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Humanitas

The Newsletter of the Ohio Classical Conference



Winter 2017

Humanitas is the bulletin of the **Ohio Classical Conference**, a professional organization of teachers of the Classics in the state of Ohio. The purpose of **Humanitas** is to:

- ❖ Provide updates on the business of the OCC and its annual meeting;
- ❖ Provide a venue for Ohio teachers of the Classics to:
 - Share information about events at their institutions;
 - Share research conducted by themselves or their students;
 - Publicize awards and honors won by Ohio teachers and their students.

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A Message From the OCC President

Dear OCC Members-

On October 7th, 2017 the OCC will hold its 96th annual meeting at the [Columbus Academy](#) in Gahanna— parallel to and in conjunction with a fall meeting of the [Ohio Junior Classical League](#). We hope you will attend.

Currently, presenters include Lynne Lancaster (Ohio University, keynote speaker), Del Chrol (Marshall University, for a history simulation), Garrett Jacobsen (Denison University, Latin literature), and Timothy Wutrich (CWRU, on drama).

We encourage you to browse the [OCC website](#) to learn about [scholarship opportunities](#) and [awards available](#) both for you and your students

If you do not belong to the OCC, we encourage you to [join now](#).

Sincerely,

William Owens, OCC President
Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Classics
and World Religions, Ohio University



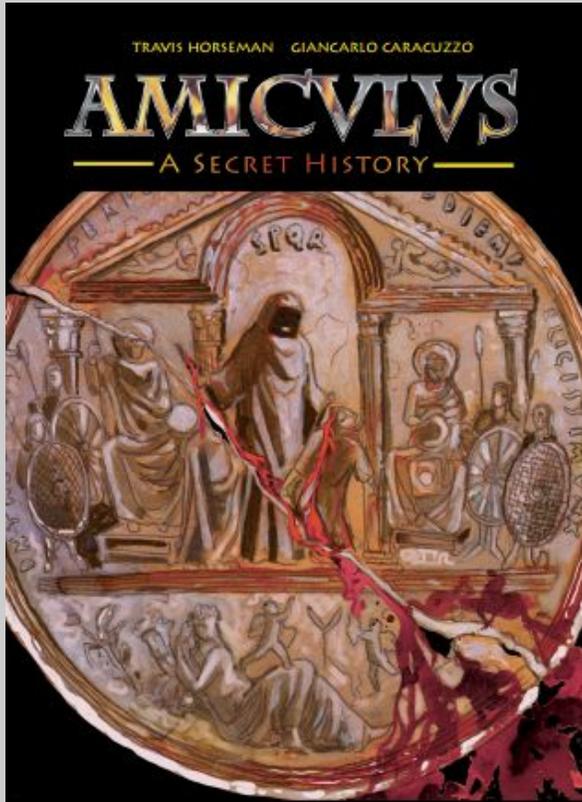
Interested in Finding Out About the History of the OCC?

The Ohio Classical Conference, as noted above, has a long history. If you are interested in finding out more about the OCC, check out the article, [The First Thirty-Five Years of the Ohio Classical Conference](#), which appeared in *The Classical Journal*, Vol. 53, No. 1 (Oct., 1957), pp. 25-28. The article is available on the [JSTOR Website](#) (If you do not have a subscription, there is an option to create a free account).

Amiculus: A Graphic Novel

By Travis Horseman

Travis Horseman, originally from Springfield, Ohio, developed the idea of *Amiculus* while a college student at Ohio University. Originally a ten-page paper he wrote while in college, *Amiculus: A Secret History* has evolved into an entire comic book series. For more on Travis' bio, please [click here](#).



Visit the [Amiculus Website](#) to download a preview of the series and view trailers for Volumes I and II of the series.

Making Amiculus

This story has been a long time in the making, and is a culmination of my lifelong passions for comic books, classical history, and theater. The very first version of it was a ten-page play titled *Romulus Augustulus* that I wrote for a playwriting class in 1996, featuring a young boy in a crown, on a throne, locked in a room, forbidden to speak, move, or make anyone aware of his presence, as the world outside the room rapidly fell apart.

