

Sofia Bianchi Mancini

DOB: 03.11.1992 in Arezzo, Italy

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EDUCATION

- Jul 2021– Present **Postdoc**, Max-Weber-Kolleg, University of Erfurt
Habilitation Provisional Title: “The Construction of Divine Ownership in Republican and Imperial Literature”.
- May 2018 – Jun 2021 **Dr. Phil.** (*summa cum laude*), University of Erfurt
PhD Thesis Title: “Visible and Invisible Powers: A Case Study on the Socio-Political Dimension of Curse Tablets in Selinous and Athens” (Supervisors: Prof. Dr. Kai Brodersen and Prof. Dr. Katharina Waldner).
- Jan 2016–Mar 2018 **MRes in Classical Studies**, University of Wales Trinity St. David, Lampeter
MRes Dissertation Title: “Shame in Athenian Oratory” (Supervisor: Dr. Errietta Bissa).
- Sep 2014–Sep 2015 **PG Diploma in Classics**, University College London
- Sep 2011–May 2014 **BA Classics**, Single Honours, University of Wales Trinity St. David, Lampeter
BA Dissertation Title: “ΑΙΔΩΣ: A Study of Helen of Troy as the Unchaste Portrayal of αἰδώς in Homer and Euripides” (Supervisor: Dr. Ruth Parkes).
- Jul 2011 **High School Certificate Liceo Classico**, Liceo Classico F. Petrarca, Arezzo

PROFESSIONAL ROLES

- Aug 2022 – Present **SFB PhD Student and Postdoctoral Researcher Representative (with Dr. Jonathan Rinne, Verena Wolf, and Yann Schosser)** — Max-Weber-Kolleg, University of Erfurt
- Jul 2022 – Present **SFB Equal Opportunities Advisory Committee Member (with Dr. Helen Gibson, PD Dr. Petra Gümplová, PD Dr. Bettina Hollstein, and Dr. Roman Birke)** — Max-Weber-Kolleg, University of Erfurt
- Dec 2022 – Present **SFB Blog Managing Editor (with PD Dr. Petra Gümplová, Dr. Helen Gibson, and PD Dr. Christoph Henning)** — Max-Weber-Kolleg, University of Erfurt
- Jul 2021 – Present **SFB “Strukturwandel des Eigentums”, Sub-Project A01 “Göttliches Eigentum. Spätantike und mittelalterliche Lösungen” (co-ordinated by Prof. Dr. Jörg Rüpke and Prof. Dr. Markus Vinzent)** — Project Employee, Max-Weber-Kolleg, University of Erfurt
- Sep 2021 – Nov 2022 **SFB Blog Editor (with PD Dr. Petra Gümplová, Dr. Helen Gibson, Dr. Georg Fischer, PD Dr. Christoph Henning, Moana Jean Packo, and Varun Patil)** — Max-Weber-Kolleg, University of Erfurt

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Apr 2023 – Jul 2023 **MA Course: “Ancient Magic and its Afterlife”** — University of Erfurt, Department of Religious Studies
- Oct 2022 – Jan 2023 **BA Course: “Gender and Violence in Ancient Magic”** — University of Erfurt, Department of Religious Studies
- Apr 2022 – Jul 2022 **BA Course: “Alternatives to Roman Religion: Conflict and Hybridity in Ancient Polytheism”**
— University of Erfurt, Department of Religious Studies
- Oct 2021 – Jan 2022 **BA and MA Course: “Magic in the Ancient World”** — University of Erfurt, Department of Religious Studies
- Oct 2019 – Jan 2020 **MA Course (with Prof. Dr. Katharina Waldner): “Ancient Magic in Ancient and Modern Theories on Religion”** — University of Erfurt, Department of Religious Studies

SESSIONS TAUGHT

- Mar 2020 **BA Lecture: “Oracles and War in Ancient Greece”** – University of Erfurt, Department of Religious Studies

SUPERVISION

- Dec 2022 – Jun 2023 **BA Dissertation: “Blurring Boundaries: Gender Trouble and the Distortion of Modern Dualisms in Literature”** — University of Erfurt, Departments of International Relations and Religious Studies

