

Henry Gruber
Curriculum vitae

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EDUCATION

Harvard University

PhD Candidate, History (since Fall 2015).

Secondary field in Archaeology, advised by Adrian Stähli.

General Examination Themes: Roman History (Emma Dench), Late Antiquity (Michael McCormick), Medieval History (Dan Smail), Comparative Slavery (Walter Johnson).

Dissertation topic: “Shifting Landscapes of Wealth and Power in Late- and Post-Roman Iberia: An Archaeological Study,” advised by Michael McCormick.

University of California, Los Angeles:

Post Baccalaureate Certification in Classical Languages, with distinction, Spring 2015.

University of Chicago:

Bachelor of Arts, 2012.

Majors: History, with honors; Philosophy.

Awards and Fellowships:

2017: Harvard History Department Summer Travel Fellowship (\$3600).

2016: Harvard GSAS Pre-dissertation Research Grant (\$3,000).

2012: Emil Karafiol Prize in European and International History, University of Chicago.

2011: Phillip E. Montag Summer Research Fellowship (\$500), University of Chicago.

2011: PRISM Research Grant (\$1500), University of Chicago.

PUBLICATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, TEACHING, SERVICE

Publications:

- 2018: "Indirect evidence for the social impact of the Justinianic Pandemic: Episcopal burial and conciliar legislation in Visigothic Hispania." *Journal of Late Antiquity* 11.1 (Spring 2018), 193-215.
- 2014: "Review: *A Handbook of Jewish Literature in Late Antiquity*, by Eyal Ben-Eliyahu, Yehuda Cohn, and Fergus Millar," with Ra'anana Boustan. *Journal of Late Antiquity* 7.2 (Fall 2014), 360-362.

Conference papers and posters

- 2018: "Pandemic Disease: The Biggest Player in Humanity's Past?" Poster presentation, Harvard Global Health Initiative's Outbreak Week at Harvard University, September 24-28, 2018.
- 2018: Session Chair, "What is Medieval History? Digital History, Archaeological Science, and Alternative Approaches to Historical Argumentation," 53rd Annual Meeting of the International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI, May 13, 2018.
- 2017: "Zonaras, Cassius Dio, and the uses of Roman history in twelfth-century Byzantium," at the 2017 Harvard-Yale Conference in Medieval History, February 4, 2017.
- 2016: "Plague in Valencia, 546: A case study in the integration of archaeological and written evidence," at the European Association of Archaeologists 2016 Annual Meeting, Vilnius, Lithuania, September 2, 2016.
- 2016: "The sixth-century economy and the ceramic evidence from the site of Sanisera, Menorca (Spain)," at the Medieval History Workshop at Dumbarton Oaks, March 5, 2016.
- 2015: "The Same Lunch Every Day: The Ethics of Eating in Seneca's Letters," at Bodies in Revolt: Erotics, Metaphor and Materiality in the Ancient World, UCLA, February 7, 2015.
- 2013: "Occupy Menorca: The Vandal Dream of a Maritime Empire in the Ruins of Rome," At *Uti tabes invaserat: Decay, Disintegration, and Aftermath*, Cornell, March 9, 2013.
- 2011: "Searching for Vandal Spain," at the PRISM Undergraduate Research Symposium, University of Chicago, October 7, 2011.
- 2011: "Oh My Goth! They Vandalized the Legion!" at CCIHE Undergraduate Research Conference, University of Chicago, May 26, 2011.

Guest lectures and public engagement:

- 2018: “Athletes, heroes, and civic identity: the view from antiquity,” invited speaker presentation at Gravity Studios, Los Angeles, CA, January 7, 2018.
- 2017: “The Fall of the Roman Empire: How can the natural sciences help us find out what happened?” Guest lecture, Civil Engineering 1.057: Heritage Material Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, November 15, 2017.
- 2017: “What lessons can we learn from the fall of Rome?” Tuesday Tech Talks, Innovative Labs, Cambridge MA, September 26, 2017.
- 2016: “Erosion of norms, system collapse, and the end of the Roman Republic,” invited speaker presentation at Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government, November 29, 2016.

Participation in Seminars and Workshops Abroad:

- “The Origins of al-Andalus: Conquest, Islamization and Arabization,” Casa Árabe - CSIC, Cordoba (Spain), July 17-22, 2017.

