Stanford



Grant Parker

Associate Professor of Classics, of African and African American Studies and, by courtesy, of Comparative Literature

Curriculum Vitae available Online

Bio

BIO

Grant Parker joined Stanford in 2006, having taught previously at Duke University. He has long researched and taught Latin literature and Roman imperial culture, e.g. The Making of Roman India (2008). Other publications include The Agony of Asar: a former slave's defence of slavery, 1742 (2001) and, as editor, South Africa, Greece, Rome: classical confrontations (2017). Since 2025 he has also taught African Studies in the newly constituted Department of African and African American Studies. As a comparative global humanist, his interest in monuments, collective memory and their media is expressed by several articles on obelisks and statues. Another ongoing theme is enslavement and its aftermaths, ancient and modern. Current work engages monument-mindedness in Southern Africa as well as the global reception of Virgil's poetry. His many roles on campus have included the Stanford Archaeology Center, the Center for African Studies, and Residential Education.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Associate Professor, Classics
- Associate Professor, African and African American Studies
- Associate Professor (By courtesy), Comparative Literature

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

- Fellowship, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, (2008-2009)
- Resident Fellow, Toyon Hall, Stanford University, (2010- present)
- Assistant to Associate Professor, Department of Classics, Stanford University, (2006- present)
- Honorary appointment, Department of History, Duke University, (2005-2006)
- Hunt Family Assistant Professor of Classical Studies, Duke University, (2004-2006)
- Assistant Professor of Latin, Department of Classical Studies, Duke University, (2001-2006)
- Assistant Professor, Department of Classical Studies, University of Michigan, (1999-2001)
- Assistant in Instruction and Lecturer in Latin, Princeton University, (1998-1999)
- Junior Lecturer, Department of Classics, University of the Witwatersrand, (1989-1991)
- Postdoctoral Fellow, Michigan Society of Fellows, University of Michigan, (1999-2001)

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Nominated as one of ten 'Standout Scholars' under the age of forty, Black Issues in Higher Education (2003)

BOARDS, ADVISORY COMMITTEES, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Chair, Department of Classics (2019 - present)
- Chair, Department of Classics (2015 - 2018)
- Co-Director, Center for African Studies (2014 - 2015)
- Member of Bing Overseas Studies Program Oversight Committee, Stanford University (2013 - present)
- Academic Press Referee, Cambridge University Press (2013 - 2013)
- Chair of Tenure Review Committee, Stanford University (2013 - 2013)
- Journal Referee, Historia (2013 - 2013)
- Faculty Library Committee, Stanford University (2012 - 2015)
- Member of Thesaurus Linguae Latinae Committee, American Philological Association (2012 - 2015)
- Academic Press Referee, Cambridge University Press (2012 - 2012)
- Chair of Search Committee, Stanford University (2012 - 2012)
- Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Classics, Stanford University (2011 - 2015)
- Academic Press Referee, I.B. Tauris (2010 - 2010)
- Journal Referee, Comparative Studies in Society and History (2010 - 2010)
- Journal Referee, Classical Journal (2010 - 2010)
- Journal Referee, Journal of Roman Studies (2010 - 2010)
- Journal Referee, Arethusa (2010 - 2010)
- Academic Press Referee, Oxford University Press (2009 - 2009)
- Academic Press Referee, Cambridge University Press (2009 - 2009)
- Academic Press Referee, Palgrave MacMillan (2009 - 2009)
- Journal Referee, Classical Receptions (2009 - 2009)
- Journal Referee, Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient (2009 - 2009)
- Journal Referee, Classical Antiquity (2009 - 2009)
- Academic Press Referee, Princeton University Press (2008 - 2008)
- Journal Referee, Art Bulletin (2008 - 2008)
- Academic Press Referee, Blackwell Publishers (2007 - 2007)
- Academic Press Referee, Witwatersrand University Press (2007 - 2007)
- Journal Referee, American Journal of Philology (2007 - 2007)
- Member of Thesaurus Linguae Latinae Committee, American Philological Association (2006 - 2008)
- Academic Press Referee, Yale University Press (2004 - 2004)
- Academic Press Referee, Blackwell Publishers (2004 - 2004)
- Journal Referee, Comparative Studies in Society and History (2001 - 2001)
- Academic Press Referee, Markus Wiener Publishers (2000 - 2011)
- Journal Referee, Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient (2000 - 2000)
- Journal Referee, American Journal of Philology (2000 - 2000)

ADDITIONAL PROGRAM AFFILIATIONS

- Center for Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity (CCSRE)

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- B.A., University of Cape Town , English and Latin (1987)
- B.A. (Honours), University of Cape Town , Latin (1988)
- M.A., University of Cape Town , Latin (1991)
- Ph.D., Princeton University , Classical Philology (1999)

