

CURRICULUM VITAE

ELIZABETH DePALMA DIGESER

3071 Tiana Drive
Santa Ynez, CA 93460
(805) 686 2012; (805) 448 9008 (cell)
US citizen

Department of History
University of California
Santa Barbara, CA 93106
(805) 893-2166
edepalma@history.ucsb.edu

Education

Ph. D. in History, University of California, Santa Barbara, 1996.
M. A. in History, University of California, Santa Barbara, 1992.
M. A. in Psychology, The Johns Hopkins University, 1983.
B. A. in Psychology, State University of New York at Buffalo, 1981,
Magna cum laude.

Teaching Experience

2005- Affiliate Faculty, Department of Classics and Department of Religious Studies,
University of California, Santa Barbara, CA.
2004- : Associate Professor of Roman History/Late Antiquity, Department of History,
University of California, Santa Barbara, CA.
2003-2004: Associate Professor of Roman History, McGill University, Montréal, QC.
1999-2003: Assistant Professor of Roman History, McGill University, Montréal, QC.
1997-1999: Assistant Professor of European History, St. Norbert College, DePere, WI, USA.
1996-1997: Visiting Professor in Late Roman History, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA.
1990-94: Teaching Assistant, Department of History, University of California, Santa
Barbara, USA.
1982: Teaching Assistant in Statistics, Department of Psychology, The Johns Hopkins
University, Baltimore, MD, USA

Publications

Books

*The Rhetoric of Power in Late Antiquity: Religion and Politics in Byzantium, Europe and the
Early Islamic World*, ed. with Justin Stephens, R. M. Frakes. London: I. B. Tauris, 2010.
Religious Identity in Late Antiquity, R. M. Frakes and Elizabeth Digeser, edd. Toronto: Edgar
Kent, 2006.
The Making of a Christian Empire: Lactantius and Rome. Ithaca: Cornell University Press,
2000.

Articles

- “Hellenes, Barbarians, and Christians: Religion and Identity Politics in Diocletian’s Rome,” in R. Mathisen and D. Shanzer, edd. *Shifting Frontiers VI* (Surrey: Ashgate, 2011), 121-132.
- “Philosophy in the Long Third Century: From the Antonines to the Tetrarchy.” For *The Cambridge History of Philosophy in Late Antiquity*, Lloyd Gerson, ed. (Cambridge University Press, 2011).
- “Philosophy in a Christian Empire: From the Great Persecution to Theodosius I.” For *The Cambridge History of Philosophy in Late Antiquity*, Lloyd Gerson, ed. (Cambridge University Press, 2011).
- “Diverging Traditions: From the Death of Theodosius I through the Isaurian Dynasty.” For *The Cambridge History of Philosophy in Late Antiquity*, Lloyd Gerson, ed. (Cambridge University Press, 2011).
- “Methodius and Porphyry.” *Studia Patristica* 46 (2010), 21-26.
- “The Power of Religious Rituals: A Philosophical Quarrel on the Eve of the Great Persecution,” in N. Lenski and A. Cain, edd., *The Power of Religion in Late Antiquity* (Shifting Frontiers in Late Antiquity, VII) (Ashgate, 2010), 81-92.
- “Lactantius, Eusebius, and Arnobius: Evidence for the Causes of the Great Persecution.” *Studia Patristica* 39 (2006): 33-46.
- “Christian or Hellene? The Great Persecution and the Problem of Christian Identity,” in R. M. Frakes and Elizabeth Digeser, *Religious Identity in Late Antiquity* (Toronto: Edgar Kent, 2006), 36-57.
- “Religion, Law and the Roman Polity: The Era of the Great Persecution,” in Clifford Ando and Jörg Rüpke, edd., *Law and Religion in Classical and Christian Rome* (Stuttgart: Franz Steiner Verlag, 2006), 68-84.
- “An Oracle of Apollo at Daphne and the Great Persecution,” *Classical Philology* 99 (2004): 57-77.
- “Citizenship and the Roman *Res publica*: Cicero and a Christian Corollary,” *Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy* 6 (2003): 5-21.
- “Porphyry, Julian, or Hierokles? The Anonymous Hellene in Makarios Magnes’ *Apokritikos*,” *Journal of Theological Studies* n. s. 53 (2002): 466-502.
- “Porphyry, Lactantius, and the Paths to God,” *Studia Patristica* 34 (2001): 521-528.
- “Casinensis 595, Parisinus lat. 1664, Palatino-Vaticanus 161 and the *Divine Institutes*’ Second Edition,” *Hermes: Zeitschrift für klassische Philologie* 127 (1999): 75-98.
- “Lactantius, Porphyry, and the Debate over Religious Toleration,” *Journal of Roman Studies* 88 (1998): 129-46.
- “Lactantius and the ‘Edict of Milan’: Does it Determine his Venue?” *Studia Patristica: Papers Presented to the Twelfth International Conference on Patristic Studies* 31 (1997): 287-95.
- “Lactantius and Constantine’s Letter to Arles: Dating the *Divine Institutes*,” *Journal of Early Christian Studies* 2 (1994): 33-52.

