

Adam Trettel

Born October 29, 1987, Crownpoint, Indiana, USA

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Education

B. A. Yale University, 2010, Humanities

Phi Beta Kappa, *magna cum laude*, distinction in the major
Yale Summer Session in Paris 2007 (Intermediate/Advanced French)

M. Th. University of Edinburgh 2013, Ecclesiastical History

Dissertation: The Rule of Love and its Roles in Augustine, *De doctrina christiana*
First-class honors.

Ph. D. University of Edinburgh, 2018, Ecclesiastical History

Dissertation: "An interpretative study of Augustine, *City of God* 14".
External examiner: Gillian Clark; Supervisors: Sara Parvis, Oliver O'Donovan.

Academic Positions

Harvard University, College Fellow, 2018-2020, Department of the Classics

Harvard University, Lecturer, 2020-21, Department of the Classics

Thesaurus linguae Latinae, SCS / NEH Fellow, 2021-22

University of Leipzig, Alexander von Humboldt Postdoctoral Fellow, 2022-24

- Project: "Lucretius in the poetry of Prudentius". Host: Marcus Deufert

Scuola Normale Superiore in Pisa, Visiting Scholar, Spring 2023 (5 months)

Freie Universität, Berlin, Einstein Center Chronoi Fellow, January 2025

Thesaurus linguae Latinae, Latin lexicographer, 2025-present

Awards and Grants

Alexander von Humboldt Postdoctoral Fellowship (2022-24)

*HAB Wolfenbüttel Fellowship (awarded 2024, declined to begin TLL position)

William Calder III Fellowship, American Friends of Alexander von Humboldt (2021-24)

Loeb Faculty Grant, Harvard University (2018-21)

Derek Bok Center Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University (2020)

Ökumenischer Gast, Evangelisches Stift, Tübingen (2016-2017)

Erasmus+ Fellowship, Universität Tübingen (2015-2016)

Full Tuition Fellowship, University of Edinburgh (2013-2016)

Phi Beta Kappa, Yale University (2010)

Presidential Scholar, U.S. Department of Education (2006)

National Merit Scholar (2006)

Peer-Reviewed Publications

“Medieval Latin Meter” for *Oxford Handbook of Greek and Latin Meter* (forthcoming Dec. 2026)

TLL articles:

nimietas
nitor, nitoris
nitrum
nudo
nuptiae
resulto
revincio
revomo
robigo
rodo
rupes
rutilus

“Augustine, *Confessions* 10 as Literature? Yes and no” in *Early Christian Writers in the West and the Classical Literary Tradition* (De Gruyter, 2024; ed. T. Tsartidis, S. Papaioannou), pp. 77-98.

“Greek words in Augustine's sermons”. *Revue d'études augustiniennes* 69 (2023), pp. 305-329.

“God as rhetorician: divine 'showing' in Augustine, *De civitate Dei* 14.26-27”. *Studia Patristica* 119 (2021), pp. 169-175.

Desires in Paradise: An Interpretative Study of Augustine, City of God 14 (Brill / Ferdinand Schöningh). 2018. Pp. viii + 239.

Reviewed in *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2020.04.46 (L. Zwollo); *Journal of Early Christian Studies* 28.3 (2020), 469-471 (D. Ungvary); *Augustinian Studies* 52.1 (2021), 130-32 (T. Clemmons); *Augustiniana* 71.3-4 (2021), 507-510 (C. Yam).

Book Reviews

Review of K. Liebrand. *Der Fastenhymnus des Prudentius (cath. 7). Einleitung, Übersetzung, Kommentar* (Basel, 2021). *Anzeiger für Altertumswissenschaft* 75.2 (2022), 66-71.

Review of O. Zwierlein. *Die 'Carmina Christiana' des Dracontius: Kritischer Kommentar* (De Gruyter, 2019). *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2021.12.03. [Open Access](#)

Review of T. Toom (ed.). *The Cambridge Companion to Augustine's 'Confessions'* (Cambridge UP, 2020). *Classical Review* 71.1 (2021), 122-25.

Teaching Experience

Leipzig:

Nachwuchsforum: Orosius, *Historiae adversum paganos* (Wintersemester 2024/5).