FUNDING AND AWARDS

- May 2018 – Jun 2021 **Full PhD Scholarship** — University of Erfurt
- 2017 **Classical Association Bursary** (Organisation of the 5th Annual UWICAH Conference at the University of Wales Trinity St. David, Lampeter) — Bristol
- 2015 **Classical Association Half Bursary**, Bristol
- 2015 **Archaeology Prize for Excavations at Vindolanda** — Institute of Classical Studies, London
- 2014 **Rev. Principal Maurice Jones Prize for Greek** — University of Wales Trinity St. David, Lampeter
- 2014 **Canon William Williams Prize for Classics** — University of Wales Trinity St. David, Lampeter
- Sep 2013 – Jan 2014 **Erasmus Scholarship** — University of Tarragona Rovira I Virgili

AFFILIATIONS TO INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH GROUPS

- Mar 2019 – Jun 2021 **IGS (Internationales Graduiertenkolleg)** — “**Resonante Weltbeziehungen in sozio-religiösen Praktiken in Antike und Gegenwart**”, University of Erfurt, Max-Weber-Kolleg
- May 2018 – Feb 2021 **Liminalisierung** — “**Konfigurationen des Übergangs in antiken Gesellschaften**”, University of Erfurt

May 2018 – Dec 2019 **Polytropon (Antike Netzwerk)**, University of Erfurt

MEMBERSHIP TO INTERNATIONAL SOCIETIES

- 2022 – Present **AAH** – Association of Ancient Historians
- 2022 – Present **ARYS** – Antigüedad: Religiones y Sociedades
- 2022 – Present **AICC** — Associazione Italiana di Cultura Classica
- 2021– Present **SCS** — Society for Classical Studies
- 2021– Present **CA** — The Classical Association
- 2021– Present **WCC** — Women’s Classical Caucus

ORGANISED CONFERENCES, PANELS AND WORKSHOPS

- 2024 **2024 International Conference “Objects as a Lens on Group Formations in the Cities of the Roman Empire (1st-4th Centuries CE) – Closed Panel Session (with Prof. Laura Carnevale): “Property of Ritual Space”, University of Erfurt (Organisation in preparation since May 2022)**
- 2023 **SFB Junior Researchers’ Career Workshop (with Dr. Agnieszka Althaber, Dr. Helen Gibson, Dr. Jonathan Rinne, and Philipp Köncke)**, Augustinerkloster Erfurt
- 2023 **EASR 2023 — Open Panel (with Dr. Chiara di Serio and Dr. Silvia Fogliazza): “Communication Techniques in Ancient Mediterranean Ritual Practices: Establishing a Relation with the Superhuman”, University of Vilnius, Lithuania (Panel Accepted)**
- 2023 **SFB Project Area A — 3rd Internal Workshop “Authors Meet Critics” (with Dr. Helen Gibson and Dr. Dirk Schuck)**, Max-Weber-Kolleg, University of Erfurt
- 2022 **SFB Project Area A — 2nd Internal Workshop “Authors Meet Critics” (with Dr. Helen Gibson and Dr. Dirk Schuck)**, Max-Weber-Kolleg, University of Erfurt
- 2022 **EASR 2022 — Closed Panel Session (with Dr. Maria Dell’Isola): “Boundary Violation Between Property and Freedom: Case Studies from Antiquity to the Middle Ages”, University College Cork, Ireland**
- 2022 **SFB Project Area A — 1st Internal Workshop (with Dr. Maria Dell’Isola)**, Max-Weber-Kolleg, University of Erfurt
- 2021 **SFB Working Group 3 — Internal Workshop (with Dr. Roman Birke, Dr. Jörg Oberthür, Prof. Dr. Carsten Herrmann-Pillath, Yann Schosser): “Orders of Property: Requirements for Stability and Change”, University of Jena and University of Erfurt**
- 2017 **UWICAH — 5th Annual Postgraduate Conference in Classics and Ancient History (with Christopher Fleming)**, University of Wales Trinity St. David, Lampeter