Research Assistant Work

- 2016—Present: Harvard Initiative for the Science of the Human Past.
This includes work on the Harvard Historical Ice Core Project, the Reccopolis Revealed Workshop, and the organization of the Inaugural meeting of the Max Planck-Harvard Research Center for the Archaeoscience of the Ancient Mediterranean.
- 2016—Present: Harvard’s Digital Atlas of Roman and Medieval Civilization.
- 2013—2015: R.A. for Prof. Ra’anana Boustan, Dept. of History, UCLA.

Teaching:

- Teaching Assistant for Medieval Economic History (Fall 2018), MIT.
Taught by Professor Shane Bobrycki, Dept. of History, MIT.
- Teaching Fellow for The Ancient Greek Hero (Fall 2018).
Taught by Professor Gregory Nagy, Dept. of Classics, Harvard.
- Teaching Fellow / Writing Tutor for What is Atlantic History? (Spring 2018).
Taught by Professor Mary Lewis, Dept. of History, Harvard.

Mandatory small seminar for history concentrators to teach writing and the historical method. I worked with students over the course of a semester to produce their first major research papers.

Teaching Fellow for Racial Capitalism and American Imperialism from the Revolution to the Civil War (Spring 2018)

Taught by Professor Walter Johnson, Dept. of History, Harvard.

Head Teaching Fellow for Medieval Europe (Fall 2017)

Taught by Professor Michael McCormick, Dept. of History, Harvard.

Teaching Fellow for The Ancient Greek Hero (Fall 2017)

Taught by Professor Greg Nagy, Dept. of Classics, Harvard.

Reader for History The Roman Empire 284-641 (Spring 2015)

Taught by Professor Ra'anan Boustan, Dept. of History, UCLA.

Reader for Ancient Lives: The Art of Biography (Fall 2014)

Taught by Professor Robert Gurval, Dept. of Classics, UCLA.

Designed and taught "What Can We Ever Know?", University of Chicago Cascade! (Fall 2011)

I designed a five-week course in the theory and practice of philosophical skepticism and taught it to (some rather skeptical) high school students from Chicago's South Side.

Organizations / Service:

Harvard Initiative for the Science of the Human Past

Max Planck-Harvard Research Center for the Archaeoscience of the Ancient Mediterranean

Harvard Medieval History Workshop (co-coordinator 2016-17, 2018-19).

Organizer, Harvard-Yale Graduate Student Conference in Medieval History (2017, 2019).

Medieval Academy of America, Member

Society for Classical Studies, Member

American Institute of Archaeology, Member

Senior Theses Advised

2018-2019: Isaac Walker, History, on late antique Byzantine frontier forts.

2018-2019: Leila Hirschfield, History, on the use of the siege of Masada in Jewish literature.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD WORK

2016, 2017, 2018: Reccopolis, Spain

Joint project of the University of Alcalá, University of Frankfurt, and Harvard University led by Lauro Olmo Enciso, Joachim Henning, and Michael McCormick.

2016: geomagnetic survey, percussion coring, and wet-sieving as well as surface survey.

2017: Excavation of palace, and a sounding trench to check geomagnetic survey; began macrobotanical study of the palace layers using floatation. I also used 3D scanning technology to create stratigraphic models of our sounding trench.

2018: Sunk sounding trenches to check results of our geomagnetic surveys; continued floatation.

2014: Tel Megiddo, Israel.

Iron Age II site in the Levant directed by Israel Finkelstein, Tel Aviv University.

2010, 2011, 2013: Ecomuseo Cap de Cavalleria, Menorca, Spain.

2013: I assisted the excavations of a 5th/6th c. Roman town and learned underwater archaeological techniques while performing a SCUBA survey of the port of Sanisera. I also categorized and catalogued the amphora finds from the area around the city's late antique basilica and taught students basic ceramic identification.

2011: Spent six weeks excavating and researching my senior thesis.

2010: I attended the Ecomuseo Field School; invited back to do my own research.

2007: San Vincenzo al Volturno, Molise, Italy.

Volunteer for 5 weeks on the excavation of an 8th/9th century monastery in central Italy.

Applicable archaeological skills:

PADI advanced certified SCUBA diver with underwater archaeological survey experience. Experience with field survey, percussion coring, geomagnetometry, wet and dry sieving, use of the total station. Knowledge of late Roman ceramic typologies, especially African amphorae and African Red Slip Ware (Terra Sigillata Clara).

LANGUAGES

Latin: advanced reading proficiency with dictionary; limited speaking ability.

Ancient Greek: advanced reading proficiency with dictionary.

Spanish: excellent speaking and reading; advanced writing.

Italian: reading and speaking proficiency.

French: reading proficiency.

German: reading proficiency with dictionary.

Hittite: 2 quarters.