Reviews

- Noel Lenski, ed., *The Cambridge Companion to the Age of Constantine* (Cambridge, 2005) for *The Classical Bulletin* 84.1 (2009): 148-150.
- John T. Fitzgerald, Thomas H. Olbricht, and L. Michael White, edd., *Early Christianity and Classical Culture. Comparative Studies in Honor of Abraham J. Malherbe* (Leiden: Brill,

2003), for the *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* (2007.04.71)
(<http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/bmcr/2007/2007-04-71.html>).

Lactantius, *Divine Institutes*, Anthony Bowen and Peter Garnsey, edd. (Liverpool: Liverpool University Press, 2003), for the *Journal of Theological Studies* 57 (2006): 713-15.

Charles Matson Odall, *Constantine and the Christian Empire* (Routledge, 2004), for *Journal of Early Christian Studies* 13 (2005): 527-528.

M. R. Salzman, *The Making of a Christian Aristocracy* (Harvard, 2002) for *Phoenix: Journal of the Classical Association of Canada* 58 (2004): 183-85.

H. Gregory Snyder, *Teachers and Texts in the Ancient World. Philosophers, Jews and Christians* (Routledge, 2000), for *Journal of Religious History* 27 (2003): 86-88.

Birgir A. Pearson, *The Emergence of the Christian Religion: Essays on Early Christianity*, (Trinity, 1997) for *Journal of Early Christian Studies* 7 (1999): 306-7.

Forthcoming

A Threat to Public Piety: Christians, Platonists and the Great Persecution (Cornell University Press). In press.

Work in Progress

“From Virgin Goddess to the Virgin Mary: The Conversion of Space in Late Antiquity.” Paper to be presented at the conference, “Geographies of Place,” UCSB Interdisciplinary Humanities Center, 29 April 2011.

Review of Jeremy Schott, *Christianity, Empire and the Making of Religion in Late Antiquity* (Philadelphia, 2008), for *History of Religions*.

Fellowships, Grants and Awards

2009: UCSB Interdisciplinary Humanities Center, Collaborative Project Grant. With Prof. Christine Thomas

2008: UCSB Regents Humanities Faculty Fellowship (for 2008-2010).

2008: UCSB Academic Senate Distinguished Teaching Award (for 2007-2008)

2005-: UCSB Interdisciplinary Humanities Center annual Awards for Research Focus Group in Ancient Borderlands

2005-2007: UCSB Faculty Senate annual Research Grant.

2004: McGill University History Students Association Award for Excellence in Teaching.

2003-2006: Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Standard Research Grant (\$74,300 over three years); declined after 31 August 2004.

2002-3: McGill University Travel Grants.

2001-3: McGill University Research Grants (SSHRC).

1999-2000: Junior Fellowship, American Council of Learned Societies; Resident Fellow, Interdisciplinary Humanities Center, University of California, Santa Barbara.

1997-98: Faculty Development Grant, St. Norbert College.

1996-97: Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship in the Humanities, Cornell University.

