

Peter Makhoulf
 118 Decio Hall | Notre Dame, IN 46556
<https://nd.academia.edu/PeterMakhoulf>

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2025- Provost's Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of German, Slavic and Eurasian Studies, University of Notre Dame
- 2024-2025 Lecturer, Departments of Comparative Literature and German, Princeton University

EDUCATION

- 2018-2023 PhD, Comparative Literature, Princeton University
 • Dissertation: *Declinations: German Decadence and the Fall of Rome*, 492 pp.
 Advisors: Daniel Heller-Roazen and Joseph Vogl
 • "Highly Commended" by the Durham Prize in Classical Reception
- 2021-2022 Humboldt Universität, Berlin, 2021-2022
 • Guest Researcher in the PhD Network *Das Wissen der Literatur*
- 2016-2018 Freie Universität, Berlin
 • Occasional student
- 2012-2016 B.A. Classics (Honors, *summa cum laude*), Brown University
 • Thesis: *Logics Incarnate: Nature, Culture and Property in 'The Odyssey'*, 161 pp.

MONOGRAPHS

- * *Declinations: Stefan George's Secret Empire* (in progress)

SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

- * "Migration Nation, or, Narrating Eurafrica in Jenny Erpenbeck's *Gehen, ging, gegangen*" (in preparation).
- * "*Weißgetüncht*: Towards a Political Philology of Paul Celan's Char Translations," in Sandra Bermann and Michael Wood (eds.), *Translating the Untranslatable: René Char's Wartime Poetry*, (in preparation).
- 2026 "*Drüben*: German-Jewish Studies and the Question of Palestine," in "Palestine and German Studies," special issue of *German Quarterly*, 99/2.
- 2025 "Sappho erinna-rn: Epigonal Erotics in Modern German Poetry," in Katerina Stergiopoulou (ed.), *Brill's Companion to the Ancient and Modern Reception of Sappho* (Brill: 2025).
- 2025 "*Kaisermystik*: Aby Warburg and the Development of a Political Theurgy," in *Res: Anthropology and Aesthetics* 83, 126-145.
- 2024 "The Destruction of the Voice," *Comparative Literature Studies* 61.3, 520-551.
 • Awarded the ACLA's A. Owen Aldridge Prize for best essay in Comparative Literature.
- 2024 "Die Eroberung Alexandrias als Leitmotiv der Weimarer Republik," in Sebastian Fahner et al. (eds.) *Politics of Pasts and Futures in (Post-)Imperial Contexts* (De Gruyter: 2024), 77-101.
- 2024 "Prophecy between Poetics and Politics from Al-Farabi to Leo Strauss," *International Journal of the Classical Tradition*, vol. 31, 1-29.

- 2023 with J.D. Reed, "Ad Astra: Imperial Mythology from Egypt to Rome," *Helios* 50.1, 17-49.
- 2022 "Niemandland: Dantes pneumatische Schiffspoetik," *Archiv für Mediengeschichte* Vol. 20, 119-129.
- 2022 "On Unicorns: Rilke and Medieval Noetics," *Forum for Modern Language Studies* 58.2, 172-193.
- 2019 "The End of Intellectuals," *Radical History Review* 134 (2019), 220-232.

SELECT PUBLIC WRITING

- 2025 "Visions of the Merkaba," under review in *Jewish Currents*.
- 2025 "Als Kafka Carl Schmitt las: Ein unentdecktes Kapitel in der Geschichte der Bauchrednerei," *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* Feuilleton (forthcoming).
- 2025 "The Anxiety of Inflation (On Ben Lerner's *The Lights*)," *boundary2online* "Fiction and Finance" dossier.
- 2024 "Democracy and Feelings: Yoko Tawada brings Paul Celan into the Era of Fiber Optics," in *First of the Month*.
- 2022 "'My name is No One': In Search of Homer", *Soundings* 105 (3), 380-392.
- 2021 "Messianisms—Walter Benjamin at the Tomb of Absalom," *Jerusalem Quarterly*, special issue on "Time Travelers in Palestine," #86 (2021), 32-3.
- 2020 "The Secret Life of Saturn: Melancholy and the Warburg Institute", *Marginalia*, (September).