Research & Scholarship

PROJECTS

- Museum of South African Museums - Stanford University
- Egypt in South Africa

Teaching

COURSES

2026-27

- Making of the Modern World: COLLEGE 119 (Spr)
- Sydney: Creative Arts and Heritage: OSPGEN 11 (Sum)

2025-26

- Advanced Latin: Seneca's Moral Epistles: CLASSICS 103L (Spr)
- Classical California: CLASSICS 17SC (Sum)
- Making of the Modern World: COLLEGE 119 (Spr)

2024-25

- Alexander and Asoka: Empire-building, Myth-making and Memory: CLASSICS 274, CLASSICS 374, RELIGST 273, RELIGST 373 (Aut)
- Alexander and Asoka: Readings in the Sources: CLASSICS 374G, RELIGST 373G (Aut)
- Berlin StoryMaps: OSPBER 92 (Win)
- Classical California: CLASSICS 17SC (Sum)
- Dynamic Australia: immigrant and indigenous experiences: CSRE 16A (Spr)
- Foundations of African Studies I: Africa in the 20th Century: AFRICAAM 145B, HISTORY 145B (Aut)
- Introduction to African Studies I: Africa in the 20th Century: HISTORY 45B (Aut)
- Making of the Modern World: COLLEGE 119 (Spr)
- Sydney: Creative Arts and Heritage: OSPGEN 11 (Sum)
- The Romance of Antiquity: MLA 386 (Spr)

2023-24

- Ancients and Moderns: Africa and South Asia: COLLEGE 116 (Spr)
- Classical California: CLASSICS 17SC (Sum)
- Narratives of Enslavement: AFRICAAM 145, CLASSICS 145, CLASSICS 245, COMPLIT 145C (Win)
- Reading Greek and Roman Slavery: CLASSICS 142, CLASSICS 242 (Win)
- Why College? Your Education and the Good Life: COLLEGE 101 (Aut)

STANFORD ADVISEES

Orals Chair

Mathew Ayodele, Aliyah Dunn-Salahuddin

Doctoral Dissertation Advisor (AC)

Sinead Brennan-McMahon

Master's Program Advisor

Jon Carter, Robert Evans, Susan Gladwin, Utsav Gupta, Monique Jones, Rah Mansoor, Anastasia Nevzgoda, Veronica Rogers, Daniel Wagner

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **Mobile monumentality: the case of obelisks** *Approaching Monumentality in Archaeology*
  Parker, G. R.
  edited by Osborne, J.
  Buffalo: SUNY Press.2014
- **Tarda solacia: liminal temporalities of Statius' Silvae** *The Roman Paratext*
  Parker, G. R.
  edited by Jansen, L.
  Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.2014: 112–128
- **Ashoka the Greek, converted and translated** *Volume on King Ashoka in history and historical memory*
  Parker, G. R.
  edited by Olivelle, P., Leoshko, J., Ray, H. P.
  Delhi: Oxford University Press.2012: 310–326
- **Capitein, Jacobus Elisa Johannes** *Dictionary of African Biography*
  Parker, G. R.
  edited by Gates, Jr., H. L., Akyeampong, E.
  W.E.B. Du Bois Institute for African and African American Research and Oxford University Press.2011
- **Heraclitus on the Highveld: the universalism (ancient and modern) of T.J. Haarhoff** *Classics and National Cultures*
  Parker, G. R.
  edited by Stehens, S. A., Vasunia, P.
  Oxford: Oxford University Press.2010: 217–234
- **India cartographica Some Roman sightings** *NEGOTIATING CULTURAL IDENTITY: LANDSCAPES IN EARLY MEDIEVAL SOUTH ASIAN HISTORY, 2ND EDITION*
  Parker, G., Ray, H.
  2020: 13–33
- **Barbarians** *Harvard Guide to the Classical Tradition*
  Parker, G. R.
  edited by Grafton, A. T., Most, G., Settis, S.
  Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press.2010
- **Can the subaltern speak Latin? The case of Capitein** *Latinity and Alterity*
  Parker, G. R.
  edited by Haskell, Y., Ruys, J. F.
  Tempe: Arizona Center for Medieval & Renaissance Studies and BREPOLS.2010: 241–258
- **Geography** *Harvard Guide to the Classical Traditions*
  Parker, G. R.

edited by Grafton, A. T., Most, G., Settis, S.
Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press.2010

