

# Kyle Harper

## EDUCATION

---

### Harvard University

Doctor of Philosophy, History	2007
Master of Arts, History	2003

### University of Oklahoma

Bachelor of Arts, Letters, <i>summa cum laude</i>	2001
---	------

## APPOINTMENTS

---

### University of Oklahoma

Professor of Classics & Letters	2014-present
Affiliate Faculty, Department of History	2015-present
Affiliate Faculty, Department of Religious Studies	2008-present
Associate Professor of Classics & Letters	2012-2014
Assistant Professor of Classics & Letters	2007-2012
Senior Advisor to the President	2020-present
Senior Vice President and Provost	2015-2020
Interim Senior Vice President and Provost	2014-2015
Senior Vice Provost	2013-2014

## PUBLICATIONS

---

### ➤ Books

*Slavery in the Late Roman World, AD 275-425* (Cambridge, U.K.: Cambridge University Press, 2011; paperback 2015).

-James Henry Breasted Prize, American Historical Association, 2012

-Outstanding Publication Award, Classical Association of the Middle West and South, 2012

*From Shame to Sin: The Christian Transformation of Sexual Morality in Late Antiquity* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2013; paperback 2016).

-Award for Excellence in the Study of Religion, American Academy of Religion, Historical Studies

-Choice Outstanding Academic Title of the Year

*The Fate of Rome: Climate, Disease, and the End of an Empire* (Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 2017; paperback 2019).

-Translations in, Italian, German, Spanish, Swedish, Greek, Polish, Japanese, Korean, Czech, Chinese (complex and simplified).

*Plagues upon the Earth: Disease and the Course of Human History* (Princeton, N.J.: Fall 2021).  
A global history of the interplay between human social development and infectious diseases, spanning from our hominin ancestors to the present.

➤ **Articles & Chapters**

“The Greek Census Inscriptions of Late Antiquity,” *Journal of Roman Studies* 98 (2008) 83-119.

“Lire les mutations de l’Antiquité tardive sous le prisme de l’esclavage,” *Dialogues d'histoire ancienne* 35.1 (2009) 197-208.

“Slave Prices in Late Antiquity (and in the Very Long Term),” *Historia: Zeitschrift für alte Geschichte* 59.2 (2010) 206-38.

“The *Senatus Consultum Claudianum* in the *Codex Theodosianus*: Social History and Legal Texts,” *Classical Quarterly* 60.2 (2010) 610-38.

“Climate Change during and after the Roman Empire: Reconstructing the Past from Scientific and Historical Evidence,” M. McCormick, Ulf Büntgen, M. Cane, E. Cook, K. Harper, P. Huybers, T. Litt, S. W. Manning, P. A. Mayewski, A. M. More, K. Nicolussi, W. Tegel, *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 43 (2012) 169-220.

“*Porneia*: The Making of a Christian Sexual Norm,” *Journal of Biblical Literature* 131 (2012) 365-85.

“Marriage and Family in Late Antiquity,” in *The Oxford Handbook of Late Antiquity*, edited S. Johnson (Oxford, 2012) 667-714.

“The Transformation of Roman Slavery: An Economic Myth?,” *Antiquité tardive* 20 (2012) 165-72.

“The End of Roman Slavery and the Idea of Transition,” in *Forme di dipendenza nelle società di transizione: Atti del XXXII Colloquio Internazionale G.I.R.E.A.*, eds. A. Pinzone, E. Caliri, R. Arcuri (Messina, 2012) 393-412.

“Geodatabase of Historical Evidence on Roman and Post-Roman Climate,” M. McCormick, K. Harper, A. More, K. Gibson, in M. McCormick et al. (eds.), *Digital Atlas of Roman and Medieval Civilizations*, (2012) at <http://darmc.harvard.edu/>.

“L’ordine sociale costantiniano: schiavitù, economia e aristocrazia,” in *Costantino I: Enciclopedia Costantiniana sulla figura e l’immagine dell’imperatore del cosiddetto editto di Milano*, 313-2013, vol. 1 (Rome, 2013) 369-386.

“Culture, Nature, and History: The Case of Ancient Sexuality,” *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 55 (2013) 986-1016.

“The Sentimental Family: A Biohistorical Perspective,” *American Historical Review*, 119, no. 5 (2014) 1547-1562.

“Civilization, Climate, and Malthus: The Rough Course of Global History,” *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 45, no. 4 (2015) 1-18.

