

Bill Beck

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

PRIMARY RESEARCH INTERESTS

Homeric epic; Homeric scholia and the history of Homeric scholarship; ancient literary criticism

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Indiana University, Bloomington

Assistant Professor, Department of Classical Studies, 2020–

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

EDUCATION

Degrees Awarded

2019 Ph.D., Classical Studies, University of Pennsylvania

Dissertation: *The Narrative of the Iliad: Time, Space, and Story*. Advisor: Sheila Murnaghan

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; Academic Year Program, 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*

PUBLICATIONS

Books

1. *The Ancient Scholia to Homer's Iliad: A Translation. Volume 1: Books 1–2*. Cambridge University Press. Forthcoming 2025.
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. "The Exegetical Scholia on Factual, Aesthetic, and Ethical Problems in the *Iliad*." *Aevum Antiquum* 25. Forthcoming.
2. "On the Attribution and Interpretation of the AbT-scholion to *Iliad* 2.87." *Mnemosyne*. Forthcoming.
3. "How Did Homer's Troilus Die?" *CQ* 73.2 (2023) 495–507.
4. "Homer's Verbal Mimesis in the *Iliad*'s Exegetical Scholia." *GRBS* 63 (2023) 78–102.
5. "Harshing Zeus' μέλω: Reassessing the Sympathy of Zeus at *Iliad* 20.21." *AJP* 143.3 (2022) 359–384.
6. "Doorways and Diegesis: Spatial and Narrative Boundaries in Apuleius' *Metamorphoses*." *CP* 117.4 (2022) 706–719.
7. "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.)
8. "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.

9. "Reassessing the Scholiastic Evidence for the Cretan *Odyssey* Theory." *TAPA* 150.2 (2020) 357–378.
10. "Lost in the Middle: Story Time and Discourse Time in the *Iliad*." *YAGE* 1 (2017) 46–64.
11. "*Causas Memora*: Epic Etiology and Vergil's *Aeneid*." *Vergilius* 62 (2016) 57–78.
12. "Provocative Contradictions in Plato's Myth of Er." *Proceedings of AMPAL* (2013).
13. "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). *CR* 74 (2024) 148–50.
2. Katherine L. Kretler, *One Man Show: Poetics and Presence in the Iliad and Odyssey* (Washington, DC, 2020). Reviewed in *JHS* 142 (2022) 335–336.
3. Alexander C. Loney, *The Ethics of Revenge and the Meaning of the Odyssey* (Oxford, 2019). *CP* 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). *CJ*: 2021.06.02.
6. Thomas Van Nortwick, *The unknown Odysseus: alternate worlds in Homer's Odyssey* (Ann Arbor, 2020). *BMCR*: 2021.04.09.
7. Richard J. Defouw, *The Subtlety of Homer* (Boulder, 2018). *BMCR*: 2019.09.44.
8. Anthony Verity, *Homer, The Odyssey* (Oxford, 2016). *BMCR*: 2017.09.11.

Works in Progress

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

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
 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 "Statius' *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

- 2025 Summer Research Fellow, IU Institute for Advanced Study
 - 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, IU Institute for Advanced Study
 - 2019 Ezra Pound Translation Award, 1st 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: The Trojan War

Greek courses:

- CLAS-G 150 Elementary Greek II
- CLAS-G 200 Intermediate Greek I
- CLAS-G 250 Introduction to Attic Poetry and Prose

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*

STUDENT SUPERVISION (INDIANA UNIVERSITY)

Ph.D. Dissertation Committees

1. Sidney Kochman, "Forensic Fabulae: Structures of Story in Attic Orations," 2025 (member)

Ph.D. Advisory Committees

- Iris Coats; Kate Cota; Simon Kaplan; Alec Smitten

Ph.D. Special Topic Exam Committees

1. Ben Leach, Herodotus, 2023 (member)

M.A. Thesis Committees

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

B.A. Thesis Committees

1. Avery Schollenberger, "Reconstructing the Mycenaean Warrior Ethos: Exploring the Displays of Power of the Mycenaean Elite through Chariot Iconography" (reader)
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SERVICE

INDIANA UNIVERSITY

Department of Classical Studies

Greek PhD Translation Exam Committee, 2020–26
Graduate Committee, 2024–26
Director of Elementary Latin Program, 2021–22, 24–25
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

College of Arts & Sciences

Dissertation Research Fellowship and Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Reviewer, 2025

University Graduate School

University Graduate School Underrepresented Recruitment Fellowships, Reviewer, 2025

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Refereeing

Book Proposals: I have refereed one academic book proposal (for Oxford University Press)

Articles: I have refereed eleven articles for eight academic journals (*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 Service

Presider, Greek Poetry panel, SCS 2025

External Honors Examiner, Swarthmore College, 2023

Panelist, Pedagogy Panel, ICC 2022

Content Consultant, *Zeus*, Abdo, 2022