- **Inflections of myth in Ausonius' Epigrams** *Mythos im Alltag-Alltag im Mythos. Die Banalität des Alltags in unterschiedlichen literarischen Verwendungskontexten*
  Parker, G. R.
  edited by Schmitz, C.
  Paderborn: Wilhelm Fink.2010: 161–174
- **Obelisks** *Harvard Guide to the Classical Tradition*
  Parker, G. R.
  edited by Grafton, A. T., Most, G., Settis, S.
  Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press.2010
- **India** *Harvard Guide to the Classical Tradition*
  Parker, G. R.
  edited by Grafton, A. T., Most, G., Settis, S.
  Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press.2010
- **East and West** *Harvard Guide to the Classical Traditions*
  Parker, G. R.
  edited by Grafton, A. T., Most, G., Settis, S.
  Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press.2010
- **Highways into byways: travels of Tiberius** *Antichthon*
  Parker, G. R.
  2009; 43: 64-78
- **The gender of travel: Cynthia and others** *Materiali e Discussioni per analisi del testi classici*
  Parker, G. R.
  2009
- **Isis** *Oxford Encyclopedia of Ancient Greece and Rome*
  Parker, G. R.
  edited by Gagarin, M.
  Oxford: Oxford University Press.2009
- **Cleopatra** *Oxford Encyclopedia of Ancient Greece and Rome*
  Parker, G. R.
  edited by Gagarin, M.
  Oxford: Oxford University Press.2009
- **Images of Mediterranean India: representing the subcontinent in ancient Greek and Roman art** *Ancient India and its Wider World*
  Parker, G. R.
  edited by Parker, G. R., Sinopoli, C.
  2008: 106–126
- **Ancient India in its Wider World**
  edited by Parker, G. R., Sinopoli, C.
  Ann Arbor: Center for South and South East Asian Studies, University of Michigan.2008
- **The Making of Roman India**
  Parker, G. R.
  Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.2008
- **Mediterranean Passages: readings from Dido to Derrida**
  edited by Cooke, M., Göknar, E., Parker, G. R.
  Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press.2008

- **Mapping the Mediterranean** *JOURNAL OF MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN STUDIES*
  Parker, G.
  2007; 37 (1): 1-7
- **Hellenism in an Afghan context** *Memory as History: the legacy of Alexander in Asia*
  Parker, G. R.
  edited by Ray, H. P., Potts, D. T.
  New Delhi: Aryan Books International.2007: 170–191
- **Obelisks still in exile: Monuments made to measure?** *3rd International Conference of Isis Studies*
  Parker, G.
  E J BRILL.2007: 209–222
- **Topographies of taste: Indian textiles and Mediterranean contexts** *Ars Orientalis*
  Parker, G. R.
  2007; 34: 19-37
- **Breyten Breytenbach** *Encyclopaedia of African Literature*
  Parker, G. R.
  edited by Gikandi, S.
  London: Routledge.2003: 77–79
- **Narrating monumentality: the Piazza Navona obelisk** *Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology*
  Parker, G. R.
  2003; 16 (2): 193-215
- **Ex oriente luxuria: Indian commodities and Roman experience** *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient*
  Parker, G. R.
  2002; 45 (1): 40-95
- **Crossings: Early Mediterranean contacts with India (Book Review)** *JOURNAL OF ROMAN STUDIES*
  Book Review Authored by: Parker, G.
  2001; 91: 197-197
- **Sitting down with the Barrington Atlas** *Journal of Roman Archaeology*
  Alcock, S. E., Dey, H. W., Parker, G.
  2001; 14: 454-461
- **Porous connections: the Mediterranean and the Red Sea** *Thesis Eleven*
  Parker, G. R.
  2001; 67: 59-79
- **The Agony of Asar: a thesis on slavery by the former slave, Jacobus Eliza Johannes Capitein, 1717-1747**
  Translated by Parker, G. R., Capitein, J. E.
  Princeton: Markus Wiener Publishers.2001
- **The Mediterranean and the Mediterranean world of Borden and Purcell** *Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology*
  Parker, G. R.
  2000; 13 (2): 228-232
- **Review of Taprobane: Ancient Sri Lanka as known to Greeks and Romans - D.P.M. Weerakkody** *Scholia*
  Parker, G. R.
  1999; 8: 115-120
- **Review of The Jews in Late Ancient Rome: evidence of cultural interaction in the Roman Diaspora - Leonard Victor Rutgers** *Scholia*
  Parker, G. R.
  1997; 6: 118-122
- **Intimations of immortality: a study of perennis** *Acta Classica*
  Parker, G. R.

1993; 36: 119-127

- **ORPHEUS IN THE 18TH-CENTURY, THE USE OF MYTH IN GLUCK 'ORFEO ED EURIDICE'** *ENGLISH STUDIES IN AFRICA*
  Parker, G.
  1992; 35 (2): 25-38
- **The physical being and circulation of ancient literature: an introduction** *Akroterion*
  Parker, G. R.
  1992; 37 (3-4): 114-133
- **Euhoe, parce Liber: Horace on wine and poetic inspiration** *South African Journal of Folklore Studies*
  Parker, G. R.
  1991; 2: 40-50
- **Patronage of letters in the early Roman Empire** *Akroterion*
  Parker, G. R.
  1991; 36 (4): 140-152
- **The 'divine machinery' of the Aeneid** *Akroterion*
  Parker, G. R.
  1989; 34 (2): 181-190