TRANSLATIONS

- 2024 Anton Bierl, "If I can't be Sappho, I would sooner be nothing": Sappho, Leucò, and the Phaon Myth in Cesare Pavese's *Sea Foam* (*Schiuma d'onda*) in Katerina Stergiopoulou (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to the Reception of Sappho* (Cambridge University Press: 2025).

TEACHING

- 2025 Seminar: *Charisma: Ästhetik—Politik—Medien* (Spring)
- 2025 Lecture: *Elegy: The Poetics of Love and Loss* (Spring)
- 2025 With Sandra Bermann: *Poetry and War: Translating the Untranslatable* (Spring)
- 2024 With Sandra Bermann: *Translation, Migration and Culture* (Fall)
- 2024 Seminar: *Decadence: Empire, Sexuality, Aesthetics* (Fall)
- 2024 Seminar: *Decadence: Empire, Sexuality, Aesthetics* (Spring)
- 2023 Language Lecturer: *GER 105: Intermediate German* (Spring)
- 2020 with Lital Levy, *Culture and Ethics in Israel/Palestine* (Fall)
- 2015 TA, *Cultures of the Contemporary Middle East* (Brown University, Fall)

INVITED TALKS

- 2026 "*Drüben*: The Question of Zion in the Palestinian Reception of Paul Celan," College of Arts and Letters Postdoctoral Research Colloquium, Notre Dame (March).
- 2025 "Learning Nakba, Unlearning the 'After': On Adorno and Education," *Bergen Assembly*, Bergen, Norway (September).
- 2025 "*Mouvance*: Political Philology and Celan's Char Translations," *Resistance and its Futures: Translating the (Untranslatable) Wartime Poetry of René Char*, Princeton University (May).

- 2025 "Mercurial Mediterraneans: Nation, Narration, and Migration from Däubler to Erpenbeck," Princeton University Department of German (January).
- 2025 "Polycentric Poetics from Ausonius to Stefan George," University of Texas at Austin, Department of Classics and World Literature Program (January).
- 2024 "The Hofmann(sthal) Wobble: Charisma between Poetics and Technics," *Princeton-Weimar Media Summer School*, Princeton University (June).

SELECT PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

- 2026 "Mercurial Mediterraneans: Between Eurafrica and the Eurozone," *Newberry Library German Studies Seminar*, (April).
- 2025 "From Roman Germany to German Europe: German Culture and the Specter of Empire," Postdoctoral Scholars University Colloquium, Notre Dame (October).
- 2024 "'Around this sea must our souls steer': Mediterranean Polarities at 1900," *Spectral Cartographies: Haunting and the Ancient Mediterranean*, Princeton Classics, (April)
- 2024 "Of Parallels and Polarities: The Syncretic Journeys of Weimar's Total Man from Conservative Revolution to Oriental Studies and Beyond," *Global Weimar/Global Nahda*, Diwan: Das arabische Kulturhaus, Berlin (January)
- 2023 "Rom-Raum-Ruhm: Towards a Genealogy of the Hymnic" (Respondent: Katerina Stergiopoulou), *Comparative Literature Writing and Dissertation Colloquium* (October)
- 2023 "Max Kommerell's Secularization Thesis", *German Studies Association Seminar "Goethe as Theoretical Touchstone,"* (October)
- 2023 Organizer and Presenter, *From Mystique to Politique: Scholarship, Mysticism and Politics in the 20th c.*, *MLA Convention* (January)
- 2022 Response to Lital Levy, "Diasporic World Literature: *The Vale of Cedars* in the Global Haskalah", *Princeton University Works in Progress Series*, (October)
- 2022 "The Destruction of the Voice (Kafka, Schoenberg, Straub-Huillet, Celan)" *ACLA Seminar "Voice: Enunciation, Meaning, Representation,"* (June)
- 2022 "„Kreis-Lauf des Lebens und Todes": Zur Genealogie des Hymnischen" *Zirkulation: Abschlusstagung des thematischen Netzwerks "Literatur–Wissen–Medien,"* Humboldt Universität Berlin, (February)
- 2021 With Michael Wood and Barbara Nagel, "On Translating Paul Celan: A Conversation with Pierre Joris," *Princeton Comparative Literature & The Humanities Council*, (March)
- 2021 "Enargeia and Phantasia among the Arabic Aristotelians," (Respondent: Lara Harb) *Princeton Islamic Studies Colloquium* (February)
- 2021 Co-organizer & Presenter: "Vividness (*Enargeia*) as a Critical Concept," *MLA* (January)
- 2019 "(Dis)orientation" (Respondent: Russ Leo), *Place of Concepts Roundtable*, (February)
- 2019 "Homeric Violence: Two Economies", *Anger/Zorn: A Concept of the Moment*, organized by *Thematisches Netzwerk "Literatur - Wissen - Medien"* (April)
- 2018 "Everyone is No One: La communauté désorientée" (Respondent: Christy Wampole) *Comparative Literature Writing and Dissertation Colloquium*, (December)
- 2018 "There is no such thing as the East: The Lacanian Orientations of Edward Said" *Psychoanalysis, Nationalism and Ideology* organized by the *Psychoanalysis in Our Time* collective, Gdansk, Poland (October)
- 2017 "The Archive's Users" *The Archives Make History: The Pembroke Collections*, Brown University (March)

