

Michael J. Taylor
Associate Professor of History
State University of New York at Albany
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EDUCATION

PhD	2015	University of California, Berkeley Greek and Roman History
MA	2009	University of California, Berkeley Roman History
AB	2005	Princeton University History, <i>summa cum laude</i>

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University at Albany, SUNY, Department of History	Associate Professor, 2023–present Assistant Professor, 2018–2022
University of California, Berkeley, Department of History	Lecturer, 2017–18.
Santa Clara University, Department of Classics	Lecturer, 2016–17.
University of Texas at Austin, Clements Center	Postdoctoral Fellow, 2015–16.

BOOK

2020. *Soldiers and Silver: Mobilizing Resources in the Age of Roman Conquest*. Austin: University of Texas Press (Ashley and Peter Larkin Series in Greek and Roman Culture).¹

In progress:

Best Fighters in the Field: The Roman Army of the Middle Republic, 311-89 BC.

PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

2024. "The Toga in Military Context." *Mnemosyne* 77: 1049–57.
2023. "Generals and Judges: Command, Constitution and the Fate of Carthage." *Libyan Studies* 54: 37–44.
2023. "Celtic Military Equipment in the Ancient Mediterranean: Innovation, Imitation, and Empire, 400-25 BC." *Journal of Military History* 87: 577–98.
2022. "Decimatio: Myth, Discipline and Death in the Roman Republic." *Antichthon* 56: 105–120.
2022. "Reconstructing the Battle of Pydna" (with Paul Johnston). *Greek, Roman and Byzantine Studies* 62: 44–76.
2021. "Centurions in Early Rome." *Ancient Society* 51: 101–21.
2020. "Panoply and Identity during the Roman Republic." *Papers of the British School at Rome* 88: 31–65.
2020. "The Evolution of the Manipular Legion." *Historia* 69: 38–56.

¹ Reviewed by Saskia Roselaar, *Ancient Warfare Magazine* 16.6 (2021), 57; Aaron Beek, *Ancient World Magazine* (2021) (www.ancientworldmagazine.com/articles/soldiers-silver-review/); Bret Devereaux, *A Collection of Unmitigated Pedantry* (<https://acoup.blog/2021/01/01/fireside-friday-january-1-2021/>); Jonathan Roth, *Journal of Military History* 86.2 (2022), 432–33; James Tan, *Journal of Roman Studies* 112 (2022), 305–306; Sally Mubarak, *Michigan War Studies Review* 2022-85 (<https://www.miwsr.com/2022-085.aspx>); Seth Bernard, *American Historical Review* 127(2022), 2040–2042.

2020. "A Census Record as a Source for Livy? The Life and Career of Spurius Ligustinus." *Mnemosyne* 73: 261–278.
2019. "Tactical Reform in the Late Roman Republic: The View from Italy." *Historia* 68: 76–94.
2019. "Reconstructing the Battle of Zama, 202 BC." *The Classical Journal* 114: 310–329.
2018. "The Election of Centurions in the Republican Period." *Ancient Society* 48: 147–67.
2017. "State Finance in the Middle Roman Republic: A Reevaluation." *American Journal of Philology* 138: 143–180.
2017. "Etruscan Identity and Service in the Roman Army: 300–100 BCE." *American Journal of Archaeology* 121: 275–292.
2016. "The Battle Scene on Aemilius Paullus's Pydna Monument: A Re-evaluation." *Hesperia* 85: 559–576.
2016. "The Attalid Victory at Magnesia on a Lost Plaque from Pergamon." *Anatolian Studies* 66: 81–90.
- 2014/15. "Visual Evidence for Roman Infantry Tactics." *Memoirs of the American Academy in Rome* 59/60: 103–120.
2014. "Sacred Plunder and the Seleucid Near East." *Greece and Rome* 61: 222–241.
2014. "Roman Infantry Tactics in the Mid-Republic: A Reassessment." *Historia* 63: 301–322.

