

ADA PALMER
Curriculum Vitae

The University of Chicago
Department of History
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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT:

- University of Chicago, Department of History, 2014 – Present, Assistant Professor
 - Associate Member of the Department of Classics
 - Member of the Stevanovich Institute on the Formation of Knowledge
 - Affiliate Member of the Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality
- Texas A&M University, Department of History, 2009 – 2014, Assistant Professor

EDUCATION:

- Ph.D., History, 2009, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
- M.A., History, June 2003, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
- B.A., History, *cum laude*, 2001, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA
- A.A., with distinction, 1999, Simon’s Rock College of Bard, Great Barrington, MA
- **Non-Degree Programs:**
 - *Seminario di Alta Cultura*, 2010, Istituto Internazionale di Studi Piceni, Sassoferrato, Italy
 - *Aestiva Romae Latinitatis*, 2004, with Fr. Reginald Foster, Rome, Italy

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS:

Books:

- *Reading Lucretius in the Renaissance*. I Tatti Renaissance Studies Series. Cambridge MA: Harvard University Press, 2014.
- *The Recovery of Classical Philosophy in the Renaissance, a Brief Guide*, Quaderni di Rinascimento 44. Co-author with James Hankins. Istituto Nazionale di Studi sul Rinascimento. [Florence]: Leo S. Olschki, 2008.

Peer-Reviewed Articles and Chapters:

- “Humanist Lives of Classical Philosophers and the Idea of Renaissance Secularization: Virtue, Rhetoric, and the Orthodox Sources of Unbelief.” *Renaissance Quarterly*, forthcoming.
- “The Effects of Authorial Strategies for Transforming Antiquity on the Place of the Renaissance in the Current Philosophical Canon,” in *Beyond Reception: Renaissance Humanism and the Transformation of Classical Antiquity*, eds. Patrick Baker, Johannes Helmrath, and Craig Kallendorf, forthcoming.
- “Reading Lucretius in the Renaissance.” *Journal of the History of Ideas*. July 2012 (volume 73, issue 3), pp. 395-416.
 - Recipient of the I Tatti Prize for Best Essay by a Junior Scholar in 2012.

- Recipient of the Selma V Forkosch prize for the best article published in the *Journal of the History of Ideas* in 2012.

Other Chapters and Articles:

- “Humanist Dissemination of Epicureanism,” in *The Oxford Handbook of Epicureanism*, ed. Phillip Mitsis. Oxford: Oxford University Press, forthcoming.
- “The Active and Monastic Life in Humanist Biographies of Pythagoras,” in *Forms and Transfers of Pythagorean Knowledge: Askesis – Religion – Science*, eds. Almut-Barbara Renger & Alessandro Stavru. Harrassowitz: Wiesbaden, 2016.
- “The Recovery of Stoicism in the Renaissance,” in *The Routledge Handbook of the Stoic Tradition*, ed. John Sellars. New York: Routledge, 2016.
- “The Use and Defense of the Classical Canon in Pomponio Leto’s Biography of Lucretius,” in *Vitae Pomponianae, Biografie di Autori Antichi nell’Umanesimo Romano (Lives of Classical Writers in Fifteenth-Century Roman Humanism)*, proceedings of a conference hosted by the Danish Academy in Rome and the American Academy in Rome, April 24th 2013, *Renaissanceforum* (Forum for Renaissance Studies, Universities of Aarhus & Copenhagen) 2015 (volume 9), pp. 87-106, http://www.renaissanceforum.dk/rf_9_2015.htm
- “All Life is Genocide: the Philosophical Pessimism of Osamu Tezuka,” in *Mangatopia: Essays on Manga and Anime in the Modern World*, ed. Timothy Perper and Martha Cornog. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-Clio Libraries Unlimited, 2011.
- “*Lux Dei*: Ficino and Aquinas on the Beatific Vision,” *Memini, Travaux et Documents* 6, Société des études médiévales du Québec. Montréal: 2002, pp. 129-152.

