

CURRICULUM VITAE  
JOHN WEISWEILER

**Contact Details**

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**Academic background**

*Fellow at the Istituto Svizzero di Roma (2009/10)*

- Completion of doctoral thesis; planned submission date 19 December 2009
- Research project on spaces of aristocratic self-representation in late-antique Rome

*Research student at St. John's College, University of Cambridge (2005-)*

- Working title of thesis: 'Aristocratic Competition in Late-Antique Rome'. Supervisor: Dr Christopher Kelly, Corpus Christi College.
- DAAD (Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst) Scholar at Ruprecht-Karls-Universität, Heidelberg from October 2006 to June 2007; with formal permission to intermit from Board of Graduate Studies. Half of the time was devoted to concluding a research project on Ammianus Marcellinus (cf. the list of publications below), the other half to training in late-antique epigraphy.

*MPhil at Pembroke College, University of Cambridge (2004/5)*

- Thesis title: 'Unreliable witness: narrative failings in Ammianus Marcellinus'. Thesis Mark: 80/100. Members' Classical Essay Prize 2005.
- Three essays: a literary reading of Ammianus Marcellinus, *Res Gestae* XIV ('The representation of Galus Caesar in Ammianus Marcellinus, *Res Gestae* XIV'), an analysis of the workings of Roman law in the context of a pre-industrial society at the example of the inscription from *Saltus Burunitanus* ('Imperial rescripts and the character of imperial government') and an exploration of the social functions of inscriptions containing imperial answers to petitions ('Imperial Words on Stone. Subscriptions in the Roman Empire'). Marks: 74/100, 75/100, 75.5/100.
- Courses on epigraphy, numismatics, and (at the Warburg Institute) on the use of legal sources.

*Undergraduate Studies at the University of Zurich (2001-3) and at Pembroke College, Cambridge (2003/4)*

- One-year visiting undergraduate at Pembroke College, Cambridge (2003-4), taking Part II of the Classical Tripos.
- Undergraduate at the University of Zurich (2001-3): courses in Classical Philology, Ancient History and Indo-European Linguistics. Completion of prose-composition courses in Latin and Greek; best performance of the year in intermediary exams in Latin literature and in Greek and Latin linguistics.

**Awards, scholarships and prizes**

*PhD (2005-)*

- St John's College Benefactors' Scholarship 2005-
- Jebb Studentship 2005-
- Kurt Hahn Scholarship 2005/6
- Cambridge European Trust Bursary 2004-
- Corbett Travel Scholarship for Travel in the Classical Lands 2006
- St John's College Scullard Travel Exhibition 2006

*MPhil (2004/5)*

- Members' Classical Essay Prize
- Swiss Studienstiftung Scholarship
- Cambridge European Trust Bursary
- Pembroke College Bursary
- Three-week stay at the Fondation Hardt, research centre for the study of the Classical World near Geneva, funded by the Henry Arthur Thomas Fund and Pembroke College

- Rosenthal Memorial Scholarship for Travel in the Middle East 2005
- Corbett Travel Scholarship for Travel in the Classical Lands 2005

### Publications

- (with Christoph Riedweg:) 'Gute Freunde, schlechte Freunde: Nochmals zu Plaut. Bacch. 540-51', *Hermes* 132.2 (2004): 141-51.
- 'Christianity and War: Ammianus on Power and Religion in Constantius' Persian War', in: Andy Cain and Noel Lenski (edd.), *Seventh Conference on Shifting Frontiers in Late Antiquity*, Ashgate Publishing, Aldershot 2009: 383-396.
- 'Inscribing Imperial Power: Letters from Emperors in Late-Antique Rome', in: Ralph Behrwald and Christian Witschel (edd.), *Historische Erinnerung im städtischen Raum: Rom in der Spätantike*, Franz Steiner Verlag, Stuttgart 2009 [submitted and accepted].
- 'The Price of Integration: State and Élite in Symmachus' Correspondence', in: Peter Eich, Sebastian Schmidt-Hofner and Christian Wieland (edd.), *Staatlichkeit und Staatswerdung in Spätantike und Früher Neuzeit*, Universitätsverlag Winter, Heidelberg 2009 [submitted and accepted].

### Reviews

- 'Recent Research on Late-Antique Rome', *The Kyoto Journal of Ancient History* 7 (2007): 37-46 (reviews of J. Curran, *Pagan City and Christian Capital: Rome in the Fourth Century*, Oxford 2000; M.R. Salzman, *The Making of a Christian Aristocracy: Social and Religious Change in the Western Roman Empire*, Cambridge [Mass.] 2000; H. Niquet, *Monumenta Virtutum Titulique: Senatorische Selbstrepräsentation im Spiegel der epigraphischen Denkmäler*, Stuttgart 2000).
- 'Roman lieux de mémoire', *Classical Review* 59.2 (2009): 548-9 (review of Elke Stein-Hölkeskamp and Karl-Joachim Hölkeskamp, *Erinnerungsorte der Antike: die römische Welt*, Munich 2006).