GUEST LECTURES, CONFERENCE, SEMINAR, AND WORKSHOP PAPERS

- Jun 2023 **Workshop Paper** — “Understanding Ancient Women: New Approaches from Material Texts”, University of Warsaw ([Invited](#))
Title: “Women in Sicilian Legal Curses: Redefining their Role in the Lawcourts”.
- Mar 2023 **Workshop Paper** — “**Community, Ritual and the Power of Memory: Past, Present and Future**”, Max-Weber-Kolleg, University of Erfurt ([Invited](#))
Title: “Divine Ownership as Cultural Memory: Its Perception and Transformation in Latin Poetry”.
- Nov 2022 **Workshop Paper** — “**Augustan Charisma: Praise and Criticism of the Imperial Persona**”, University of Münster ([Invited](#))
Title: “Praise or Hidden Sarcasm? Lucan’s Intake on Monarchy”.
- Sep 2022 **Workshop Paper** — “**Polytheism in Nature in the Roman West/Politeísmo en la Naturaleza en el Occidente Romano**”, University of Carlos III ([Invited](#))
Title: “Gods’ Landed Property: Sacred Groves in Republican and Imperial Rome”.
- Jun 2022 **Conference Paper** — “**EASR 2022**”, University College Cork
Title: “*Et miseri fecere sacram*: Clementia between Monarchy and Freedom in Statius’ *Thebais* 12”.
- Jun 2022 **Colloquium Paper** – “**International Colloquium on Magical Texts from the Graeco-Roman World: Epigraphical and Paleographical Aspects**”, University of Zaragoza ([Invited](#))
Title: “Epigraphical and Literary Sophistication in Sixth and Fifth Centuries BC Selinountine *defixiones*”.
- Jun 2022 **Conference Paper** — “**XIX ARYS International Conference: Acting in the Dark: Ancient Obscure Ritual Practices**”, Jaradilla de la Vera, Extremadura
Title: “Cursing during Mystery Rites: The *defixiones* from Mainz between *sacer* and *religiosus*”.
- May 2022 **Seminar Paper** — “**Althistorisches Colloquium**”, Humboldt University ([Invited](#))
Title: “Cursing in the Sanctuary of Demeter Malophoros: Judicial Curse Tablets as Power Renegotiation Strategies in Fifth Century BC Selinous”.
- May 2022 **Conference Paper** — “**The Multi-Sensory Experience of Mystery Cults**”, University of Erfurt ([Invited](#))
Title: “Mystery Rites and Curses: Emotions and Senses behind the Ritual Deposition of the *defixiones* from Mainz”.
- Apr 2022 **Conference Paper** — “**Max-Weber-Kolleg Opening Day**”, Max-Weber-Kolleg, University of Erfurt ([Invited](#))
Title: “Fear and Shame: A Rational Discourse in Archaic and Classical Greece”.
- Jan 2022 **Online Guest Lecture** — “**Classics for Breakfast**”, University of Erfurt ([Invited](#))

Title: "A 'Remedy' to Monarchical Rule: The Creation of a New Identity in Lucan's Book III".

Oct 2021 **Online Guest Lecture** — **"Lampeter and Mid-Wales Branch Lecture Series"**, University of Wales Trinity St. David, Lampeter (Invited)

Title: "Cursing for Status and Power: Judicial Curse Tablets and Elite Distress in Sixth and Fifth Centuries BC Selinous".

Nov 2019 **Seminar Paper** — **"Postgraduate Seminar Series"**, University of Edinburgh

Title: "Contesting Law: Curses in the Courts of Selinous and Classical Athens".

May 2019 **Guest Lecture**, Max-Weber-Kolleg, University of Erfurt

Title: "New Approaches to the Study of the Selinountine Judicial Curse Tablets".

Mar 2019 **Seminar Paper** — **"Seminario Poikilia IV: Corpi e Saperi"**, Università Ca' Foscari (Invited)

Title: "Morte Fisica o Psicologica? L'Uso del Sapere Magico Sociale nelle defixiones iudicariae Greche".

Jan 2019 **Seminar Paper** — **"Kolloquium zur antiken Kultur und Religionsgeschichte"**, University of Erfurt (Invited)

Title: "Emotions, Apotympanismos and Binding Spells in Athenian Law Courts".

Jan 2019 **Conference Paper** — **"International PhD Conference, Laetae Segetes VI"**, University of Masaryk

Title: "Did the Agonistic Nature of Greek Society Drive People to Curse?".

Nov 2018 **Conference Paper** — **"5th Annual Symposium: Myth, Cult and Religion"**, Strumica

Title: "Let him Be Destroyed": Law, (Self-)curses in Ancient Greece".