“Landed Wealth in the Long Term: Patterns, Possibilities, Evidence,” in *Ownership and Exploitation of Land and Natural Resources in the Roman World*, eds. P. Erdkamp, K. Verboven and A. Zuiderhoek (Oxford, 2015) 43-61.

“Foreword,” *Religious Freedom in America: Constitutional Dimensions and Contemporary Challenges*, ed. A. Hertzke (Norman, 2015) xi-xiii.

“A Time to Die: Preliminary Notes on Seasonal Mortality in Late Antique Rome,” in eds. C. Laes, K. Mustakallio, V. Vuolanto, *Children and Family in Late Antiquity. Life, Death and Interaction* (Leuven, 2015) 15-34.

“Pandemics and Passages to Late Antiquity: Rethinking the Plague of c. 249-70 Described by Cyprian,” *Journal of Roman Archaeology* 28 (2015) 223-60.

“Reply to John Brooke, on Civilization, Climate, and Malthus,” *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 46, no. 4 (2016) 579-84.

“Christianity and the Roots of Human Dignity in Late Antiquity,” in *Christianity and Freedom, Volume I: Historical Perspectives*, eds. T. Shah, A. Hertzke (Cambridge, 2016) 123-48.

“The Environmental Fall of the Roman Empire,” *Daedalus* 145 (2) (2016) 101-111.

“Freedom, Slavery, and Female Sexual Honor in Antiquity,” in W. Scheidel, J. Bodel, *On Human Bondage: After Slavery and Social Death* (Wiley, 2016) 109-21.

“Another Eye-witness to the Plague Described by Cyprian and Notes on the ‘Persecution of Decius,’” *Journal of Roman Archaeology* 29 (2016) 473-6.

“People, Plagues, and Prices in the Roman World: The Evidence from Egypt,” *Journal of Economic History* 76 (2016) 803-39.

“Geodatabase of Prices, Wages, and Rents in Roman Egypt, AD 1-700,” *Digital Atlas of Roman and Medieval Civilizations* (2016) at <http://darmc.harvard.edu/>.

“La schiavitù nella tarda antichità e l’impatto del Cristianesimo,” *Spartaco: Schiavi e padroni a Roma* (Rome, 2017) 27-34.

With M. McCormick, “Reconstructing the Roman Climate,” in W. Scheidel, ed., *The Science of Roman History* (Princeton, 2018) 11-52.

“Invisible Environmental History: Infectious Disease in Late Antiquity,” in A. Izdebski, M. Mulryan, eds., *Environment and Society in the Long Late Antiquity* (Leiden, 2018) 118-34.

“Contours of Environmental Change and Human Response in Late Antiquity,” in A. Izdebski, M. Mulryan, eds., *Environment and Society in the Long Late Antiquity* (Leiden, 2018) 177-82.

With W. Scheidel, “Roman Slavery and the Idea of Slave Society,” *What Is Slave Society?*, ed. N. Lenski and C. Cameron (Cambridge, 2018) 86-105.

“Integrating the Natural Sciences and Roman History: Challenges and Prospects,” *History Compass* (2018) e12520.

“The Emperor and the Empty Tomb,” *Los Angeles Review of Books* (2018).

“The Climate of the Fifth Century,” in *The Fifth Century: Age of Transformation*, eds. J. W. Drijvers, N. Lenski (Bari, 2019) 19-34.

“In the Shadow of Caesar,” *Lapham’s Quarterly* 12 (2019) 210-7.

“Why Democracy?,” *Philosophy and Public Issues* 9 (2019) 45-55.

“Establishing the Provenance of the Nazareth Inscription: Using Stable Isotopes to Resolve a Historic Controversy and Trace Ancient Marble Production,” with M. Engel, M. McCormick, M. Hamilton, R. Michel, C. Peiffert, *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports* 30 (2020) 102228.

A. Düx et al., “Measles Virus and Rinderpest Virus Divergence Dated to the Sixth Century BCE,” *Science* 368 (2020) 1367-70.

“Germs, Genes, and Global History in the Age of COVID-19,” *Journal of Global History* 15 (2020) 350-62.

“Food Security in a Pre-modern Agrarian Empire: The Case of Rome,” in *Food Insecurity: A Matter of Justice, Sovereignty, and Survival*, eds. T. Mayer and M. Anderson (Routledge, 2020) 129-43.

“Germs and Empire,” in Harriet I. Flower (ed.) *Empire and Religion in the Roman World* (Cambridge, 2020).

“‘River of Souls’: Slavery in Roman Africa,” *Histoire mondiale de l’esclavage*, volume in progress.