I left the play behind a long time ago, yet the boy-emperor's story compelled me to return to it years later. I had intended it to be a one-off story, a 24-page dry run to test the waters for a different series idea. However, as ideas do, this one took on its own life in spite of my plans. Twenty-four pages became 32, then 75, and now, at 173 pages of story, *Amiculus* has become an epic unto itself.

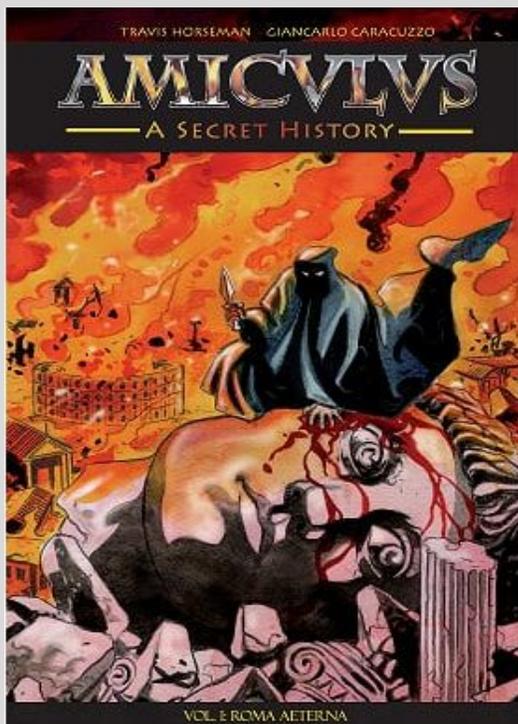
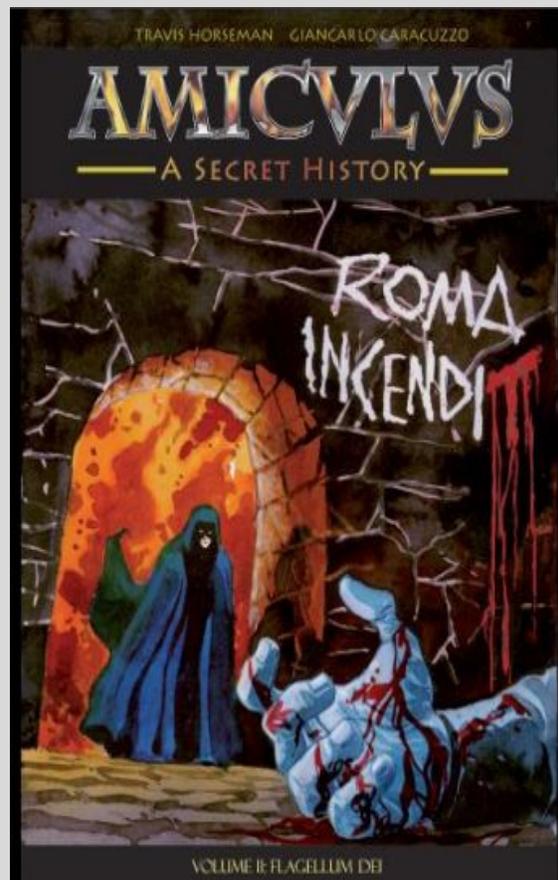
I am incredibly fortunate and grateful to have a phenomenal creative team in this undertaking: my letterer, Frank Cvetkovic, who makes my words look as great on the page as they do in my mind; my tireless, innovative graphics wizards, Pam Kame and Will Graver; and my incomparable artist-colorist team, Giancarlo and Flavia Caracuzzo. It is an understatement to say these two know their way around a comic page. Giancarlo and Flavia bring the story bursting forth with the urgent, frenetic vibrancy and dazzling color that is their signature style. Simply seeing my story brought to life in any form would have been thrilling enough; in their hands, I can imagine the furthest, most thrilling limits of *Amiculus* potential.

THE (NOT-SO) SECRET HISTORY

"In A.D. 475, the Roman general Flavius Orestes overthrew the Western Roman emperor Julius Nepos and placed his 12-year-old son Romulus on the throne. A year later, Orestes's partner, the German chieftain Odoacer, turned against him, and the two went to war. Odoacer destroyed the Roman army, executed Orestes, and forced Romulus to surrender his crown, ending the empire in the West. Romulus was exiled and soon disappeared from history."