Reference Works:

- “Lucretius,” in *The Springer Encyclopedia of Renaissance Philosophy*, Springer Reference, forthcoming.
- “Diogenes Laertius,” in *The Springer Encyclopedia of Renaissance Philosophy*, Springer Reference, forthcoming.
- “Epicureanism,” in *The Springer Encyclopedia of Renaissance Philosophy*, Springer Reference, 2016.
- “T. Lucretius Carus, Addenda et Corrigenda,” in *Catalogus Translationum et Commentariorum*, vol. 10. Washington D.C.: Catholic University of America Press, 2014.

Book Reviews:

- “Lucretius after *The Swerve*.” Review essay focused on David Norbrook, Stephen Harrison, and Philip Hardie eds., *Lucretius and the Early Modern*, Classical Presences (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015) and Steven Greenblatt, *The Swerve: How the World Became Modern* (W. W. Norton, 2011). *Modern Philology*, forthcoming.
- Review of *De Rerum Natura Editio Princeps (1472-73)*, ed. Marco Beretta

- (Bologna: Bononia University Press, 2016), *Renaissance Quarterly*, forthcoming.
- Review of Kenneth Sheppard, *Anti-Atheism in Early Modern England 1580-1720: The Atheist Answered and His Error Confuted* (Brill, 2015), *Renaissance Quarterly*, forthcoming.
 - Review of Review of Christopher M. Graney, *Setting Aside All Authority: Giovanni Battista Riccioli and the Science against Copernicus in the Age of Galileo* (Notre Dame, Indiana: University of Notre Dame Press, 2015), *The Journal of Religion*, forthcoming.
 - Review of Eileen Reeves, *Evening News: Optics, Astronomy, and Journalism in Early Modern Europe* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2014), *The Journal of Modern History*, vol. 88 n. 4 (2016) 901-3.
 - Review of Marie Thérèse Jones-Davies ed., *Le Plaisir au Temps de la Renaissance* (Turnhout: Brepolis, 2010), *Renaissance Quarterly*, vol. 66 n. 1 (2013) 330-1.
 - Review of Stéphanie Lecompte, *La Chaîne d'Or des Poètes: Présence de Macrobie dans l'Europe humaniste* (Geneva, Librairie Droz. S.A., 2009), *Neo-Latin News* 70.1-2 (2012), 102-4.

FELLOWSHIPS AND RESEARCH GRANTS:

- **While at the University of Chicago:**
 - Smart Museum of Art Grant for Faculty Initiatives, 2017.
 - Stevanovich Institute on the Formation of Knowledge Conference Co-Sponsorship Award, 2017.
 - Morris Fishbein Center for the History of Science and Medicine funds for university activities, 2016 and 2017.
 - Nicholson Center fund for faculty activities, 2015 and 2017.
 - Franke Institute for the Humanities Residential Faculty Fellowship, University of Chicago, 2015-16.
- **While at Texas A&M University:**
 - National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute: Roman Comedy in Performance, August 2012
 - Villa I Tatti, Harvard University Center for Italian Renaissance Studies, Fellowship, 2011-12
 - Texas A&M University Melburn G. Glasscock Center for Humanities Research Co-Sponsorship Grant, Fall 2012
 - Texas A&M College of Liberal Arts Strategic Development Fund, co-developer of “Classical Transformations Center” proposal, 2011
 - Texas A&M College Faculty Research Enhancement Award, 2011
 - Texas A&M Program to Enhance Scholarly and Creative Activities, 2010
 - Texas A&M International Research Travel Assistance Grant, 2010
 - Texas A&M University Melburn G. Glasscock Center for Humanities Research Faculty Stipendiary Fellowship, 2009-10

- **While at Harvard University:**
 - Fulbright Scholar, Italy, 2006-7
 - Frederick Sheldon Traveling Fellowship, Harvard University, 2006-7
 - Villa I Tatti, Harvard University Center for Italian Renaissance Studies, Readership, 2005
 - Harvard University History Department Summer Research Grant, 2002