### Conference papers

- 'The Making of an Imperial Élite: Integrating the Urban Aristocracy of Rome', *Contested Monarchy: Integrating the Roman Empire in the Fourth Century AD*, Universität Konstanz, 9 July 2009.
- 'Aristocratic Competition and Refusal of Office in Fourth-Century Rome', *Late Antique Network Workshop: Integration and Diversity in the Culture and Religions of Late Antiquity Knoxville*, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 22 May 2009.
- 'Amongst Friends: State and Élites in Symmachus' Correspondence', *Statehood and State Formation in Late Antiquity and the Early Modern Period*, Heidelberger Akademie der Wissenschaften, Heidelberg, 2 April 2008.
- 'Consensus and its Victims: Aristocratic Competition and Imperial Power in Late-Antique Rome', *Research Seminar in Ancient History*, University of Cambridge, 2 February 2008.
- 'Honorific Statuary and the Transformation of Urban Space in Late-Antique Rome', *American Philological Association Annual Meeting*, Chicago, 7 January 2008.
- 'The Monument is the Message? Displaying Imperial Correspondence in Late-Antique Rome', *Thirteenth International Congress of Greek and Latin Epigraphy*, Oxford, 6 September 2007.
- 'The Modesty of the Ambitious: "Otium" in Late-Antique Rome', *Classical Association Annual Conference*, University of Birmingham, 15 April 2007.
- 'Constructing Crusades: Remembering the Persian Martyrs in the Ancient Near East', *Seventh Shifting Frontiers in Late Antiquity Conference*, University of Colorado at Boulder, 25 March 2007.
- 'Crossing the Frontiers: Christians in Ammianus Marcellinus and the Syriac Martyr Acts', *On the Frontier: The Classical Association Annual Conference 2006*, University of Newcastle upon Tyne, 6 - 9 April 2006.
- 'A Romantic Story', *Graduate Interdisciplinary Seminar in Classics*, University of Cambridge, 13 May 2005.
- 'Luxus und Macht: Palmyra', *Was nichts kostet ist nichts wert - Gedanken zur Ökonomisierung der Welt*, week-end seminar of the Schweizerische Studienstiftung, University of Cambridge, 17 September 2005.

### Teaching

- Invited lecturer for Part II, Transformation of the Roman World AD 284-476; on Ammianus Marcellinus and on late-antique Rome (Lent Term 2009)
- Director of a class for Part II, Transformation of the Roman World AD 284-476; on Ammianus Marcellinus (2008-9)

- Director of an advanced undergraduate seminar on Ammianus Marcellinus at Ruprecht-Karls-Universität, Heidelberg (2007/8)
- Supervisor at the University of Cambridge (2005-)
  - Part Two: The Transformation of the Roman World AD 284-476
  - Part 1B: Ancient History
  - Part 1B: Second Sophistic
  - Part 1A: Classical Questions
  - Teaching of advanced undergraduates at the University of Zurich (2003/4); student tutor for the seminars *Pergamon* and *Rome in the Movies*

### Other professional activities

- Founding Member of the International Network for the Study of Late Antiquity, promoting transatlantic exchange in scholarship on the late-antique Mediterranean

### Other activities

- Events and International Officer of the Samuel Butler Room, the graduate student association of St John's College, Cambridge (2008-)
- Co-founder of the cultural history reading group, hosting bi-weekly meetings discussing classic texts of cultural history (2008-)
- Co-organiser of the student exchange programme between the Faculty of Classics, Cambridge and the Institut für Klassische Archäologie, Munich (2007-)
- Director of the Graduate Interdisciplinary Seminar in the Faculty of Classics (Michaelmas 2007/8)
- Member of the Swiss Studienstiftung, which supports 'excellent students who are able and willing to take on responsibility in all areas of society' (2003-)
  - Courses in rhetoric, economy and law, philosophy of science and ethics
  - Organisation of an interdisciplinary seminar on 'bioethics' in Karlsruhe (Germany) and 'economism' in Cambridge
- Competitive tennis player and captain of tennis team
- Competitive bridge player
  - Playing for Switzerland at the European Youth Championships 2001 in Antalya
- Founding member and technical officer of the Ivory Tower Society, which organises interdisciplinary talks by graduates at Pembroke college (2004/5)

### Languages

- Native speaker of German
- Mark A in the *Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English*
- Fluent in French (seven years of French in school, finishing with the rough equivalent of British A-levels), good reading skills in Italian (optional course at high school)
- Fluent in Latin (co-founder of Latin conversation group at Cambridge University) and in Greek; basic knowledge of Syriac

### Work experience

- Clerk in the Direct Marketing department of PricewaterhouseCoopers (2001)

### School curriculum

- Büel High School, Zurich (1994-2001): classical Matura with Ancient Greek, French, Latin, German and Physics as main subjects for the final examinations. Average mark: 5.5
- Riedwies Primary School, Uitikon Waldegg (1988-94)