

Lena Barsky

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EDUCATION

University of California, Los Angeles

Department of Classics – PhD Program

September 2021-June 2023

Los Angeles, California

- Selected Coursework: Greek 206A: Sophocles (The Oedipus Trilogy); Latin 216: Roman Rhetoric (Declamation); Latin 215: The Roman Novel (Apuleius); Classics 495: Teaching Classics; Classics 375: Teaching Apprentice Practicum; History 201B: Romans and Their Slaves; Comparative Literature 290: Experimental Critical Theory – Comparative Thinking.

University of Oxford, Faculty of Classics

MPhil in Greek and/or Latin Languages and Literature

October 2019-June 2021

Oxford, United Kingdom

- Master's Dissertation of 25,000 Words: "Necropolitics in Ovid." Supervisors: Matthew Robinson, Balliol College & Marchella Ward, Worcester College
- Coursework: A11. Approved Subject: The Female Voice in Augustan Poetry, C1. Graduate Intermediate Greek

Brown University

A.B. Magna Cum Laude, Classics: Latin (with Honors), GPA 3.97

September 2010-May 2014

Providence, Rhode Island

- Phi Beta Kappa, Elected February 2013 as a junior and Inducted March 2013
- Senior Honors Thesis: "*Mater, Cyrene Mater*: Rethinking Narrative in Virgil's *Georgics* 4.325-558." Director: Jeri Debrohun; Reader: Joseph Pucci
- Vassar College intensive Italian language program at the University of Siena, Siena, Italy, Summer 2011

Honors & Awards

- 2014 Rhodes Scholarship Finalist, one of thirteen in District 9 (Indiana-Kentucky-Virginia)
- Brown University Classics Department's Lucius Lyon Latin Prize, May 2014
- Brown Wind Symphony Featured Clarinetist, playing "Concerto for Two Clarinets, Op. 91" by Franz Krommer, May 2014
- Brown University Band's Irving Harris 1928 Award for Greatest Contribution to the Welfare of the Band, November 2013

PUBLICATIONS

- Steven G. Calabresi and Lena Barsky. "An Originalist Defense of *Phyller v. Doe*." 2017 BYU L. Rev. 227 (2017). <https://digitalcommons.law.byu.edu/lawreview/vol2017/iss2/4/>.
- Lena Barsky. "On the Hidden Meanings of the *Laudes Italiae* of Virgil's *Georgics* Book 2." *Brown Classical Journal* 26 (Apr. 2014): 83-92. <https://tinyurl.com/BCJ26Barsky>
- Lena Barsky. "Alcuin in the Bible." *Brown Classical Journal* 25 (Apr. 2013): 143-152. <https://tinyurl.com/BCJ25Barsky>

POLITICAL ADVOCACY & NONPROFIT WORK

Legal Momentum

Director of Program Management & Media

September 2018-July 2019

New York, New York

- Led the rebuilding of Legal Momentum's website: work with web designer to create new website structure; rewrite extant text on every page of the website and/or generate new text for new pages to reflect Legal Momentum's current work.
- Worked collaboratively with Development to write and submit grant applications for opportunities at the federal, foundation, private giving, and community-based organization levels.
- Coordinated all communications for Legal Momentum: write and send out biweekly e-mail newsletters to over 7,000 subscribers; write and circulate press releases as needed; write all content for Legal Momentum's social media channels.
- Continued all duties undertaken while NJEP Program Manager & Program Associate (see below).

Legal Momentum's National Judicial Education Program (NJEP)

Program Manager (July 2017-September 2018), Program Associate (May 2015-July 2017)

May 2015-September 2018

New York, New York

- Managed NJEP's two Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women grants: provide technical assistance to other OVW grantees, write biannual progress reports, monitor grant finances, and communicate with grant managers.
- Researched, drafted, and edited NJEP's [Teen Dating Abuse & Violence \(TDV\) Materials](#) for judges, the courts, and multidisciplinary audiences. Topics included power dynamics present in TDV and unique needs of LGBTQ+ survivors.

National Committee for an Effective Congress (NCEC)

Researcher and Analyst—Election and Census Data, Redistricting

June 2009-March 2015

Washington, D.C.

- Analyzed the 2010 congressional and legislative redistricting cycles in Florida, Texas, and Illinois to determine the effects of partisan gerrymandering and voter-ID laws; suggested solutions following Supreme Court case *Shelby County v. Holder* (2013).