INVITED LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS:

- Address to accompany the exhibit “Harry Potter’s World: Renaissance Science, Magic and Medicine,” Crerar Library, February 22nd.
- “Opinio Non Christiana: Renaissance Lucretius Marginalia” at the Paideia Living Latin in Rome institute, Rome, Italy, June 28th 2016.
- “Cities as Centers of Knowledge and Crisis in Raffaele Maffei’s Humanist Encyclopedia *Commentaria Urbana* (1506)” at the June meeting of the Netherlands Institute of Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences group on the Formation of Knowledge, June 22nd 2016.
- “Reading Lucretius in the Renaissance” at Afterlives of Hellenistic Ethics, University of Queensland Node of the ARC Centre of Excellence for the History of Emotions in Europe (1100-1800), Santa Lucia, Queensland Australia, April 9th 2016.
- “Humanist Biographies of Classical Philosophers” Purdue *Bible As Literature* series, March 14th, 2016.
- “San Marco: the Dominican Monastery at the Heart of Renaissance Florence” Lumen Christi lecture at the University of Chicago, February 26th, 2016.
- “Humanist Biographies of Classical Philosophers” Chicago-area Renaissance Seminar, Chicago, January 19th, 2016.
- “The Moral Physics of Dante’s Cosmos” and “The Syncretic, Radical and Hybrid Christianities of Renaissance Humanists,” guest lectures for the Figures of Renaissance Reform and Renewal non-credit course, Lumen Christi institute, Chicago, February 24th & March 3rd, 2015.
- “Active and Monastic Life in Humanist Biographies of Pythagoras,” Western Mediterranean Culture Workshop (University of Chicago), March 2nd 2015.
- “How Humanists Read a Famous Atheist: the Evolution of Renaissance Reading Methods Exposed through a Survey of Marginalia in Renaissance Copies of Lucretius, 1417-1600,” Classics Department Colloquium, University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia), Feb. 12th 2015.
- “Hands-on Rare Books Icebreaker Session, an opportunity to touch and get used to working with antique books and manuscripts.” Early Modern Workshop, University of Chicago, Feb. 9th 2015.
- “Lucretius, Renaissance Reading Culture and the Epicurean Roots of the Scientific Method,” colloquium presentation at the Descartes Centre for the History and Philosophy of the Sciences and the Humanities, Utrecht University, Feb. 2nd 2015.

- “How Forgeries and Spuria Still Shape Our Modern Classical Canon, Examined Through the Renaissance Revival and Early Print History of Classical (and not-so-Classical) Stoicism,” Weissbourd Text Seminar, Society of Fellows in the Liberal Arts at the University of Chicago, November 12th, 2014.

CONFERENCE PAPERS:

- “Humanist Lives of Pythagoras” presented at the session “Biographical Narratives in Humanist Perspective,” and chaired the session “Literary Dubia and Spuria,” Renaissance Society of America conference, Boston, March 31, 2016.
- “The Influence of Spuria and Forgeries on Renaissance Neoclassicism: The Recovery of the Stoics, 1400–1664,” at the Renaissance Society of America Conference (Berlin), March 28th 2015.
- “The Inversion of Epicureanism in Lorenzo Valla’s *De Voluptate*,” at Beyond Reception: Renaissance Humanism and the Transformation of Classical Antiquity (Berlin), March 23rd 2015.
- “The Transformation of Stoicism in the Renaissance,” at Renaissance and Early Modern Transformations of Antiquity. Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, December 2nd 2014.
- “The Vernacular Lucretius,” in a panel on The Epicurean Renaissance, presented at the Sixteenth Century Society Conference, New Orleans, October 16th 2014.
- “Weak Empiricism and Provisional Belief: the influence of Lucretius and Epicurean Skepticism on Montaigne, Gassendi, Mersenne, and Scientific Thought,” presented at the Renaissance Society of America Conference, New York, March 27th 2014.
- “The Archetype of Noble Suicide in Early Modern Biographies of Philosophers,” presented at Libraries, Lives and the Organization of Knowledge in the Pre-Modern World, American Academy in Rome, December 12th 2013.
- “Sources as Weapons in the Competition Among Humanist Editors of Lucretius, from Leto to Lambin,” presented at Medieval and Renaissance Transformations of Antiquity, hosted by the Humboldt Universität zu Berlin and Texas A&M University, Villa Vergiliana, Cuma, Italy, Sept. 29th 2013.
- “*Opinio Non Christiana*: Lucretius’ Renaissance Reception, Humanist Reading Practices and Philosophical Skepticism,” presented at the Italian Renaissance Seminar Series, Oxford University Centre for Early Modern Studies, May 6, 2013.
- “The Use and Defense of the Classical Canon in Pomponio Leto’s Biography of Lucretius,” presented at *Vitae Pomponianae*, Biografie di Autori Antichi nell’Umanesimo Romano (Lives of Classical Writers in Fifteenth-Century Roman Humanism), hosted by the Danish Academy in Rome and the American Academy in Rome, April 24th 2013.
- “Humanist Biographies of Lucretius,” presented at the Renaissance Society of America Conference, Washington D.C., March 22nd 2012.
- “Renaissance Biographies of Classical Philosophers,” presented at the Villa I Tatti Harvard University Center for Italian Renaissance Studies Fellows Seminar Series, Dec. 7th 2011.

Courses at University of Chicago:

- Italian Renaissance (HIST 22900/32900)
 - Offered Spring 2015, Fall 2016
 - Cross-listed with Classics, Italian, and the Divinity School
- Renaissance Humanism (rare books graduate course; HIST 42514)
 - Offered Spring 2015
 - Cross-listed with Classics, and Comparative Literature, and Italian
- Patronage and Culture in Renaissance Italy and Her Neighbors (HIST 81504)
 - Two quarters, offered Fall & Winter 2016-17.
 - Cross-listed with Classics, Italian, and the Stevanovich Institute on the Formation of Knowledge
- European Civilization I (Core course; HIST 13001)
 - Offered Fall 2015, Winter 2017

Courses at Previous Institutions:

- Italian Renaissance
- Renaissance and Reformation Europe
- The Craft of History: Intellectual History
- European Intellectual History from Ancient Greece to the Early Middle Ages
- European Intellectual History from the High Middle Ages to the 17th Century
- Seminar in Historiography and Historical Writing

PROFESSIONAL AND SERVICE ACTIVITY:**While at University of Chicago:***Conferences and Exhibitions:*

- Organizing campus visits to the Smart Museum of Art and the University of Chicago Special Collections Research Center for attendees at the 2017 Renaissance Society of America Annual Meeting, March 28 and April 2.
- Organizing the exhibition “Tensions in Renaissance Cities” in the University of Chicago Library Special Collections Research Center exhibit space, to open March 28th 2017, with accompanying printed exhibit catalog.
- Organized the conference “The Inquisition and Information Control Before and After Galileo,” at the University of Chicago, March 18-20, 2016.

University Committees and Advising:

- College Council (three year term) 2016-present.
- History Department Collegiate Affairs Committee 2016-present.
- History Department Website Committee 2016-present.
- Member of the Steering Committee for the Ph.D. Program in Transformations in the Classical Tradition (Classics Department). 2015-present.
- Faculty Advisor Chi Chi Chi Coed Academic Honors Fraternity. 2015-present.
- Faculty Advisor for the Early Modern Workshop. 2014-present.

Supplementary Teaching:

- “The Craft of Writing and Non-Academic Writing” presentation for history graduate students, Making History Work series, April 29th, 2016.
- “Historians in the Public Sphere: A Conversation with David Perry” panel for history graduate students, Making History Work series, April 13th, 2016.
- “Healthy Work Habits,” presentation for history graduate students, Making History Work series, January 15th, 2016.
- Shakespeare Histories screening series, spring 2016.

