

## **Ellie Mackin Roberts**

I am currently a Teaching Fellow in Ancient History at the University of Leicester, and was awarded my PhD in 2015 from King's College London. I am a Fellow of the HEA.

### **Research**

My research interests lay primarily in ancient Greek religion, specifically in 'lived' religion and writing ethnographical accounts through the study of objects and texts. I have two books currently under contract with Routledge, the first based on my PhD, titled *Underworld Gods in Ancient Greek Religion*, and the second for the *Gods and Heroes* series, on Hades. My current research looks at creating a framework for haptic belief, based on the use of girls' bodies as ritual objects, and have several articles currently under review looking at the *arrhephoroi* and the making of Athena's peplos for the Panathenaia.

### **Current Teaching**

I teach a range of ancient history courses both campus based and distance learning, at all undergraduate and postgraduate levels including: ancient religion, Spartan history, Greek art, sources and theory, Aeschylus's *Eumenides*, Greek and Roman slavery, approaching and using ancient evidence (Greek and Latin), and languages for ancient history. I supervise Masters and undergraduate theses on ancient Greek religion, mythology, and cults; gender and gender stereotyping in classical antiquity; and Sparta, including women, education, athletics, and economy.

### **Public Engagement and Outreach**

I am currently organising a full-day reading of Herodotus's *Histories* scheduled for March 2018, I have previously undertaken primary school visits looking at activities children of equivalent ages would have done in the ancient world. I am in the process of preparing a case for Jane Ellen Harrison to be given an English Heritage Blue Plaque in London.

### **Service and Collegiality**

I am the current post-PhD disability liaison for the WCC, and consulted on Classics and Social Justice's Best Practices for More Accessible Conferences. I gave an invited presentation at the 2017 WCC AGM on finding diversity in ancient history, and in 2016 co-organised the WCC's 'Classics and Feminist Pedagogy' event. I am the facilitator of the #AcademicKindness gift circle, a co-moderator for #ECRchat, and I mentor a year 12 student through Arts Emergency. In 2017 I co-organised an ECR publication and career strategy event.

### **Professional Memberships**

I am a member of: Society for Classical Studies, Classical Association, Society for the Promotion of Hellenic Studies, Association of Ancient Historians, Women's Classical Committee, Women's Classical Caucus (USA), British Association for the Study of Religions, Sociology of Religion Study Group (British Sociological Association)

## Statement

I am very proud to be a part of the WCC which, since its inception, has provided a supportive and creative environment for women in classics. As a member of the steering committee I will be committed to advancing and supporting marginalised voices in our own community, thereby further addressing intersectionality within the WCC. This includes looking at, among other things, the intersection of gender with class and socioeconomic status, race, disability, sexuality and gender identity, and how we can best advocate for equality in these areas. I would be keen to build upon the success of the careers day at the ICS to develop a programme for early career WCC members around publication strategies and job-market strategies. I feel I am well placed to do this both from my experience in organising such events, and in view of the community of early career women I have built up around social media. This includes my YouTube channel, which deals primarily with issues of early career academia.

I am actively involved in the WCC as the post-PhD disability liaison, a role I take extremely seriously. At this point I would like to put myself forward for nomination onto the WCC steering committee, where I can further advance the WCC's activities. I also co-organised the ECR workshop *Classics and Feminist Pedagogy* in 2016, and co-authored two articles published in *CUCD* deriving from that event. Outside the WCC I recently co-organised a career and publication strategy event at the Institute of Classical Studies (ICS), and I use my position as department library liaison in the School of Archaeology and Ancient History (Leicester) to redress the gender imbalance in staff reading lists across the department. This issue is central to my advocacy and I gave an invited paper on the topic at last year's WCC AGM.

Finally, I wish to be elected onto the steering committee because I am passionate about advancing the aims of the WCC and about helping to nurture this wonderful community of people and promoting diversity in the study of the ancient world.

Thank you for your consideration.