

John Jaeger

# Classical studies on the Web

## A guide to some of the best sites

Classical studies involves the examination of Greek and Roman culture, including such areas as art, language, literature, history, philosophy, and religion. One advantage to considering classical studies in an academic library setting is its wide interdisciplinary appeal. Faculty from a number of different subject areas might well be interested in resources on this topic.

Classical studies also are well represented on the Internet. Excellent directories, subject-specific sites, and other resources are available. Likewise, there are good sites for classical studies organizations and for free classical studies journals. This article seeks to guide the reader to some of the best Internet resources available.

### Directories

#### Electronic Resources for Classicists.

This directory site for classical studies is perhaps the best single resources for finding quality resources on the subject. There are 20 categories available, addressing such areas as gateways, bibliographies, archives, publications, and organizations. *Access:* <http://www.tlg.uci.edu/index/resources.html>.

#### LSU Libraries: Classics Resources.

The LSU subject guide to classical resources covers such areas as Web guides, guides to Roman resources, guides to Greek resources, online Greek and Latin texts, ancient Greek and Roman images, and dictionaries and language sites. This is one of the best places to begin a search on classical sites. *Access:* <http://www.lib.lsu.edu/hum/classics.html>.

#### Pomoerium: Classical Resources.

Pomoerium has 28 subject categories, and each category has links to a number of re-

sources. Interestingly, some of the suggested resources from this site are different from the ones at other directory sites. *Access:* <http://www.pomoerium.eu/links.htm>.

**Voice of the Shuttle: Classical Studies.** Voice of the Shuttle covers a whole range of time periods, but its resources on the classical period are excellent and wide-ranging. It links to most of the other quality sites on classical studies and provides coverage of a breadth of topical areas. *Access:* <http://vos.ucsb.edu/browse.asp?id=2708>.



### Art

**Beazley Archive.** The Beazley Archive, affiliated with the University of Oxford, is a large repository of classical period images related to art and archaeology. As the site states, the Beazley Archive aims to make its original and electronic archives on classical archaeology and art available as widely as possible. . . . The archive has tens of thousands of quality photographic images. *Access:* <http://www.beazley.ox.ac.uk/index.htm>.

**Kelsey Museum of Archaeology.** The Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, affiliated with the University of Michigan, contains more than 100,000 objects related to civilizations existing around the Mediterranean. A selection of these objects can be viewed online by clicking on Galleries and by clicking on past exhibitions. *Access:* <http://www.lsa.umich.edu/kelsey>.

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**Perseus Art and Architecture Browser.** This tool allows one to focus on a specific aspect of art during a specific period of time. One can limit the search to architecture, coins, gems, sculpture, vases, or sites. Then, one can search rather precisely through all available art or architecture items. *Access:* <http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/cgi-bin/browser>.

## Language

**Greek and Latin Language Resources.** This site provides links to quality Greek and Latin research resources. Items include an English/Greek dictionary, an ancient Greek phrase tool, a pronunciation guide for ancient Greek, a Latin grammar aid, and a large Latin word list. *Access:* <http://www.cs.utk.edu/~mclennan/OM/grk-lat.html>.

**Perseus Language Tools.** Perseus is primarily known for its large digital library, but it also has some excellent language resources related to classical studies. They have online tools for Latin/Greek dictionary help, English-to-Greek word search, Greek morphological analysis, Latin morphological analysis, Greek vocabulary, Latin vocabulary, Greek words in context, Latin words in context, and several others. *Access:* [http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/cache/perscoll\\_PersInfo.html](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/cache/perscoll_PersInfo.html).



**Textkit: Greek and Latin Learning Tools.** As the site indicates, Textkit is the Internet's largest provider of free and fully downloadable Greek and Latin grammars and readers. With currently 146 free books to choose from, Greek and Latin learners have downloaded 687,131 grammars, readers and classical e-books. This popular site is an excellent place to begin learning the classical languages or to check on a grammatical issue you note in a particular text. *Access:* <http://www.textkit.com>.

## Literature (text collections)

**Forum Romanum.** This site includes a comprehensive listing of Roman texts and

also the available online translations of those texts. This is a very large collection, and it complements the Latin Library (listed below) by locating the translated works. Forum Romanum also has a helpful digital library of Latin literature searchable by author, title, genre, or date. *Access:* <http://www.forumromanum.org/index2.html>.

**The Internet Classics Archive.** This site contains 441 works from more than 50 different classical authors. The texts are all translated into English. The site also has a search engine allowing for searching specific words or phrases within the works. *Access:* <http://classics.mit.edu>.

**The Latin Library.** The Latin Library is a collection of Latin texts by more than 50 major classical figures. Authors in this collection include Ovid, Cicero, Horace, Suetonius, and Virgil. There also is a Miscellany category that includes more than 60 works by lesser Latin figures. *Access:* <http://www.thelatinlibrary.com>.

**Perseus Digital Library.** Perseus is an excellent resource for online primary texts in general, but within this site is a great collection of classical texts. There presently are 489 classical texts, and included in the collection are works in Greek and in Latin. There also are 112 secondary sources on classical studies. *Access:* [http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/cache/perscoll\\_Greco-Roman.html#text1](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/cache/perscoll_Greco-Roman.html#text1).