“Deep History and Disease: Germs and Humanity’s Rise to Planetary Dominance,” in J. Thomas, ed., *On the Anthropocene: The Strata and Stories of Our Altered Planet* (Cambridge).

## ➤ Book Reviews

Review of T. Urbainczyk, *Slave Revolts in Antiquity*, in *New England Classical Journal* 36.2 (2009) 127-9.

Review of Y. Rotman, *Byzantine Slavery and the Mediterranean World*, in *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, 52.4 (2010) 948-50.

Review of E. Lo Cascio, *Crescita e declino: studi di storia dell'economia romana*, in *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*, 2010.04.28.

“Review Article: Knowledge, Ideology, and Skepticism in Ancient Slave Studies,” (review of N. McKeown, *The Invention of Ancient Slavery*, U. Roth, *Thinking Tools: Ancient Slavery Between Evidence and Models*, E. Dal Lago and C. Katsari, (eds.), *Slave Systems Ancient and Modern*, and Page duBois, *Slavery: Antiquity and Its Legacy*) *American Journal of Philology* 132.1 (2011) 160-68.

Review of U. Roth, (ed.), *By the Sweat of Your Brow: Roman Slavery in its Socio-economic Setting*, in *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*, 2011.04.09.

Review of L. S. Nasrallah, *Christian Responses to Roman Art and Architecture: The Second-century Church amid the Spaces of Empire*, in *Journal of Roman Archaeology* 24 (2011) 776-80.

Review of B. Dunning, *Specters of Paul: Sexual Difference in Early Christian Thought*, in *Journal of Late Antiquity* 5 (2012) 216-18.

Review of H. Mouritsen, *The Roman Freedman*, in *American Historical Review* 117 (2012) 909-910.

Review of P. R. L. Brown, *Through the Eye of a Needle: Wealth, the Fall of Rome, and the Making of Christianity in the West, 350-550 AD*, in *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2013.02.35.

Review of B. Campbell, *Rivers and the Power of Ancient Rome*, in *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 44 (2013) 115-116.

Review of S. Hin, *The Demography of Roman Italy*, in *Journal of Roman Studies* 104 (2014) 275-6.

Review of P. R. L. Brown, *Treasure in Heaven*, *Journal of Roman Archaeology*, 29 (2016) 975-7.

Review of M. Perry, *Gender, Manumission, and the Roman Freedwoman*, in *American Historical Review* 122 (2017) 563-4.

Review of E. Rebillard, *Transformations of Religious Practice in Late Antiquity*, in *Journal of Roman Archaeology* 30 (2017) 913-15.

Review of H. Weiss, ed. *Megadrought and Collapse: From Early Agriculture to Angkor*, in *Current World Archaeology* 91 (2018) 57.

Review of J. Manning, *The Open Sea: The Economic Life of the Ancient Mediterranean World from the Iron Age to the Rise of Rome*, on EH.net, October 2018.

Review of K. Hopkins, C. Kelly, ed. *Sociological Studies in Roman History*, in *Journal of Roman Studies* 109 (2019) 346-8.

Review of M. Flexsenhar, *Christians in Caesar's Household: The Emperors' Slaves in the Makings of Christianity*, in *Church History*.

➤ **Encyclopedia Entries, etc.**

“Predigtliteratur,” *Handwoerterbuch der Antiken Sklaverei*, ed. H. Heinen, et al. Lieferung I-III (Stuttgart, 2010) s.v. Predigtliteratur.

“Fessel/Fesselung,” *Handwoerterbuch der Antiken Sklaverei*, ed. H. Heinen, et al.

“Honestiores and humiliores,” “poor, the,” “slave mode of production,” “slave trade,” “slavery and freedom, Roman and post-Roman,” “social distinctions,” “social mobility,” “tenant,” in *The Oxford Dictionary of Late Antiquity*.

## **AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

---

Stanford University, Classics Department, Visiting Scholar (2015)

John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, Fellow (2013)

Institute for Advanced Study, Membership (2013-14) (declined)

American Council of Learned Societies, Fellowship (2013-14) (declined)

American Council of Learned Societies, Burkhardt Fellowship (2013-14) (declined)

Center for the Advanced Study of the Behavioral Sciences, Stanford University, Fellowship (2013-14) (declined)

Radcliffe Institute, Fellowship (2013-14) (declined)

Dumbarton Oaks, Senior Fellowship (2013-14) (declined)

Irene Rothbaum Outstanding Assistant Professor Award (2011)

Dumbarton Oaks, Junior Fellowship (2005-6)