Sep 2018 **Conference Paper** — **"La Magia nell'Antichità Classica"**, Museo delle Religioni "Raffaele Pettazzoni"

Title: "Le defixiones iudicariae: Uno Studio sui Valori Sociali di Vergogna e Onore nella Magia Greca".

Nov 2016 **Conference Paper** — **"UWICAH Postgraduate Conference"**, University of Wales Trinity St. David, Swansea

*Title: "Honour, Shame and Outrages in Demosthenes' *Against Conon*".*

May 2016 **Conference Paper** — **"Opera in Fieri"**, University of Coimbra

*Title: "Lysias: Honour and Shame in *On the Murder of Eratosthenes*".*

May 2016 **Conference Paper** — **"Gregynog Annual Colloquium in Classics"**, Tregynon (Invited)

*Title: "Shame, Honour and the Importance of the Underworld in the Greek *Defixiones Iudicariae*".*

Nov 2014 **Conference Paper** — **"UWICAH Postgraduate Conference"**, University of Wales Trinity St. David, Lampeter

Title: "The Perception of αἰδώς (Shame) as a Goddess and not as a Cultural Construct".

PUBLICATIONS

a) Monographs

2023/2024 **Rüpke, J. and Bianchi Mancini, S.** *Antike Epik*, 3rd ed. Marburg: Tectum.

b) Edited Volumes

2024 **Bianchi Mancini, S., Gibson, H., Schuck, D., Vinzent, M.** (eds.) *Relating to Landed Property* Frankfurt: Campus.

c) Thematic Sections

In preparation **Bianchi Mancini, S. and Dell'Isola, M.** (eds.) *Divine Property and Boundary Violation from Antiquity to the Middle Ages*.

d) Articles

2015 **Bianchi Mancini, S.** "Aidōs Between a Cultural Concept and a Deity", *Rosetta* 17, 40-52.

e) Contributions in Anthologies

2024 **Bianchi Mancini, S.** "Gods' Landed Property: Sacred Groves in Republican and Imperial Literature", in S. Bianchi Mancini, H. Gibson, D. Schuck and M. Vinzent (eds.), *Relating to Landed Property*. Frankfurt: Campus.

2024 **Bianchi Mancini, S.** "Metroac Cultic Practices and Curses: Sensorial Experiences during the Ritual Deposition of the *defixiones* from Mainz", in K. Waldner and A.-I. Rassia (eds.), *The Multi-Sensory Experience of Mystery Cults*. Berlin: De Gruyter.

f) Book Reviews

Forthcoming T. Nowitzki, *Antike Ritualmagie: Die Rituale der ägyptischen Zauberpapyri im Kontext spätantiker Magie*, end of 2023 Stuttgart: Franz Steiner Verlag 2021, in *ARYS. Antigüedad: Religiones y Sociedades*.

2023 C.A. Faraone and S. Torallas Tovar (eds.), *Greek and Egyptian Magical Formularies: Text and Translation, Vol. I*, Berkley: California Classical Studies 2022, in *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*. Available at: <https://bmcr.brynmawr.edu/2023/2023.02.49/>

2022 E. Elm and N. Hartmann (eds.), *Demons in Late Antiquity: Their Perception and Transformation in Different Literary Genres*, Berlin: De Gruyter 2019, in *Theologische Literaturzeitung* 12, Col. 1178-1179. Available at: <https://www.thlz.com/recherche/?von=&bis=&kategorie=&autor=&titel=&rezensent=bianchi&s=1&v=&o=>

2022 Z. Papakonstantiou, *Cursing for Justice: Magic, Disputes, and the Lawcourts in Classical Athens*, Stuttgart: Franz Steiner Verlag 2021, in *Göttinger Forum für Altertumswissenschaft* 25, 1041-1046.

2022 S. Chiarini, *Devotio Malefica. Die antiken Verfluchungen zwischen sprachübergreifender Tradition und individueller Prägung*, Stuttgart: Franz Steiner Verlag 2021, in *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*. Available at: <https://bmcr.brynmawr.edu/2022/2022.04.30/>

LANGUAGE SKILLS

MODERN	Italian	Native Speaker	German	B1
	English	C2	Spanish; Castilian	Good Knowledge
ANCIENT	Ancient Greek	Higher Advanced	Mycenaean Greek	Good Knowledge
	Latin	Higher Advanced	Biblical Hebrew	Beginners Level 2