- 1995-96: Finalist, National Council of Graduate Schools, Dissertation Competition.
Lancaster Prize (best dissertation), UCSB Graduate Division.
Commencement Speaker, UCSB Commencement.
Dissertation Fellowship, National Endowment for the Humanities.
- 1995-96: Ellison Prize (best seminar paper), UCSB Department of History.
Fee Fellowship, UCSB Graduate Division.
- 1994-95: Richard K. Mayberry Award (outstanding graduate student), UCSB Department of History, co-winner.
Graduate Student Travel Grant, UCSB Graduate Division.
Travel Grant, UCSB Department of History.
Dissertation Fellowship, UCSB Department of History.
- 1993-94: Humanities/Social Sciences Research Grant, UCSB Graduate Division.
Esme Frost Fellowship (for research in Ancient History), UCSB Department of History.
J. Bruce Anderson Award (for teaching), UCSB Department of History.
- 1991-1992: History Associates Fellowship, UCSB History Associates.
- 1990: Three-year Teaching Assistantship, UCSB Department of History, awarded upon entry, taken 1990-92, 1993-94.
- 1981: Four-year Departmental Fellowship, The Johns Hopkins University Department of Psychology, taken 1981-82.
- 1981: Phi Beta Kappa, SUNY at Buffalo.
- 1977-81: New York State Regents' Scholarship.
- 1977-79: Women's Educational and Industrial Union Scholarship.

Conference Papers and Lectures

- "From Virgin Goddess to Virgin Mother: Conversion in Space and Time." Paper presented at the Center for Late Ancient Studies Symposium, Duke University, 18 February 2011.
- "Exegesis and Identity among Platonist Hellenes and Christians." Paper presented at the "Philosophy and Abrahamic Religions: Scriptural Authority and Theories of Knowledge" conference, Istanbul, Turkey 10-12 December 2010.
- "Athena, Zosimus of Syracuse and the Virgin Mary: A Bishop's Role in Temple Conversion." Paper presented at the North American Patristic Association Conference, Chicago, IL 27-29 May 2010.
- "Who Was Ammonius Saccas?" Paper presented at the North American Patristic Association Conference, Chicago, IL 21-24 May 2009.
- "Images and Rituals in Late Antiquity." Paper presented at the Ephesos Workshop, Crisler Library, Selçuk, Turkey, 28 June 2008.
- "Origen on the *Limes*: Rhetoric and the Polarization of Identity in the Late Third Century." Paper presented at the North American Patristic Association Conference, Chicago, IL, 22-24 May 2008.
- "Methodius and Porphyry." Paper presented at the 15th Annual International Conference on Patristics, Oxford, England, August 2007.
- "Ritual, Philosophical Religion and Power." Paper presented at the 7th biennial Shifting Frontiers in Late Antiquity conference, Boulder, CO, March 2007.