Outside the University:

- Co-developer/sponsor of two conferences, “Beyond Reception: Renaissance Humanism and the Transformation of Classical Antiquity” (March 23-24 2015), and “Renaissance and Early Modern Transformations of Antiquity” (December 2-3, 2014), in Berlin, co-organized by the Texas A&M University Classical Transformations Group and the ‘Transformationen der Antike’ (Transformations of Antiquity) group at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

Service While at Previous Institutions:

- Co-Developer of the “Transformations of Antiquity Conference, (September 27-29, 2013), in Naples Italy, co-organized by the Texas A&M University Classical Transformations Group and the ‘Transformationen der Antike’ (Transformations of Antiquity) group at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.
- Co-Convener and Web Developer for the Texas A&M Interdisciplinary Early Modern Studies Working Group, Glasscock Center. 2010-2014
- Texas A&M History Department Diversity Committee. 2012-2014
- Texas A&M History Department Library Committee. 2009-2010
- Co-Coordinator of the Harvard Early Modern Studies Workshop. 2007-8
- *The Cambridge Companion to Renaissance Philosophy*. Assistant to general editor James Hankins. Cambridge University Press. 2007

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Renaissance Society of America
- International Association for Neo-Latin Studies
- Netherlands Institute of Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences Working Group on the Formation of Knowledge, Sub-Group on Knowledge & the City
- American Historical Association
- American Association of University Women
- Science Fiction & Fantasy Writers of America

POPULAR WORKS AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH:**Books:**

- *Too Like the Lightning* (Book 1 of the four volume science fiction novel series *Terra Ignota*), Tor Books, May 10th 2016.
 - 2016 James Tiptree Jr. Literary Award Honors List Selection
 - Nominated for the 2016 Chicago Review of Books Award for Best Debut Novel, the 2016 Goodreads Choice Award for Best Science Fiction Novel, the 2016 World Technology Award for Arts, and the Romantic Times Reviewers' Choice Award for Best Science Fiction Novel.
- *Seven Surrenders* (Book 2 of *Terra Ignota*), Tor Books, March 7th, 2017.
- *The Will to Battle* (Book 3 of *Terra Ignota*), forthcoming December 2017.
- *Perhaps the Stars* (Book 4 of *Terra Ignota*), forthcoming.

Popular Nonfiction:

- “The Cruelty of *The Crater*,” introduction to Osamu Tezuka’s *The Crater*, Digital Manga Publications, forthcoming.
- Historical notes for DVD release of *Hetalia* seasons 5-6 “The Beautiful World.” Co-authored with Lauren Schiller. FUNimation, 2013-present.
- Historical notes for the DVD release of *Hetalia* seasons 3-4 (“World Series”), and *Hetalia Paint it White* (film). Co-authored with Lila Garrott, Lauren Schiller and Ruth Wejksnora. FUNimation, 2011-12.
- ““You, God of Manga, are Cruel!’: Karma and Suffering in the Universe of Osamu Tezuka,” in *Manga and Philosophy*, ed. Josef Steiff and Adam Barkman. Chicago: Open Court, 2010.
- “Film is Alive: The Manga Roots of Osamu Tezuka's Animation Obsession,” invited talk and e-published essay for the event series “Osamu Tezuka: God of Manga, Father of Anime.” Smithsonian Freer and Sackler Galleries, Washington DC, November 13–December 13, 2009.
- “Black Jack: The Excluded Issues and Tezuka's Star System,” in Osamu Tezuka’s *Black Jack* (vol. 3 limited edition hard cover), Vertical Inc., 2008.
- Mythological notes for *Mythical Detective Loki Ragnarok* DVD release. ADV Films, 2005-6.

Consulting and Blogging:

- ExUrbe.com, 2011 to present.
- Blogger for Tor.com, 2014 to present.
- History and Language Consultant for FUNimation, 2010 to present.
- Columnist for Tokyopop.com, 2006 to 2007.
- Mythology and Language Consultant for ADV Films, 2005 to 2008.