And that's about it.

Look for "Romulus Augustulus" in the principal histories that describe the fall of Rome (Procopius, Jordanes, Edward Gibbon, and the Anonymus Valesianus) and you will find little more than a version of the above paragraph. At the time it happened, the event of Rome's fall in A.D. 476 was largely met with a shrug. This is partly due to the fact that 1) only the Western Roman Empire collapsed in 476; 2) the Eastern half



of the empire survived for another 1000 years; 3) Rome had long since ceased to be important as a capital; 4) Romulus himself was a complete nobody, a pawn, and an illegitimate pawn at that. The few descriptions of him are entirely derogatory. He is referred to by the cruel nickname Momyllus Augustulus, "the disgraceful little emperor," for the shameful end to which he (through no fault of his own) brought the long, proud line of Western emperors.

There's a tragedy, I think, to the fact that Romulus never had a say in any of this. History has deprived him not only of a voice, but of any identity at all. The boy-emperor is something of a literary tabula rasa, left to the imagination of the writer to fill him in. To some degree, I have done this in *Amiculus*. In setting this as his own history, I'd like to think he would like the story I have chosen for him.



A sample page from the Amiculus series.

For more information, visit the Amiculus Webpage at www.amiculusrome.com.

Profiles of Ohio Classics Programs

- If you wish to have a profile of your program included in a future issue of *Humanitas* please use one of the links below:
 - The questionnaire for secondary programs can be found [here](#).
 - The questionnaire for college/university programs can be found [here](#).

Secondary Program: Walnut Hills High School

Name: [Walnut Hills High School](#)

Location: <http://www.walnuthillseagles.com/>

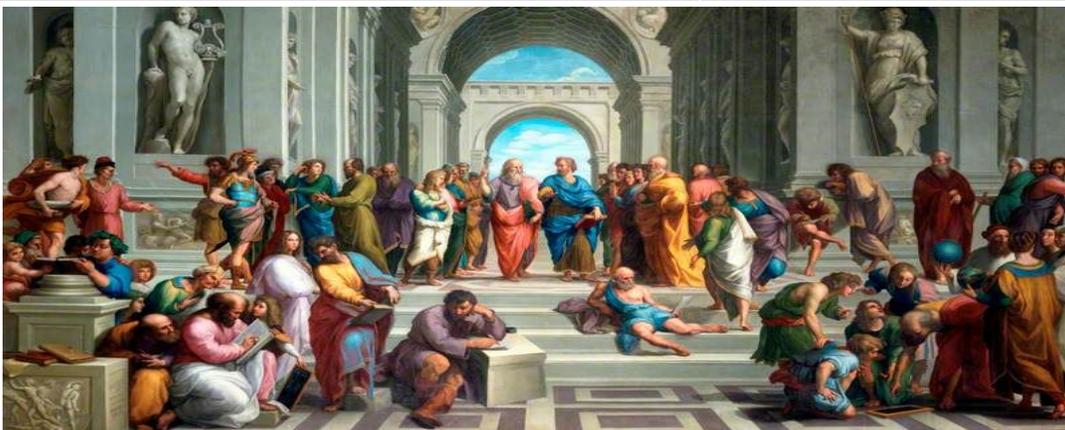
Faculty:

Sam Pogoni (Chair)
 Daniel Beaven
 Matthew Henstridge
 Kathleen Keener
 Tara Ligon
 Barrett Smith
 Elizabeth Thomas
 Dr. John Thomas
 Andrew Truty
 Laura Wasem

About the Program

Walnut Hills H.S. requires all students entering in the seventh grade to take three years of Latin (Latin I-III). A fourth year is optional, and Classics offerings in tenth through twelfth graders include Latin IV Advanced Placement, Latin IV AA Poetry, and Latin IV Prose. The Classics Department also offers Archaeology and Ancient and Medieval History in conjunction with the Social Studies Department.

Walnut Hills also sponsors a JCL Chapter and foreign travel to Italy. Each year, over 500 Walnut Hill students take the N.L.E.