- Prepared summaries of exit polling and voter turnout data in the [North Carolina](#) and [Virginia](#) 2014 senatorial elections to evaluate performance of Democratic candidates, track demographic trends, and predict Democratic success in the 2016 cycle.

Brown University Sexual Assault Policy Task Force

July 2013-June 2014

Founder (www.tinyurl.com/lenabarskySAPTF)

Providence, Rhode Island

- Developed strategy for working with Brown administration to effect changes in sexual assault policies.
- Drafted Task Force recommendations to update the Student Code of Conduct and to create educational programs.

Brown Political Review, Brown University Political Theory Project

September 2012-May 2014

Column Manager and Featured Web Columnist

Providence, Rhode Island

- Pitched/wrote over [40 columns](#) (such as "[Holy Schnikes, Reproductive Health!](#)") on BPROnline's "The Courts" blog. As the Supreme Court reporter with constitutional law expertise, strove to make oft-complex Supreme Court cases accessible to all.
- Edited articles by other "The Courts" columnists and managed "The Courts" content (oversaw pitches from other writers).

National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project (NIWAP)

June 2013-August 2013

Research and Operations Intern

Washington, D.C.

- Drafted educational materials distributed to victim advocates and law enforcement officers nationwide explaining provisions of the 2013 Violence Against Women Act that directly affected immigrants and American Indians/Alaskan Natives.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

UCLA Department of Classics

September 2022-June 2023

Teaching Assistant

Los Angeles, California

- Courses – Classics 10: Discovering the Greeks (Fall Quarter 2022), Classics 30: Classical Mythology (Winter Quarter 2023), and Classics 20: Discovering the Romans (Spring Quarter 2023).
- Teach two weekly 50-minute "discussion sections" of 25 students each per 10-week quarter: lesson plan for each section with guidance from Instructor of Record. Format varied between lecture, small-group work, free-writing sessions, pair work, etc.
- Hold at least 2 office hours per week per 10-week quarter, usually ended up holding 4-5 per week because of student demand: answered student questions about material; taught students how to craft arguments and analyze primary source material from the ancient world; and provided pastoral care to students in the aftereffects of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Graded all papers and exams for my 150 students, leaving line-by-line feedback on papers to facilitate improvement of students' writing skills. Worked collaboratively with Instructors of Record and co-TAs to establish grading criteria.

Oxford Faculty of Classics Graduate Weekly Language Seminars

January 2021-March 2021

Co-Lead "Hellenistic (and later) poetry: reflections on sexuality, gender and the self"

Oxford, United Kingdom

with Dr. Sarah Cullinan Herring, Wadham College

- Set texts for the seminar—selected works by Theocritus, Bion, Moschus, Musaeus, and *The Megara*—and coordinated schedule of postdoctoral and graduate student presenters for each week.
- Led Musaeus *Hero and Leander* textual discussion; provided translation, bibliography, and guiding questions for participants.

Brown University Department of Classics

Fall Semesters 2012 and 2013

Teaching Assistant

Providence, Rhode Island

- Courses – "The Idea of Self" (2012) and "The American Presidency & the Western Tradition" (2013)
- Planned and taught weekly hour-long discussion seminars for students who wanted to read and discuss course texts in their original languages (Latin and Ancient Greek).
- Held weekly office hours for students with or without Latin & Greek to talk through the texts one-on-one, ask questions they were not able to ask during lectures, and outline their writing assignments.
- Gave line-by-line comments/edits on 30 student essays and met face-to-face with those students to talk through their work.

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Political Theory Project, Brown University Department of Political Science

June 2012-December 2013

Research Assistant to Professor Steven G. Calabresi

Providence, Rhode Island

- Researched and co-wrote a 102-page law review article analyzing from a constitutional historical perspective the 1982 immigration law case *Plyler v. Doe*, which granted noncitizen children the right to a public school education.
- Guest-taught the lecture on impeachment for Professor Calabresi's "Constitutional Law: Governmental Powers" undergraduate course at Brown University in October 2012.

Ascanius: The Youth Classics Institute

January 2009-August 2009

Faculty, "Activities" Class, LatinSummer 2009

Williamsburg, Virginia

- Created and planned an original, two-week English language curriculum for low-income third- through fifth-grade students focused on Roman Republican culture. Lessons included units on: gladiator matches, life in Pompeii and the eruption of Vesuvius, Roman mythology and religious practices, and a child-friendly translation/production of Plautus' *Aulularia*.