CHAPTERS IN EDITED VOLUMES

2024. "A Commander Will Put an End to His Insolence. The Battle of Magnesia, 190 BC." In: *The Seleukids at War: Recruitment, Composition and Organization*, eds. A. Coskun and B. Scolnic. Franz Steiner Verlag, 269–296.
2024. "Escalation Dominance in Antiquity." In: *The Practice of Strategy: A Global History*, ed. Jeremy Black. *Società Italiana di Storia Militare/Nadir Media*, 37–62.
2023. "Tributum and Spoils in the Middle Republic." In: *Spoils in the Roman Republic: Boon and Bane*, eds. Marian Helm and Saskia T. Roselaar. Franz Steiner Verlag, 199–216.
2023. "Goodbye to All That: The Roman Citizen Militia after the Great Wars." In: *A Community in Transition: Rome between Hannibal and the Gracchi*, eds. Mattia Balbo and Federico Santangelo. Oxford University Press, 146–164.
2023. "Conquest and Continenence: Roman Sexual Politics at the Dawn of Empire." In: *Gendering Roman Imperialism*, eds. Hannah Cornwell and Greg Woolf. Brill (Impact of Empire 43), 128–45.
2022. "Generalship and Knowledge in the Middle Roman Republic." In: *Generalship in Ancient Greece, Rome and Byzantium*, eds. Richard Evans and Shaun Tougher. Edinburgh University Press, 86–97.
2018. "War." In: *A Cultural History of Western Empires in Antiquity*, ed. Carlos Noreña. Bloomsbury, 39–61.

BOOK REVIEWS

2025. Review of Charlotte Van Regenmortel, *Soldiers Wages and Hellenistic Economies* (Cambridge, 2024). *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2025.07.27 (online/open access).
2025. Review of J. Armstrong, A. Pomeroy and D. Rosenbloom (eds.) *Money, warfare and power in the ancient world: studies in honour of Matthew Freeman Trundle* (Bloomsbury, 2024). *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2025.01.10 (online/open access).
2024. Review of Graham Wrightson, *The Third Macedonian War and the Battle of Pydna* (Pen and Sword 2023). *Journal of Military History* 88: 798–799.
2024. Review of Rose Mary Sheldon. *Guarding the Caesars: Roman Internal Security under the Flavian Dynasty* (Rowman and Littlefield 2023). *Journal of Military History* 88: 803–804.

2024. Review of Ian Worthington, *The Last Kings of Macedonia and the Triumph of Rome*. (Oxford 2023). *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2024.05.06 (online/open access).
2024. Review of James Gersbach, *The war-cry in the Greco-Roman World* (Routledge 2022). *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2024.01.031 (online/open access).
2024. Review of Yaron Eliav, *A Jew in the Roman Bathhouse: Cultural Interaction in the Ancient Mediterranean* (Princeton 2023). *Jewish History* (2024), doi.org/10.1007/s10835-023-09457-7.
2023. Review of Simon Elliot, *Romans at War: The Roman Military in the Republic and Empire* (Casemate 2020). *Ancient East and West* 22, 350-51.
2022. Review of Martijn Wijnhoven, *European Mail Armour: Ringed Battle Shirts from the Iron Age, Roman Period and Early Middle Ages* (Amsterdam 2022). *Classical Review*, 180–182.
2022. Review of Walter Scheidel, *Escape from Rome* (Princeton 2019). *Michigan War Studies Review* 2022-088 (online/open access).
2022. Review of Karl-Joachim Hölkeskamp, Sema Karataş, and Roman Roth (eds.), *Empire, Hegemony or Anarchy? Rome and Italy, 201-31 BCE* (Steiner Verlag 2019). *Ancient History Bulletin Online Reviews* 12, 22-26 (online/open access).
2022. Review of Elizabeth Pearson, *Exploring the Mid-Republican Origins of Roman Military Administration. With Stylus and Spear* (Routledge 2020). *Ancient History Bulletin Online Reviews* 11, 45-47 (online/open access).
2021. Review of F. Naiden and D. Raisbeck (eds.), *Reflections on Macedonian and Roman Grand Strategy* (Bogotá 2019). *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2021.12.48 (online/open access).
2021. Review of Paul Johnston, *The Army of Ptolemaic Egypt, 323 to 204 BC: An Institutional and Operational History* (Pen and Sword 2020). *Michigan War Studies Review* 2021-098 (online/open access).
2021. Review of Guy de la Bédoyère, *Gladus: The World of the Roman Soldier* (Chicago 2020). *Journal of Military History* 85.3, 782–83.
2021. Review of S.H. Davies, *Rome, Global Dreams, and the International Origins of an Empire* (Brill 2020). *Classical Review* 71.1, 166–68.
2020. Review of A. Fitzpatrick and C. Haselgrove (eds.), *Julius Caesar's Battle for Gaul: New Archaeological Discoveries* (Oxbow 2019). *American Journal of Archaeology* 125.1 (online/open access).
2019. Review of Steel Brand, *Killing for the Republic: Citizen Soldiers and the Roman Way of War* (Johns Hopkins 2019). *Phoenix* 73, 431–32.
2019. Review of A. Coskun and D. Engels (eds.), *Rome and the Seleukid Near East* (Collection Latomus 2019). *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2019.12.31 (online/open access).
2019. Review of D. Hoyos, *Rome Victorious: The Irresistible Rise of the Roman Empire* (I.B. Tauris 2018). *Ancient History Bulletin Online Reviews* 9, 108–09.
2019. Review of A. Goldsworthy, *Hadrian's Wall* (Basic Books 2018). *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2019.2.41 (open access).
2018. Review of J. Tan, *Power and Public Finance at Rome, 264-49 BCE* (Oxford 2017). *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, 48.4, 563–64.
2017. Review of V. Caston and S. Weineck (eds.), *Our Ancient Wars* (Ann Arbor, 2016) and J. Fabre Serris and A. Keith (eds.) *Women and War in Antiquity* (Baltimore 2015). *American Journal of Philology* 138.2, 378–82.
2017. Review of A. Goldsworthy, *Pax Romana* (New Haven 2016). *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2017.6.52 (online/open access).
2016. Review of F. Vervaet, *The High Command in the Roman Republic* (Stuttgart 2013). *Classical Review* 66.2, 495–97.