Harvard:

Latin 201: Graduate Survey of Latin Literature (Spring 2021)

Medieval Latin 121: Latin, 1300-1600 CE (Spring 2021)

Medieval Latin 123: Augustine, *De civitate Dei* (Autumn 2020)

Classical Studies 163 [in translation]: Romans and Barbarians in Late Antiquity (Autumn 2020)

Medieval Latin 10: Introduction to Medieval Latin Literature (Spring 2019, Spring 2020)

Classical Philology 259: Venantius Fortunatus (Spring 2020, postgraduate seminar)

Medieval Latin 106: Augustine: *Confessions* (Spring 2019, Autumn 2019)

Classics 302: Special Exam, Augustine and Philosophy (Autumn 2019, Spring 2020)

Medieval Latin 133: Late Ancient Pagan and Christian Poetry (Autumn 2019)

Classical Studies 119 [in translation]: Augustine the North African (Autumn 2018)

Edinburgh:

God in Philosophy: Plato to Hume (Spring 2015, tutor)

Christianity before Constantine (Fall 2014, tutor)

Supervision Experience

2020-2025: Member of supervisory board of Alexander Vega, PhD candidate in Classical Philosophy, along with Mark Schiefsky (Classics) and Jeffrey McDonough (Philosophy)

2020-21: Supervisor for honors thesis of Joseph Barisas ("Trinitarian Sensation: A Commentary and translation of Augustine's *De Trinitate* 11.1-6", awarded the Pease Thesis Prize in Latin)

2020-21: First-year advisor for Harvard College

2018-21: Graded four honors theses and participated in discussions with senior faculty on allocations of final grades and prizes

Podcast: "revomo" and "pax" for "Ut silvae foliis", the *Thesaurus linguae Latinae* podcast. March 2, 2023. Available on [Apple Podcasts](#) and [Spotify](#).

Presentations (* = by invitation)

- 2027 "Floral iconicity in the poems of Venantius Fortunatus". Late Antique Latin Literature Panel, Society for Classical Studies Annual Meeting, Boston, Mass.
- 2026 "Lukrez bei Prudentius: neue Überlegungen zur Rezeption des Epikureismus in der Spätantike" for conference: "Text, Tradition, and Transformation in Late Antiquity and the Early Modern Period: Intertextual Practices in Comparison" LMU Munich
- 2026 "Ein Vergleich des Prosastils in Augustinus' *sermo* 181 und *De gestis Pelagii* 26sqq." for conference: "Sprache und Stil der lateinischen Prosa in Spätantike und frühem Mittelalter", Universität Münster.
- 2026 Introduction to the Vetus Latina and Vulgate, TLL Summer School, Munich
- 2025 "Declamation literature and fictionality in Prudentius, *Liber Peristephanon*", University of Salamanca
- *2025 Workshop presentation on the *Thesaurus linguae Latinae*, Commentary and Philology Conference, Vanderbilt University
- *2025 "The role of 1 Timothy 6:16 in shaping Prudentius' depiction of God" for conference: "The pastoral epistles as linguistic innovation and theological impulse". University of Zürich
- 2025 Introduction to the Vetus Latina and Vulgate, TLL Summer School, Munich
- 2024 "Prudentius" Verwendung der Deklamationsliteratur im *Liber Peristephanon*. Aquilonia 2024, University of Kiel
- 2024 "Lucretius in Prudentius? The *Liber Apotheosis* as a test case". Research seminar of Marcus Deufert, Department of Classical Philology, Leipzig University
- *2023 "What is it like to write an article at the *Thesaurus linguae Latinae*? A personal perspective on *robigo/rubigo*". Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa
- *2022 "Fonti cristiani nel *Thesaurus linguae Latinae*". Joint presentation with Roberta Marchionni, La Sapienza University, Rome
- *2022 "Augustine's *De grammatica*: challenges in translation". La Sapienza University, Rome
- *2022 "Greek words in Augustine's sermons" for conference: "Translation and the limits of Greek-Latin Bilingualism in Late Antiquity." All Souls College and Wolfson College, Oxford
- *2022 "Augustine, *Confessions* 10 as literature". Research Seminar of Therese Fuhrer, LMU Munich
- 2022 "*Qui terret, amat*: Dracontius' frightening God in *De Laudibus Dei* 1" for program unit "Early Exegesis of Genesis 1-3." Society for Biblical Studies, Annual Meeting
- *2020 "Medieval Marginalia and Augustine's *City of God*". Harvard Medieval Studies Seminar
- *2019 "Floral imagery in the poems of Venantius Fortunatus". Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Ancient and Medieval Studies Colloquium
- *2019 "Augustine's rejection of Platonism in *De civitate Dei* 14". Late Antique Seminar, Amherst, Massachusetts
- 2019 "God's *ostendere*: the development of a theme in the late Augustine". Oxford Patristics Conference

- 2017 “The problem of emotional control: *De civitate Dei* 14.9 and 14.19”. Tübingen Augustinus Kolloquium
- 2016 “Augustine on the joy of Adam and Eve in Paradise”. Tübingen Augustinus Kolloquium.

Languages

German (fluent); French (advanced); Italian (proficient)
Latin (advanced); Greek (proficient)