University Program: Franciscan University of Steubenville

Website: <https://www.franciscan.edu/departments/classics/>

Faculty:



Dr. Joseph Almeida, Chair, Director of the Great Books Honors Program, Director of the Legal Studies Program, Professor of Classics and Legal Studies

Education

PhD in Classics, 1999, University of California at Santa Barbara JD, 1988, Villanova University Law School, Villanova, PA ; MA in Classics, 1985, Villanova University; MA in English Literature, 1984, Middlebury College; BA in Liberal Arts (Great Books Curriculum), 1981, Thomas Aquinas College, Santa Paula, CA

Areas of Specialization

Solon's Political poetry; Greek Philosophy, Latin Elegy

Dr. Richard Smith, Professor of Classics

Education

Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, 1987-1991, Ph.D. (Classics) Harvard Divinity School, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1978-1981, M.Div. cum laude, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York, 1975-1977, B.A. (Ancient History), Heinrich Blücher Award to a Graduating Senior for Scholarship, St. John's College, Annapolis, Maryland, 1972-1974

Areas of Specialization

Medieval Latin

Dr. Sara Klitenic Wear, Professor of Classics

Education

PhD Trinity College, Dublin (Classics)
M.Litt. Trinity College, Dublin (Classics)
BA, The University of Chicago (Classical Languages)

Areas of Specialization

Neoplatonism; ancient Greek philosophy

About the Program

The Classics Major at Franciscan University a rigorous instruction in the ancient Greek and Latin languages. The department also offers a Greek minor, a Classical Latin minor, and an Ecclesiastical Latin minor. Classics students at Franciscan University also have teaching internship opportunities, as well as opportunities to teach Latin language, civilization, and spoken Latin to the surrounding community. For more information please visit the [Department's Webpage](#).

News From Ohio Classicists

Ohio Latin Students Compete in the 67th Annual OJCL Convention

On February 24th through 26th, 2017, Latin students from around the state competed in the 67th Annual OJCL Convention. The Convention was held at the Crowne Plaza Columbus North. At the Convention, students competed in a variety of artistic, academic, and dramatic contests. Click on some of the following links for further information about the Ohio Junior Classical League:

- View the [Program](#) for the 2017 OJCL Convention.
- View [photos](#) from the 2017 OJCL
- View [this article](#) about the benefits of the Ohio Junior Classical League.

Congratulations to Saint Ursula Academy, Winner of the First Annual National Classics Week Contest

Congratulations to Saint Ursula Academy for winning the First Annual National Classics Week Contest, sponsored by the OJCL. For their accomplishment, they were awarded a \$75 gift card to a restaurant of their choice. The contest involved a series of challenges celebrating National Classics Week. For more information on this contest, [click here](#).

Please Apply for Ohio Classical Conference Awards

The Ohio Classical Conference sponsors two awards: the Hildesheim Vase (in recognition of an outstanding secondary Latin program) and the OCC College Classics Awards. Applications for each of the awards can be found at [this link](#). Both applications are due by September 30th (Postmarked).

Please Apply for Ohio Classical Conference Scholarships

The Ohio Classical Conference offers four scholarships- please apply (and encourage your students to apply) for the following scholarships:

- [Charles T. Murphy Scholarship for Foreign Study in the Summer](#) (**App. Deadline Nov. 15**)
- [OCC Prospective Latin Teacher Scholarship](#) (**Application Deadline Apr. 1st**)
- [OCC Scholarship for the Study of Greek or Latin](#) (**Application Deadline Apr. 1st**)
- [OCC Professional Development Scholarship](#) (**Application Deadline Apr. 1st**)

Please Send Announcements for Publication in Humanitas

There are great things related to the Classics going on around the state. Please send information to us (such as awards won by members/their students, scholarships, lectures, etc) for publication by using [this link](#).

Online Resource Corner

“Classical Podcastery” via Rogue Classicism

<https://rogueclassicism.com/classical-podcastery/>

The link above contains a list of podcasts related to the study of the Classics. This very thorough list contains links for podcasts directly related to the Latin language, and also Classical history and mythology. The list also include links to lectures available to academic lectures on iTunes U, as well as a list of popular podcasts that at times refer to the Classics.