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

2025	Bourse de recherche pour jeunes chercheurs, Fondation Hardt (Geneva), June.
2024	High Commendation by the Durham Center for Classical Reception Prize
2023-24	Dean's Completion Fellowship and Postgraduate Research Award (PGRA)
2023	Joseph Croft Fellowship for dissertation research in the field of classical reception
2023	A. Owen Aldridge Prize for the best essay in Comparative Literature
2022	Erich von Kahler Scholarship for research in the DLA Marbach
2022	PIIRS Winter Funding for research in the Stefan George Archive Stuttgart
2021	Jewish Studies (Princeton) for the study of Yiddish
2020	Committee for the Study of Late Antiquity (Princeton) for the study of classical Arabic literary criticism
2019	Summer Grant (PIIRS, Comparative Literature) for research at the Bibliothèque nationale de France
2018-19	Merit Award, Princeton University Center for Human Values ("for the potential of your work to contribute to the study of human values")
2018	Summer Grant for Study at the American University of Beirut, Princeton, Department of Comparative Literature
2016	M.H. Hicks Prize for Best Honors Thesis, Department of Classics, Brown University
2015-16	Feminist Theory Archives Research Project • "The Original Difference: <i>differences</i> and the Naomi Schor Archive" • Advisor: Suzanne Stewart-Steinberg
2015-16	Karen T. Romer Undergraduate Teaching and Research Award • "Postcolonial Rome: Augustus and Egypt " • Advisor: J. D. Reed
2015-16	Undergraduate Fellowship in Feminist Theory, Pembroke Center for Teaching and Research on Women, Brown University
2015-16	Undergraduate Fellowship, Middle East Studies Department
2015	Sabine Foster Memorial Prize for Excellence in Ancient Greek
2012	Wayland Memorial Prize for Excellence in Ancient Greek

PROFESSIONAL (TEACHING, RESEARCH, ORGANIZATION)

2024	Co-Organizer, Princeton-Weimar Media Summer School, (June)
2022-25	Collaborator, "Poetry & War: René Char in Translation", Digital Humanities Project funded by a Humanities Council Magic Grant (Oversight of German and Arabic sections)
2022-23	Organizer, Department of Comparative Literature Works in Progress Series.
2021-25	Research Assistant for Lital Levy: "Esther Moyal and the Arabic Reception of Emile Zola" (Spring)
2019-20	Organizer, Department of Comparative Literature Lecture Series: <i>The Future of Philology//Philology of the Future</i> (2019-2020).
2018-20	Research Assistant for Sandra Bermann and the Mellon-Sawyer Seminar on Migration: "New Trends in Word Literature, Migration and Translation"
2018-19	Member, <i>Opera Studies Working Group</i> , European Cultural Studies Program

- 2019 Editor for Ariella Azoulay, *Potential History: Unlearning Imperialism* book manuscript (Verso: 2019), as well as various essays and talks.
- 2015-16 Curricular Advising Programming ("CAP") Fellow & Teaching Assistant
- "Cultures of the Contemporary Middle East"

LANGUAGES

ANCIENT GREEK, ARABIC (LEVANTINE & MODERN STANDARD), ENGLISH, FRENCH, GERMAN, LATIN, MIDDLE HIGH GERMAN

IN PROGRESS: YIDDISH, OLD OCCITAN