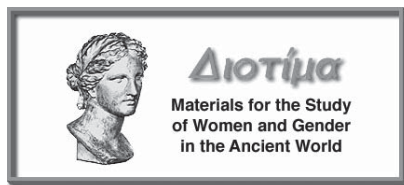
**Virgil.org.** The Virgil.org site provides biographical and bibliographical information on Virgil, as well as a database for searching within his writings. Additionally, there are links to English translations of Virgil's works. Virgil.org also provides links to other helpful Virgil sites, including ones providing Latin texts. *Access:* <http://virgil.org>.

## History

**Ancient History Sourcebook.** The Ancient History Sourcebook is one of a large number of large history sites created by Paul Halsall of Fordham University. This particular sourcebook focuses on the ancient and classic periods, with specific categories for Greek civilizations, the Hel-

lenistic world, Rome, late antiquity, and Christian origins. Halsall has organized links to full-text documents related to all areas within a time period, including art, literature, history, philosophy, and religion. *Access:* <http://www.fordham.edu/HALSALL/ancient/asbook.html>.

**Diotima.** Diotima provides resources for the study of women and gender in the ancient world. As the site states it serves as an interdisciplinary resource for anyone interested in patterns of gender around the ancient Mediterranean and as a forum for collaboration among instructors who teach courses about women and gender in the ancient world. This site includes course materials, the beginnings of a systematic and searchable bibliography, and links to many on-line resources, including articles, book reviews, databases, and images. *Access:* <http://www.stoa.org/diotima>.



**Maps (from Virgil.org).** This site provides links to maps of the ancient Greek and Roman world. It also provides maps that associate key literary allusions to their geographical locations. One particularly helpful map assists readers in understanding the Latin names of geographical locations. *Access:* <http://virgil.org/maps>.

### Philosophy/religion

**Early Church Fathers.** This site, which provides the full text of the complete *Ante-Nicene Fathers* and the *Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers*, is part of a larger site called the Christian Classics Ethereal Library (CCEL). CCEL is a very large collection of online texts related to Christianity. The Early Church Fathers online volumes provide the major writings of early church leaders and



theological thinkers. *Access:* <http://www.ccel.org/fathers.html>.

**Encyclopedia Mythica.** This encyclopedia covers the topics of mythology, folklore, and religion in an online site containing more than 7,000 articles. One can quickly select the particular area of mythology to search by selecting from a pull-down menu. Categories include both Greek and Roman mythology, and an abundance of information is available under those categories. *Access:* <http://www.pantheon.org>.

**Philosophy Around the Web: Individual Philosophers.** This site provides links to approximately one hundred fifty philosophers, and these links then lead to the writings of and about these signi cant gures. While the philosophers cover all time periods, there are speci c ones related to classical studies, such as Aristotle, Plato, Lucretius, Plotinus, Epictetus, and Epicurus. *Access:* <http://users.ox.ac.uk/~worc0337/philosophers.html>.

### Classical studies online publications

**Arion: A Journal of Humanities and the Classics.** Arion is affiliated with Boston University and provides a selection of its articles online for free. While the journal has a broader range than classical research, many of its articles do address the classical era and classical themes. The archive dates back to the early 1990s, and at least two articles from each issue are available without a subscription. *Access:* <http://www.bu.edu/arion>.



• **Bryn Mawr Classical Review.** This free online publication af liated with the University of Pennsylvania provides reviews of recent books and electronic resources published in the area of classical studies. The site has archived issues dating back to 1990. *Access:* <http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/bmcr>.

**H-Net Reviews.** H-Net is an online site containing the full text of thousands of

reviews of recent publications in the area of history. While the focus is not on the classical era in particular, a significant portion of the books address that period. *Access:* <http://www.h-net.org/reviews>.

**Leeds International Classical Studies.**

This journal, according to its Web site, is a peer-reviewed on-line journal, associated with the Leeds International Classics Seminar. It publishes articles and interim discussion papers on all aspects of Greek and Roman antiquity, and of the history of the classical tradition. The journal is freely available on-line and has archives back to 2002. *Access:* <http://www.leeds.ac.uk/classics/lics>.

**TOCS-IN.** As its Web site indicates, TOCS-IN provides the tables of contents of a selection of Classics, Near Eastern Studies, and Religion journals, both in text format and through a Web search program. Where possible, links are given with articles of which the full text or an abstract is available online (about 15%). While this is not a free online journal, TOCS-IN provides free

access to journal information and includes some free full-text articles, as well. *Access:* <http://www.chass.utoronto.ca/amphoras/tocs.html>.

The resources addressed above represent some of the best available in the area of classical studies, but they by no means cover the topic completely. The resources might best be seen as useful starting points for locating the abundance of material online in this large subject area. ¶

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*(“Sister libraries...” continued from page 568)* with the Sister Libraries Partnership and very excited about exploring new opportunities and continually growing our partnership.

**Notes**

1. The presentation abstracts and PowerPoint slides can be viewed at the conference Web site: [www.lib.umd.edu/MCK/monterrey2005.html](http://www.lib.umd.edu/MCK/monterrey2005.html).

2. The Virtual Business Information Center (VBIC) is at [www.vbic.umd.edu](http://www.vbic.umd.edu). ¶

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