“Scansion,” From Dickison College Commentaries

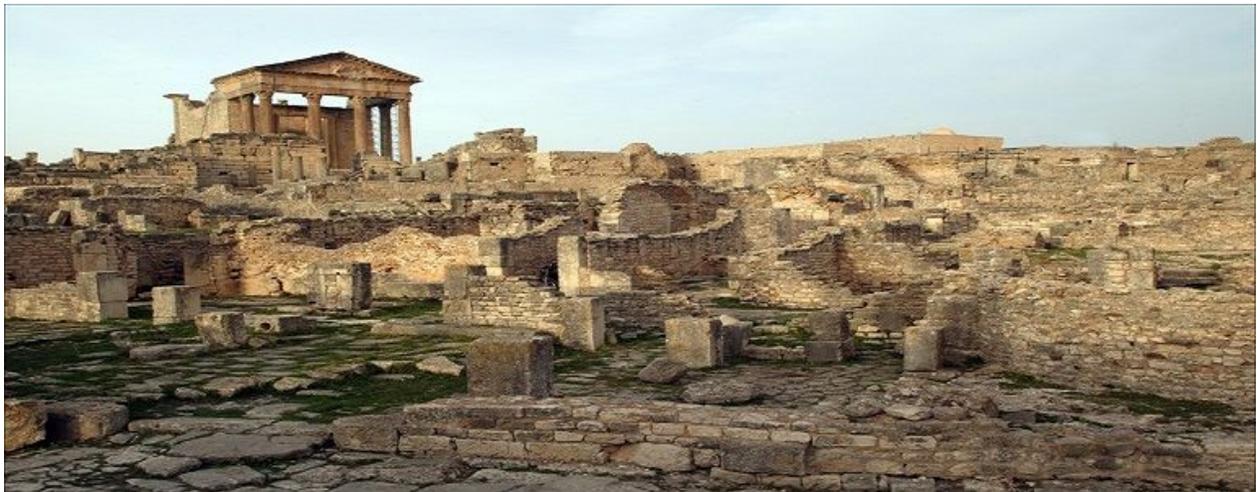
<http://dcc.dickinson.edu/ovid-amores/scansion>

The Dickison College Commentaries collection provides a series of introductory videos on Latin scansion and pronunciation. Topics include prosody, vowel quantities, ambiguous quantities, known quantities, syllable quantities, the mute/liquid rule, and elision.

“Greek and Roman Mythology,” The University of Pennsylvania, by Peter T. Struck

<http://www.classics.upenn.edu/myth/php/index.php>

Professor Struck provides a series of readings on Classical Mythology. Topics include Homer, Hesiod, Homeric Hymns, Tragedy, and Remythologizing. Although likely more suited to upper-level students, this website provides a series of highly readable and informational articles.



Ohio Classical Conference: Scholarships, Awards, and Membership

Scholarships and Awards

- The Ohio Classical Conference offers several scholarships. These include (click the link to open the application):
 - [Charles T. Murphy Scholarship for Foreign Study in the Summer](#) (**App. Deadline Nov. 15**)
 - [OCC Prospective Latin Teacher Scholarship](#) (**Application Deadline Apr. 1st**)
 - [OCC Scholarship for the Study of Greek or Latin](#) (**Application Deadline Apr. 1st**)
 - [OCC Professional Development Scholarship](#) (**Application Deadline Apr. 1st**)
- The Ohio Classical Conference offers two awards (Click the link to open the application):
 - [Application for the Hildesheim Vase Award](#)
 - [OCC College Award Application](#)

Join the OCC!

- Interested in joining the OCC? Please [click here](#) for a membership form.

Submission Instructions for Humanitas

- Please submit for publication in *Humanitas* by using the following links:
 - If you wish to submit a paper, please click [here](#) (provide your name, title, and a brief description of your paper).
 - To submit an announcement, please click [here](#).
 - To provide a profile of your program:
 - Secondary programs click [here](#).
 - College/university programs click [here](#).
 - To submit an online resource, please click [here](#) (provide the resource, the link, and a brief description).