ACADEMIC PAPERS PRESENTED (All Spoken)

- "‘They Were Not Two, but a Double Form’: Hermaphroditus and Salmacis, Imperial Roman Social Control, and Transgender Bodies as Biopolitical Possibility." *Thinking Gender 2022: Transgender Studies at the Intersections* Conference, digital via UCLA Center for the Study of Women, April 8, 2022.
- "How Do You Solve a Problem Like Caeneus?: On Dido, Gender, and Virgil's Accidental Trans Narrative." UCLA Classics – Graduate Forum, January 20, 2022.
- "I WOULD KNOW HIM IN DEATH // HELLO, STRANGER: Achilles, Patroclus, and Fanfiction Refracted." *Queer and The Classical: Critical Futures, Critical Feelings* Conference, digital via Oxford University, February 20, 2021. [Recording here](#).
- "If There's a Fire You're Trying to Douse: Un-Making Hegemonic Approaches to Gender & Sexuality in Roman Scholarship." *The Case for Critical Ancient World Studies* Conference, digital via Oxford University, September 7, 2020.
- "Ladies, Leave Your Man at Home: The Women of Virgil's Epyllion, *Georgics* 4.315-558." Oxford Classics – Language & Literature Graduate Work in Progress Seminar, February 14, 2020.

LEADERSHIP

UCLA Department of Classics Graduate Student Representative, "Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Committee"	March 2021-June 2023 Los Angeles, California
St Anne's College Middle Common Room Committee LGBTQ Representative	January 2020-present Oxford, United Kingdom
Oxford Faculty of Classics "Language & Literature Taught Program" Graduate Representative	December 2019-December 2020 Oxford, United Kingdom
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attended, participated in, and took detailed notes to report to graduate student community at the following meetings, twice each per term: Languages & Literature Graduate Studies Committee, Faculty Board, Languages & Literature Sub-Faculty. Organized, convened, moderated, and took detailed notes during the Graduate Forum, once per term. 	
Metropolitan Music Community's Grand Street Community Band (GSCB) Personnel Manager	January 2017-June 2019 Brooklyn, New York
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wrote "The Weekender," the Metropolitan Music Community's weekly newsletter, which provided information about rehearsals, upcoming performances, and community events, for all three Metropolitan Music Community ensembles. Oversaw all communications between GSCB's Artistic Director and the band's 110 members, via emails and in-person announcements at weekly rehearsals. 	
Brown University Department of Classics Member of the Editorial Board for the <i>Brown Classical Journal</i>	September 2012-May 2014 Providence, Rhode Island
Meiklejohn Advising Program, Brown University Dean of the College Meiklejohn Peer Advisor	September 2011-May 2014 Providence, Rhode Island
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advised a total of 13 first-year students over three years on their transition to college life and academic plans. 	
Brown-RISD Hillel Member, Student Search Committee for a New University and Hillel Rabbi	February 2013-May 2013 Providence, Rhode Island
Brown University Band (Clarinet) Head Scriptwriter (2010-2014), President (2012), Corresponding Secretary (2011)	September 2010-May 2014 Providence, Rhode Island
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Head Scriptwriter: wrote comedy "scripts" weekly with band members to use in performances at sporting events. President: convened and ran weekly meetings between executive board and faculty supervisor; solicited major gift donations with Brown Office of Advancement to fund two overnight trips; communicated with University administration. Corresponding Secretary: planned all travel for 60 person ensemble on three overnight trips and two day trips, including booking block hotel rooms. Coordinated all communications between other universities' bands. 	

SKILLS AND INTERESTS

- Languages:** Ancient Greek (reading proficiency), Latin (reading proficiency), Italian (conversational & reading proficiency).
- Computer:** CiviCRM, Drupal, Adobe Photoshop, Microsoft Office, WestLaw, Lexis Nexis, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram.

- **Music:** Bb clarinet in the Brown Wind Symphony and Brown Band from 2010-2014; private Bb clarinet lessons with Karen Heninger through the Brown Applied Music Program from 2010-2014. Bb clarinet in Brooklyn's Grand Street Community Band (one of three Metropolitan Music Community ensembles) from 2015-2019. Bb clarinet in the Oxford University Wind Orchestra (audition-only) from October 2019-July 2021.
- **Hobbies:** swing dance, yoga, running, Dungeons & Dragons; reading Jane Austen, Neil Gaiman, Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Madeline Miller, Richard Siken, Emily Wilson.