

RESEARCH

The research interests and specialities, and 2018 publications of lecturers responsible for Ancient Languages and Cultures are as follows:

Prof Phil J. Botha



Prof Botha's main research interests are Psalms studies, especially Wisdom psalms, and the influence of Proverbs on the composition of individual psalms and the Psalter. He also specialises in Syriac Patristic studies, especially the work of the Fourth Century Syriac theologians Ephrem of Nisibis and Aphrahat the Persian Sage; the social values in ancient texts, from Aramaic inscriptions through literary documents in and outside the canonical corpora, from 1000 BCE to 400 CE; and the rhetorical analysis of literary texts with a view to determine textual strategy, aims and objectives of ancient documents in Hebrew, Aramaic, Syriac and (with the help of colleagues) in Greek and Latin.

Articles published in 2018:

“Psalm 5 and the polarity between those who may stand before Yahweh and those who may not.” *HTS Teologiese Studies / Theological Studies* 74(1), a5087. <https://doi.org/10.4102/hts.v74i1.5087>

“Psalm 4 and the poor in the post-exilic province of Judah: A textual and contextual reading.” *Journal of North-West Semitic Languages* 44(2): 23-39.

“Psalm 62: Prayer, accusation, declaration of innocence, self-motivation, sermon, or all of these?” *Acta Theologica* 38(2):32-48.

Participation in national and international conferences in 2018:

“Psalm 32: Worship as a whole-body and whole community experience.” Paper read at the ProPsalms and ProProphets conference, University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa, 30-31 August.

“The Symbolic Role of the Temple in Representing Yahweh in the First Davidic Psalter.” Paper read at the Society of Biblical Literature (SBL) International Meeting, University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland, 30 July-3 August.



Dr Sonja M. Gammage

Dr Gammage's main research interests are Ancient Greek language and linguistics, especially Atticism and the ancient Greek dialects (with a focus on phonology, morphology and the lexicon). She also specialises in Ancient Greek literature, especially prose literature (the early historians, focusing on Herodotus, and the later novelists, focusing on Achilles Tatius); Hellenistic/Roman-period Greek grammarians and lexicographers; language variation and change; language purism; and other aspects of general linguistics.



Dr Susan L. Haskins

Dr Haskins' main research interests are sexuality and gender especially in, but not exclusive to, the Ancient Novel, particularly *The Golden Ass* by Apuleius. She also specialises in reception of ancient sexuality in the African colonial context (homosexuality and hetero-normativity); Roman Imperial social and political history, especially in relation to the Ancient Novel; socio-literary analysis of Imperial Greek and Roman texts; and the reception of ancient sexuality in modern texts.

Articles co-authored and published in 2018:

Haskins, S.L. & Kritzinger, J.P.K. 2018. "Naming the Nameless Woman of Jerome's *Vita Malchi*" *HTS Teologiese Studies / Theological Studies* 74(3), 1-7.

Participation in national and international conferences in 2018:

"Ancient Athenian Pederasty and South African Mine Marriages: An Academic Bias Mystery" Paper read at Classics and Global Humanities Conference, University of Ghana, Accra, Ghana, 11-13 October.



Dr Koos (J.P.K.) Kritzinger

Dr Kritzinger's main research interests are St Jerome, Latin Patristics, (Authors like St Augustine, Ambrose, Prudentius). He also specialises in Roman comedy (Plautus, Terence); Roman epic (Virgil); and Roman rhetoric (Cicero).

Articles co-authored and published in 2018:

Haskins, S.L. & Kritzinger, J.P.K. 2018. "Naming the Nameless Woman of Jerome's *Vita Malchi*" *HTS Teologiese Studies / Theological Studies* 74(3), 1-7.



Prof Gert T.M. Prinsloo

Prof Prinsloo's main research interests are focussed on the Book of Psalms, the Twelve Minor Prophets, and Unit delimitation and Spatial studies. He also specialises in spatiality, especially as it relates to ancient Mediterranean worldviews; and literary analyses, especially narratology, structural patterns, literary devices.

Participation in national and international conferences in 2018:

"“I will look to see what he will answer me” (Habakkuk 2:1): Prophetic body and divine message in the Book of Habakkuk.” Paper read at the ProPsalms and ProProphets conference, University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa, 30-31 August. (Paper read on 30 August)

“Gathered from the Lands: Reading Psalm 107 as a Spatial Journey from Exile to Restoration.” Paper read at the Society of Biblical Literature (SBL) International Meeting, University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland, 30 July-3 August. (Paper read on 1 August)



Dr Jo-Marí Schäder

Dr Schäder’s research interests falls within the subjects of Classical Hebrew, Old Testament science, and Ancient Near Eastern studies. Her specialisations are Hebrew textual analysis, specifically prophetic literature (the Book of the Twelve), mythology, and poetry; and narrative and social-scientific criticism and the analysis of the Hebrew Bible; art and iconography; spatiality, and the phenomenology of religion.