- “Methodius’ Change of Heart.” Paper given at the North American Patristic Association Conference, Chicago, IL. June 2006.
- “Late Antique Textual Traditions and Community Identity.” Panel commentary presented at the 30th Anniversary International Patristic, Medieval, and Renaissance Studies Conference, the Augustinian Institute, Villanova University, 14 October 2005, Villanova, PA.
- “Lactantius and Neoplatonism.” Paper given at the North American Patristic Association Conference, Chicago, IL. June 2005.
- “Hellenes, Barbarians, and Christians: Religion and Identity Politics in Diocletian’s Rome.” Paper given at the Sixth Annual Conference on Shifting Frontiers in Late Antiquity, Urbana-Champaign, 17-20 March 2005.
- “How to Distinguish True from False Prophets.” Workshop for the “Colloquium on the Late Antique Roots of the Quranic Concept of Prophets,” Princeton Institute of Advanced Studies, June 2-4, 2004.
- “Les voix païennes de la Grande Persécution.” Given at the 3 April 2004 colloquium of the Société des Études Anciennes du Québec, Ottawa, ON.
- “Christian Transformations of the Greco-Roman Landscape.” Panel commentary presented at the American Society of Church History Conference, 11 January 2004, Washington, D. C.
- “Ius Publicum and the Great Persecution.” Paper presented at “Public Dimensions of Private Religiosity,” a conference sponsored by the University of Southern California Center for Law, History and Culture, 10 October 2003, Los Angeles, California.
- “Pagan Theology and the Great Persecution.” Paper presented at The Changing Face of Judaism, Christianity and Other Greco-Roman Religions in Antiquity, an International Conference organized by the Faculty of Religious Studies, McGill University, 15 September 2003, Montréal, Québec.
- “Criticisms of Traditional Religion in Lactantius, Eusebius, and Arnobius: What They Say about the Causes of the Great Persecution.” Seminar given at the XIV International Conference on Patristic Studies, August 18, 2003, Oxford, England.
- “The Strategic Use of Violence in Diocletian’s Religious Policy.” Given at the Fifth Bi-Annual Conference on Shifting Frontiers in Late Antiquity, March 22, 2003, Santa Barbara, CA.
- “Christian or Hellene? The Great Persecution and the Problem of Christian Identity.” Given at the American Society of Church History conference meeting in conjunction with the American Historical Association Conference, January 2-5, 2003, Chicago, IL USA.
- “Pagan Factions and the Great Persecution.” Paper delivered at Concordia University, Montréal, QC, 8 November 2002.
- “Oracles and the Great Persecution.” Paper delivered at the North American Patristics Society Meeting. Loyola University, Chicago, IL. 25 May 2002.
- “Citizenship and the Roman *Res publica*: Cicero and a Christian Corollary.” Paper delivered at “Republicanism: History, Theory and Practice,” international colloquium sponsored by the Centre de Recherche en Éthique de l’Université de Montréal. Montréal, 15-17 March 2002.
- “A Pagan Critique and the Great Persecution.” Paper delivered at “Archaeological Mondays” at la Musée des Beaux Arts, Montréal, 18 February 2002.
- “A Pagan-Christian Debate on the Eve of the Great Persecution?” Workshop chaired for PENATES, the Late Antiquity Research Group of Southern California. University of California-Los Angeles, 2 June 2001.

- "Persecution and the Art of Reading: Lactantius, Porphyry, and the Rules for Reading Sacred Texts." Given at l'Université de Montréal, 15 March 2001 and at the University of California, Santa Barbara, 12 April 2001.
- "Pagan Proselytizing and Episcopal Authority: Eusebius' *Praeparatio evangelica*." Given at the August 2000 meeting of the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association, Park City, UT.
- "Pagan Apologetics and the Great Persecution." Given at the Interdisciplinary Humanities Center at the University of California, Santa Barbara in May, 2000.
- "Lactantius and the Fourth-Century Culture Wars." Given at the Center for Medieval Studies at the University of Minnesota conference on "The First Christian Humanist: Lactantius in Late Antiquity and the Renaissance," March 3-4, 2000.
- "Porphyry, Lactantius, and the Paths to God." Given at the Thirteenth International Conference on Patristic Studies, August 16-20, 1999, Oxford, England.
- "Lactantius' Inclusive Christianity." Given at the 1998 Annual Meeting of the North American Patristic Society, 30 May, Chicago, IL.
- "Porphyry and the Arians: Christianity and Mainstream Roman Culture." Given at the 1998 Annual Meeting of the American Catholic Historical Association, 9-11 January 1998, Seattle, WA.
- "Lactantius and Porphyry." Given at the Spring 1997 Meeting of the American Catholic Historical Association, April 1997, Charlottesville, VA.
- "Christians and Romans: The Audience of *De mortibus persecutorum*." Given at the 110th Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, January 4-7, 1996, Atlanta, GA.
- "Lactantius and the 'Edict of Milan': Does it Determine his Venue?" Given at the Twelfth International Conference on Patristic Studies, August 21-26, 1995, Oxford, England.
- "A Free Opportunity to Engage in One's Chosen Religion: Lactantius, Constantine and the Question of Religious Toleration." Given at the 88th Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, Pacific Coast Branch, August 4-7, 1995, Kihei, Maui, HI.
- "Christians as Romans: Lactantius' *De mortibus persecutorum* and the Classical Historiographical Tradition." Given at the Duquesne University History Forum, October 20-22, 1994, Pittsburgh, PA.
- DePalma, E. R. (née) "Health Care for the Unemployed: Recommendations for Product Development," released within Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Maryland, October, 1983. Presented as testimony before the Maryland State Legislature, 1984.
- DePalma, E. R. and M. L. Raulin. "Feature-Specific Inhibition in Intensely Ambivalent Subjects." Given at the Eastern Psychological Association Convention, April, 1982, Baltimore, MD.

