man.” *Eidolon* (2018).
11. “Trump’s Winged Words.” *Eidolon* (2018).

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## INVITED TALKS

- 2022 “The *Iliad* and the First Nine Years of the Trojan War,” Swarthmore College  
2019 “Mind the Gaps: Translating the Scholia to the *Iliad*,” Università di Genova  
2018 “Reassessing the Evidence for the ‘Cretan *Odyssey*,” Oxford University  
2018 “The Use and Abuse of Homeric Scholia,” American School of Classical Studies at Athens  
2016 “Lost in the Middle: Story Time and Discourse Time in the *Iliad*,” Reading University
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## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2025 “Through this, Homer teaches”: The Exegetical Scholia on the Lessons of the *Iliad*,” SCS  
2024 “Keeping Track of Casualties in the *Iliad*,” CAMWS  
2022 “‘Ear, ear for the sea-surge’: Sound and Sense in the Homeric Scholia,” CA  
2022 “Teaching Ancient Classics in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Classrooms,” panelist, ICC  
2021 “Harshing Zeus’ μέλω: Reassessing the Sympathy of Zeus at *Iliad* 20.21,” CAMWS  
2021 “Homer’s Mimetic Poetics in the *Iliad*’s Exegetical Scholia,” SCS  
2019 “Reassessing the Evidence for Zenodotus’ ‘Cretan *Odyssey*,” SCS  
2018 “Ancient Approaches to ‘Illogical’ Homeric Epithets,” SCS  
2017 “Time in the Scholia to the *Iliad*,” SCS  
2016 “Staius’ *Thebaid*: 1.46–78,” Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa  
2016 “Lost in the Middle: Story Time and Discourse Time in the *Iliad*,” CA  
2015 “Horace’s Homer,” CA  
2015 “The Turning Post and the Finish Line: False Boundaries in the *Iliad*,” SCS  
2015 “No Story of Troy Before *The* Story of Troy,” CAMWS  
2014 “Physical and Narrative Boundaries in Apuleius’ *Metamorphoses*,” CAMWS  
2014 “Overdetermination and Undermotivation in the *Aeneid*,” APA  
2013 “Provocative Contradictions: Plato’s Mythic Refamiliarization,” AMPAL  
2012 “The Silence of the Nightingale: Hesiodic Self-Promotion,” University of Buffalo  
2012 “Tying Up Loose Ends: The Metapoetics of Closure in *Odyssey* 22,” CA; AMPAL
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## CLASS VISITS

- 2024 Northwestern University: LAT 310: *The Latin Iliad* (1/16/24)  
2023 University of Pennsylvania: CLST 9000: Dissertation Prospectus Workshop (2/21/23)  
2021 University of Pittsburgh: GREEK 0220: Intermediate Greek Verse (3/12/21)  
2019 Swarthmore College: GREK 012: Homer’s *Iliad* (4/4/19)
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## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2023–24 Research Leave Supplement, IU Bloomington  
2023–24 Fellowship in Hellenic Studies, Center for Hellenic Studies (declined)  
2023–24 Loeb Classical Library Foundation Fellowship, Loeb Classical Library Foundation  
2023 Career Program Fellow, College of Arts and Sciences, IU Bloomington  
2023 Collegiate Teacher of the Year Award, Indiana Classical Conference  
2022–24 Collaborative Research Award, Institute of Advanced Study, IU Bloomington  
2019 Ezra Pound Translation Award, 1<sup>st</sup> Prize, University of Pennsylvania  
2018 Residential Fellowship, Fondation Hardt  
2017–18 Edward Capps Fellowship, American School of Classical Studies at Athens  
2017 Vodantis Memorial Scholarship for Greek Studies, Hellenic University Club of Philadelphia  
2016–17 Arts & Sciences Dean’s Scholar, University of Pennsylvania

- 2016–17 James Rignall Wheeler Fellowship, American School of Classical Studies at Athens  
2015–16 US-UK Fulbright All-Disciplines Postgraduate Award, University of Reading  
2015–16 Dissertation Research Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania  
2015 President Gutmann Leadership Award, University of Pennsylvania  
2011 Phi Beta Kappa
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## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### INDIANA UNIVERSITY

#### *Courses in translation:*

- CLAS-C 101 Ancient Greek Culture
- CLAS-C 205 Classical Mythology
- CLAS-C 310 Classical Drama
- CLAS-C 311 Classical Epics
- CLAS-C 350 Greek Literature in Translation

#### *Greek courses:*

- CLAS G-200 Intermediate Greek I
- CLAS G-513 Readings in the Greek Novel
- CLAS G-518 Readings in Greek Epic
- CLAS G-535 History of Greek Literature
- CLAS G-536 Survey of Greek Poetry

### UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

- GREK 112 Intensive Introductory Greek
  - LATN 203 Intermediate Latin Prose: Caesar and Cicero
  - LATN 204 Vergil's *Aeneid*
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## STUDENT SUPERVISION (INDIANA UNIVERSITY)

### Ph.D. Dissertation Committees

1. Sidney Kochman, "Forensic Fabulae: Structures of Story in Attic Orations," in progress (member)
2. Brian Pulverenti, "Artless Graces": The Poetics of Epic Primitivism in British Romanticism," in progress (member)

### Ph.D. Advisory Committees

1. Simon Kaplan
2. Alec Smitten

### Ph.D. Special Author Exam Committees

1. Ben Leach, Herodotus, 2023 (member)

### M.A. Thesis/Project Committees

1. Walker Rhea, "Singing the World into Existence: A Comparison of Hebrew and Greek Creation Songs," 2021 (member)
  2. Simon Kaplan, "Projecting Cassandra: The Reception of the Cassandra Myth in Renaissance Europe," 2024 (member)
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## SERVICE

### Department of Classical Studies

- Greek PhD Translation Exam Committee, 2020–25
- Elementary Latin Director, 2021–22, 24–25

Graduate Committee, 2024–25  
Salary Committee, 2021, 2023, 2024  
Lecture Committee, 2020–21 (chair), 22–23 (chair)  
Undergraduate Committee, 2020–23  
G100/150 Supervisor, 2020–22  
Faculty Search Committee, 2020, 21–22  
MA Exam Committee, 2020

**Refereeing**

Book Proposals: Oxford University Press

Articles: *American Journal of Philology*, *Canopus*, *Classical Journal*, *Classical World*, *Harvard Studies in Classical Philology*, *Mnemosyne*, *Orality and Literacy in the Ancient World*, *Transactions of the American Philological Association*

**Other Professional Service**

External Honors Examiner, Swarthmore College, 2023

Content Consultant, *Zeus*, Abdo, 2022