Participation in national and international conferences in 2018:

“Fishing for Jonah’s *Sitz im Leben*: What Has Changed from Trible to Today, and Why?” Paper read at the Society of Biblical Literature (SBL) International Meeting, University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland, 30 July-3 August. (Paper read 3 August)

“Is נִיֶּזֶר really a Fish out of Water? Interpreting Jonah 2:2 in the Light of Birthing Imagery.” Paper read at the Southern African Society for Near Eastern Studies and the Old Testament Society of Southern Africa Joint Meeting, North West University, Potchefstroom, South Africa, 14-16 August. (Paper read on 14 August)

“The book of Jonah and the displacement of bodies and forced migration: what it is (not) saying.” Paper read at the ProPsalms and ProProphets conference, University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa, 30-31 August. (Paper read on 31 August)

Public lecture presented in 2018:

She presented a public lecture by invitation of the Ancient Egyptian and Near Eastern Society (AENES) at the University of South Africa (UNISA) on “The Role and Function of Women in the Epic of Gilgamesh”, Pretoria (South Africa), 17 May 2018.



Prof Gerhard J. Swart

Prof Swart’s main research interests are the Hellenistic era, especially the age and legacy of Alexander the Great and on the conflict between Judaism and the Seleucid Empire, the Septuagint, and its apocrypha (especially Judith and Tobit, and the additions to the books of Esther, Daniel and Baruch). He also specialises in Greek tragedy (namely the works of Sophocles and Euripides), and the reception of these works in later ages; Ancient Greek history (as reflected in the works of Thucydides, Herodotus, Xenophon, and Josephus); and Greek epic poems and epic traditions (such as the Iliad and Odyssey), and the continuing influence of these works.

The research interests and 2018 publications of lecturers responsible for Modern Languages and Cultures are as follows:



Ms Carla de Abreu

Ms Abreu's main research interests are Portuguese didactics: teaching Portuguese as a foreign language. She also specialises in intercultural competence in foreign language teaching, and Portuguese linguistics.

Public lecture presented in 2018:

She presented a public lecture at the *Faculdade de Letras*, University of Porto, on "Teaching Portuguese as a Foreign Language in South Africa", Porto (Portugal), Participating on Erasmus+ Programme, 16-20 April 2018.



Dr Anna-Marie de Beer

Dr de Beer's main research interests are French and francophone autobiography and life writing, and trauma, memory and genocide studies. She also specialises in the literary representation of trauma, and the didactics of the teaching French as a foreign language.

Research visit in 2018:

She visited Rwanda (*Never Again Rwanda*) from 16 June 2018 to 1 July to gather data for a collective book by team of researchers, funded by the NRF's KIC grant. The project is titled *Journey through Rwandan Memorials*.



Dr Luis Lancho Perea

Dr Lancho Perea's main research interests are Spanish didactics: foreign language learning strategies, and teaching Spanish as a foreign language. He also specialises in Latin American history; intercultural competence in foreign language teaching/learning; and pedagogics and curriculum planning in foreign language teaching/learning.

Articles published in 2018:

"How Spanish is Learnt Matters: University Students' Use of Language Learning Strategies." *Language Matters*, pp. 1-18. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10228195.2018.1527859>

Public lecture presented in 2018:

Dr Lancho Perea presented a public lecture on "Challenges and possibilities of learning Spanish in South Africa", in the Faculty of Foreign Languages, at the University of Colima, Mexico, on 15 January 2018.



Prof Stephan Mühr

Prof Mühr's main research interests are European narratives of infinity and a cultural knowledge system's approach. He also specialises in inter-cultural hermeneutics; cultural theory and post-colonial theory; literary perceptions of knowledge; and the history and dynamics of concepts.

Articles published in 2018:

„Wissenschaftliches Gedächtnis als Erinnerungskultur. Zwei Fallstudien zum Kolonialkrieg in Namibia.“ *Acta Germanica* 46, pp 29-46.

Contributions in conference proceedings published in 2018:

„*Tschick* und *Sand* als komplementäre Modelle literarischer Identität im 21. Jahrhundert.“ In: Zhu, Jianhua, Zhao, Jin, Szurawitzki, Michael (Eds.). *Germanistik zwischen Tradition und Innovation. Akten des XIII. Kongresses der Internationalen Vereinigung für Germanistik (IVG), Shanghai. Vol. 10.* Frankfurt/M., Peter Lang. (Publikationen der Internationalen Vereinigung für Germanistik 29), pp 355-359. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3726/978-3-653-06224-3>

Participation in national and international conferences in 2018:

“Der Begriff der Zugehörigkeit als Sinnstifter für innovative philologische Analysen“. Input presentation to the 3rd International Workshop on *Zugehörigkeiten. Forschungsperspektiven für die internationale Germanistik*, Universität Leipzig (Germany), 29.11. – 01.12.2018.

“Kann es eine interkulturelle Hermeneutik des Kolonialismus in Afrika geben?“. Paper read at the Conference of the *Gesellschaft für interkulturelle Germanistik*, Ouidah (Benin), 04-07 August 2018



Prof Rada Tirvassen

Prof Tirvassen's main research interest is sociolinguistics. He also specialises in the teaching and learning of languages, especially French, and in language acquisition studies.

Book contribution published in 2018:

‘Catégorisations sociales et postures scientifiques: la plural society et les sociétés creoles.’ Chapter in M. Debono, V. Feussi, E. Huver, I. Pierozak eds. *Penser les diversités linguistiques et culturelles: Francophonies, formations à distance, migrations*, pp. 351-367. Limoges: Lambert-Lucas.