2016. Review of D. Hoyos, *Mastering the West* (Oxford 2015). *Classical Review* 66.1, 203–204.
2015. Review of N. Sekunda, *The Antigonid Army* (Gdasńk 2013). *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2015.09.23 (online/open access).
2015. Review of J. Clark, *Triumph in Defeat: Military Loss and the Roman Republic* (Oxford 2014). *Classical Review* 65.2, 523–24.
2014. Review of C. Matthew and M. Trundle, *Beyond the Gates of Fire: New Perspectives on Thermopylae* (Pen and Sword 2013). *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2014.05.43 (online/open access).

POPULAR PUBLICATIONS & ENCYCLOPEDIA ARTICLES

- Forthcoming, “Armies, Roman Republic.” *Oxford Classical Dictionary*, 3rd Edition.
2024. “Zeuxis.” In *The Encyclopedia of Ancient History*, ed. Andrew Erskine. Wiley. DOI: 10.1002/9781444338386.wbeah09246.pub2
2018. “Archaeology of the Roman Army.” In *Encyclopedia of Global Archaeology*, ed. Claire Smith, Springer.
2016. “Campania,” “Cornelius Scipio (cos. 218),” “debt,” “Decius Mus,” and “Decurion.” In *Conflict in Ancient Greece and Rome*, ed. Sara Phang. ABC-CLIO.
2013. *Antiochus the Great*. Barnsley: Pen and Sword.
2011. “Letter from Iraq.” *Archaeology Magazine* 64.2, 47–52.
- 2009–present. Numerous articles, essays and reviews in *Ancient Warfare Magazine*, *MHQ: The Quarterly Journal of Military History*, *Desperta Ferro*, *Ancient History Magazine*, *A Collection of Unmitigated Pedantry* (*acoup.blog*) and the Society for Classical Studies blog.

PRESENTATIONS

2025. “Response to B. Scolnic and G. Wrightson, ‘Each Event on its Proper Scale.’” Seleucid Lecture Series. June 18.
2025. “Outsiders in Ancient Warfare (Panel Response).” War in the Ancient World International Conference. May 31.
2025. “The Carthaginian Masters: Settler Colonialism, Racecraft and Empire in Ancient North Africa.” (w. Dominic Machado). Society for Classical Studies Annual Meeting. Jan. 5.
2024. “*Socii* and *Auxilia*: Foreign Manpower in the Roman Army from Republic to Empire.” Classical Association of Canada. May 14.
2023. “Technology, Tactics and Ways and War.” Invited Talk, III Congreso Internacional Arte y Arqueología del Mundo Antiguo: La Guerra, Universidad de Murcia. Oct. 20.
2023. “Soldiers and Silver: Mobilizing Resources in the Age of Roman Conquest.” Invited talk, New York Military Affairs Symposium (delivered remotely). June 16.
2023. “The Grand Strategy of the Achaemenid Empire.” Society for Military History Annual Meeting, San Diego. March 25.
2023. “Celtic Military Equipment in the Mediterranean: Innovation, Imitation and Empire.” Invited talk, Stanford University Department of Classics. March 3.
2023. “How Grand was Roman Grand Strategy?” Invited talk, New York Military Affairs Symposium (delivered remotely). Jan. 20.
2023. “The Toga in Military Context.” Joint Panel Session (New Direction in Roman Republican Warfare) at the SCS/AIA Annual Meeting. Jan. 7.
2022. “Legion v. Cataphract: The Battle of Magnesia, 190 BC.” Invited talk, Seleucid Lecture Series (delivered remotely). Dec. 21.
2022. “Carthage: A Republic at War” Invited talk, Chinese University of Hong Kong, World History Seminar (delivered remotely). Oct. 27.