Field Work

Study of the cathedral in Siracusa, Sicily for current project on sacred space, summer 2009.

Participation in the Ephesos Seminar at the Crisler Library, Selçuk, Turkey: an introduction to the material culture of western Asia Minor, June 2008.

Study of medieval copies of Lactantius' *Divine Institutes* at the Bibliothèque Nationale (Paris), Stiftsbibliothek (St. Gallen, Switzerland), the Biblioteca Universitaria di Bologna, and the Vatican Library. Fall 1994.

Service

Member, Committee on Graduate Student Excellence, 2010-

Co-Director, California Consortium on Late Antiquity, 2010-

Member, Advisory Board for the Ancient Mediterranean Studies Ph.D. emphasis, 2009-10.

Member, Advisory Board, Journal of Early Christian Studies, 2008-

Member at Large, North American Patristic Association, May 2008-10

Reviews for Cornell University Press (1999), University of Pennsylvania Press (2007), *Traditio* (2006) and *Journal of Early Christian Studies* (2008, 2010), *Classical Philology* (2010), Catholic University of America (Patristic Monograph Series) (2010).

Chair, UCSB Department of History, Curriculum Committee, 2007-2008, 2009-

Vice-chair, UCSB Department of History, 2007-2008, 2009-

Member, UCSB Graduate Council, 2007-2008, 2009-

Member, UCSB Committee on Graduate Funding and Fellowships, 2007-2008

Member, UCSB Central Fellowship Committee, Graduate Division, 2008-2008

Department representative at UCSB's Spring Insight (2006).

Member, UCSB Committee on Student Conduct, 2006-, Co-Chair: 2009-

Co-facilitator, Faculty-Student Discussion for New Student Convocation, September 2005, 2006, 2007.

Convener, Pre-Modern Caucus, Department of History, UCSB, 2005-2006, 2010-.

Co-convener, Research Focus Group in Ancient Borderlands, Interdisciplinary Humanities Center, UCSB, 2005-.

Member, UCSB Department of History Personnel Committee, 2005-2006; co-chair 2006-2007.

Participant, Department of Classics, Academic Program Review, Affiliated and Cognate Faculty, 2005.

Member, UCSB Phi Beta Kappa Faculty Election Committee, 2004-6; Vice-President, 2006-9, President, 2009-.

Member, UCSB History Department Academic Planning Committee, 2004-5.

Member, UCSB History Department Graduate Placement Committee, 2004-7.

Board member, Shifting Frontiers in Late Antiquity, 2003-05.

Wallace Ferguson Prize jury member (best non-Canadian monograph by a Canadian historian), 2003-4.

Member, Search Committee for the MacNaughton Chair in Greek History and for Roman History, 2003-4.

Member, McGill University Department of History Tenure and Promotion Committee, September 2003-4.

Alternate member, University Admissions Appeals Committee, March 2003-4

Digeser, 8

Chair, Search Committee for the History of International Relations, 2002-3.

Member, Faculty of Arts Curriculum Committee, October 2002-4.

Chair, Faculty of Arts Committee on Student Standing, September 2002-April 2003.

Member, Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee on Classics at McGill University, March – August 2002.

Chair, Honours Programme and Honours Committee, McGill University Department of History
September 2001-4.

Member, Curriculum Committee, McGill University Department of History, September 2001-4.

Member, Library Advisory Committee, September 2001-4.

Member of Faculty of Arts Student Affairs Committee, September 2000 – August 2003.

Member of Classics Programme Committee, September 2000-4.

Faculty Secretary, St. Norbert College, 1998-99.