

Ilia Curto Pelle

Graduate Student, University of Oxford
Fondovi Zhilishta 211 A, entr. G, ap. 77, Sofia 1233, Bulgaria, tel.(359) 878 898712,
e-mail: icurtopelle@princeton.edu; web: <http://curtopelle.com>

EDUCATION:

- 2022 - University of Oxford: **MPhil in Late Antique and Byzantine Studies**
- 2018 - 2022 Princeton University: **A.B. in Classics | Ancient History concentration. Certificates in Hellenic Studies, Medieval Studies and History and Practice of Diplomacy,**
- Senior thesis on “The Transformation of the Balkan Aristocracy between the 3rd and 7th centuries. Supervisors: Daniela Mairhofer and John Haldon
 - Junior paper on “The Araxa Honorary Decree for Orthagoras: Dating and Historical Context.” Supervisor: Marc Domingo Gygax
 - Junior paper on “Julius Vindex and the Histories of Tacitus: Memory, history, and imperial ideology.” Supervisor: Andrew Feldherr
 - Independent project on “Changes in Coin Circulation in the Northern Balkans (6th-8th c.): Intersections of Economic and Scientific Evidence for the “Barbarian Invasions.” Supervisor: Alan Stahl
- 2013 - 2018 National High School for Ancient Languages and Cultures “St. Constantine-Cyril the Philosopher”, 5.97/6.00 diploma for secondary education
- Concentration in Latin and Italian languages
 - Independent projects on the Pagan influences on the iconography of the Virgin Mary and on the symbiosis of cultures and religions in the Palatine Chapel of Palermo. Supervisor: Vesselina Vachkova
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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

- May 2021 - Histories in Transition Project. University of Vienna, Austria. **Coordinator.**
- Organized several virtual seminars on the study of Carolingian historiography, most notably the seminar on “Bede and the continent. The afterlives of Bede’s chronicles, 8th to 12th centuries in June 2021.”
 - Created a Zotero database with more than 1000 bibliographical entries that are to serve as the foundation of an online database
- 2020 – Framing the Late Antique and early Medieval Economy (FLAME) Project. Princeton University, USA. **Assistant Coordinator.**
- Input over 175,000 coins from France, the Northern Balkans, and Italy into the FLAME Project’s database
 - Vetted and corrected bugs from more than 500 finds from our contributors
- June – July, 2020 Center for the Study of Democracy. Sofia, Sofia-city, Bulgaria. **Intern.**
- Helped prepare a policy brief on Chinese economic influence on good governance and environmental policies of countries in Central and Eastern Europe
 - Preparation of materials for the “Authoritarian Shadows in the European Union” website, including evaluations of pro-authoritarian tendencies among Bulgarian Members of the European Parliament.
- 2018 – May 2022 Princeton University Numismatic Collection. Princeton University, USA. **Cataloger.**
- Cataloged coins within the online database of the Numismatic Collection’s to make it available to a wider public
 - Reviewed other student’s finds to ensure consistency across the Roman, Seleucid, and Byzantine collection and prepared the data for linking to Nomisma.org project
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PUBLICATIONS AND AWARDS:

Articles

Curto Pelle, Ilia. “The Araxa Honorary Decree for Orthagoras: Dating and Historical Context.” *The Macksey Journal* 2, no. 1 (September 2021) <https://bit.ly/2Ya7nwg>.

Curto Pelle, Iliia. "The transformation of Mard ō Mard from a Persian tradition to a literary topos." *Helicon: The Yale Undergraduate Journal of Classics* (Spring 2022): 36-48, <https://bit.ly/34pmJ3U>.

Presentations

September 2022	"The impact of "Slavic invasions" on coin circulation in the Northern Balkans." XVI International Numismatic Congress. University of Warsaw, Warsaw, Poland.
March 2022	"Khan Krum and the Change of Bulgarian Grand Strategy at the Turn of the 9th Century." Colloquium of Global Medieval and Renaissance Studies. University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, USA
March 2022	"The impact of "Slavic invasions" on coin circulation in the Northern Balkans." Networks in Transition: Monetary Exchange from Antiquity to the Middle Ages. Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, USA
January 2022	"The FLAME Project: a Digital Perspective on Early Medieval Coinage." Small Change: New Perspectives on Early Medieval Money. Cambridge University, Cambridge, UK.
April 2021	"The Araxa Honorary Decree for Orthogoras: Dating and Historical Context." Richard Macksey National Undergraduate Humanities Research Symposium 2021. Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, USA.
May 2020	"A New Approach to Seleucid Serrated Coins: Questions of Reform and Dynastic Continuity." Princeton Research Day 2020. Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, USA.

Awards

2022	Membership of Phi Beta Kappa (ΦBK) honor society, Phi Beta Kappa, Princeton chapter, Princeton, NJ, USA
2022	John J. Keaney Prize for best senior thesis, Classics Department, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, USA
2022	Judith Laffan Memorial Prize, Department of Near Eastern Studies, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, USA
2022	Seeger Center for Hellenic Studies Senior Thesis Prize, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, USA
2020	2019-2020 Shapiro Prize for Academic Excellence, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, USA
2014 / 2016	First Place, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences' Student Institute, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia

RELEVANT SKILLS:

Languages

Bulgarian	native fluency
English	C2, Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE), 221/230; IELTS, Band 8
Italian	native fluency
Russian	native fluency
German	C1, Goethe-Zertifikat C1, 79.5/100
Latin	academic-level (diploma for completed secondary education with specialization in Latin and Italian, 6.00/6.00 grade); SAT Latin, 800/800; participation at 2019 and 2020 Paideia Conference "Living Latin and Greek" in New York City; CLA 232 (Introduction to Medieval Latin), A grade.
Ancient Greek	academic-level (diploma for completed secondary education, 6.00/6.00 grade); participation at 2019 and 2020 Paideia Conference "Living Latin and Greek" in New York City; CLA 105 (Socrates), A grade.
French	B2, (diploma for completed secondary education, 6.00/6.00 grade)
Church Slavonic	academic-level (diploma for completed secondary education, 6.00/6.00 grade); SLA 422 (Church Slavonic and History of Slavic), A grade.
Ge'ez	intermediate, CLA 410 (Introductory Classical Ethiopic), A grade
Arabic	intermediate, ARA 101-102 (Elementary Arabic), A+ grade

Digital qualifications

Frequent user of Microsoft Office Packet (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access). Proficiency with Zotero digital libraries.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

May 2021 -	Bulgarian Cultural Center of Pennsylvania, New Jersey & Delaware. Guest lecturer .
Sep 2018 -	Princeton Studies in Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages. Princeton University, USA. Peer reviewer since 2019, Vice editor-in-chief since 2020, Editor-in-Chief since May 2020.
2018 - 2021	Princeton University Classics Club. President .

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP:

2021 -	American Numismatic Society, member
2021 -	Medieval Academy of America, member
2021-	British Institute in Ankara, member