2022. "Democracy in the Roman Army." *8^e Congrès sur le armée romaine*, Université Lyon III, Lyon. Participation invited. Oct. 20.
2022. "Financing Roman Fleets during the Middle Republic." *Financing War*, New College, Oxford. Participation invited. Sept. 1.
2021. "Primitive Coins, Advanced State Economy." *Debating Early Rome* (delivered remotely). Dec. 3.
2021. "Professionalism in the Roman Republican Army." Panel Session (Explaining Roman Military Success) at the Society for Military History Annual Meeting (delivered remotely). May 22.
2021. "The Marian Reforms without Marius" Invited talk, University of Auckland, Department of Classics and Ancient History (delivered remotely). March 29.
2020. "Centurions in Early Rome." Invited talk, Fairfield University, Department of Classics. Jan. 29.
2020. "Panoply and Identity in the Roman Army." Joint Panel Session (The Roman Army in the Republic) at the SCS/AIA Annual Meeting, Washington D.C. Jan. 5.
2019. "The Transformation of the Roman Citizen Cavalry." *A Community in Transition: 200-134 BC*, British School at Rome. Participation invited. Jan. 18.
2018. "Loot and Tributum." *Spoils in the Roman Republic*, Ruhr Universität Bochum. Participation invited. Sept. 19.
2018. "Carthaginian Manpower." Joint Panel Session (Carthage and the Mediterranean) at the SCS/AIA Annual Meeting, Boston. Jan. 6.
2017. "A New Model Army? The So-Called Marian Reforms and the Late Roman Republic." Invited talk, Santa Clara University. Nov. 6.
2017. "Etruscan Identity and Service in the Roman Army." Invited talk, Texas Tech University. March 27.
2017. "Sexuality and Empire: The Politics of Restraint." Panel Session (Power and Politics: Approaching Roman Imperialism During the Republic) at the SCS Annual Meeting, Toronto. Jan. 8.
2016. "Etruscan Identity and Roman Military Service." AHMA Colloquium Series, UC Berkeley. Sept. 2.
2016. "State Finance in Rome and the Hellenistic Kingdoms: A Comparative Approach." *War in the Ancient World: The Economic Perspective*, University College London. April 29.
2016. "*Suffragium Legionis*: Popular Politics and the Army in the Middle Republic." Panel session (Participatory Politics and Ancient Warfare) at the SCS Annual Meeting, San Francisco. Jan. 9.
2015. "Contested Victories: Roman Battle and Hellenistic Art." Panel session (*Pacem Appellant*: Policy, Propaganda, and Peace in Rome's Empire) at the AIA Annual Meeting, New Orleans. Jan. 9th.
2014. "Visual Evidence for Roman Infantry Tactics: 200 BC-AD 200." Classics Colloquium, UC Berkeley. Spring.
2014. "*Suffragium Legionis*: 'Democracy' and the Roman Republican Army." Berkeley Ancient Italy Roundtable. Oct. 4th.
2013. "Native Temples and Predatory Rule in the Seleucid Empire." *Connected Worlds Conference*, UC Berkeley. Jan. 25.

Courses Taught

University at Albany, SUNY:

Undergraduate:

European Civilization I.

The Roman Empire.

The Roman Republic.

Archaic and Classical Greece

The Hellenistic World
Senior Capstone Seminar
Jews, Hellenism and Early Christianity
The Historians Craft

War, Society and Culture to 1789
Seniors Honors Thesis

Graduate:

Imperialism in the Ancient World (Readings in International History).

Big History (Readings in International History).

Graduate Research Seminar

Various Independent Studies

University of California, Berkeley:

The Roman Republic.

Warfare in the Ancient World.

Elementary Latin.

Roman Civilization.

Monarchy, Aristocracy and Democracy: Ancient Politics in Practice (Research Seminar)

Participatory Politics in the Ancient World (Research Seminar).

Senior Thesis Writing Seminar (Ancient).

Santa Clara University:

The Roman Republic. *Heroes and Heroism*

The Roman Empire. *Caesar (Freshman Seminar).*

University of Texas at Austin:

Military History of the Ancient Mediterranean.

Honors Thesis Advisor: Melanie Atkinson (2022); External: Alan Nguyen (UMBC, 2023).

Graduate Student Pedagogy:

University at Albany:

PhD Exam Committee: Marven Corrielus (Sp. 2020), Nicholas Charnley (Sp. 2021).

PhD Dissertation Committee: Nicholas Charnley (Sp. 2024), Shawn Faeth (in progress).

MA Exam Committee: Alex Rings (Sp. 2019), Aidan McLaren (Spring 2024).

External:

MA Thesis Reader: Thomas J.F.D. Cain, University of Auckland (Sp. 2021).

PhD Viva Examiner: Connor Beattie, Oxford University (Sp. 2025).

PhD Committee: Sarah Mark, McGill University (in progress).

FUNDING AND AWARDS

2021: Dr. Nuala McGann Drescher Diversity and Inclusion Leave Program (for veteran status).

SERVICE

Service to Department and University

2018-19, 21-23: Member, Departmental Undergraduate Committee.

2019-21: Member, Departmental Graduate Committee.

2019-21: Representative, Faculty Advisory Council, College of Arts and Sciences.

2021: Jury, Distinguished Doctoral Dissertation Award.

2021: Jury, CAS Dean's Teaching Award

2021-24: Member, Faculty Council of Research

2021-22: FRAP A.

2022-23: FRAP A, Conference and Journals.

2023-24: Conference and Journals (Chair), ERCA.

2023–2024: Director of Undergraduate Studies, History Department.

Service to Profession:

- Member, Communications Committee, Society for Classical Studies, 2025-28.
- Panel Organizer
 - “Power and Diversity: Centering Achaemenid Imperialism.” AIA 2024 Annual Meeting, Chicago.
 - “The Roman Army in the Republic.” SCS/AIA 2020 Annual Meeting, Washington D.C.
 - “Carthage and the Mediterranean.” SCS/AIA 2018 Annual Meeting, Boston.
 - “Power and Politics: Approaching Roman Imperialism during the Republic.” SCS 2017 Annual Meeting, Toronto.
 - “Participatory Politics and Ancient Warfare.” SCS 2016 Annual Meeting, San Francisco
 - “*Pacem Appellant*: Policy, Propaganda, and Peace in Rome’s Empire.” AIA 2015 Annual Meeting, New Orleans.
- Member, Hudson Valley Community College Social Sciences Advisory Board, 2022–24.
- Peer reviewer for articles submitted to *Hesperia* (3x), *International History Review*, *Phoenix*, *War in History*, *Classical Quarterly* (2x), *Gerión*, *Journal of Roman Archaeology*, and *Journal of Ancient History*.
- Manuscript reviewer for books submitted to Rowman and Littlefield, Bloomsbury Academic, Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press (2x) and Brill.

MILITARY SERVICE

Second Lieutenant-Captain, Armor, California Army National Guard: 2005-2016.

Company Commander, HHC, Camp Roberts, February 2012-December 2014.

Executive Officer, B Co, 1-144th Field Artillery, deployed to Kosovo, October 2009-May 2010.

Rifle Platoon Leader, A Co, 1-160th Infantry, deployed to Iraq, June 2007-May 2008.

Selected Awards:

Meritorious Service Medal w/OLC
Army Commendation Medal

Army Achievement Medal
Kosovo Campaign Medal

Iraq Campaign Medal
NATO Medal

REFERENCES

Carlos Noreña
Associate Professor
Department of History
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Erich Gruen
Wood Professor, Emeritus
Department of History
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Nicholas Purcell
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David Potter
Francis W. Kelsey Collegiate Professor of Greek and Roman History
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