

International Conference

Emotions in Antiquity

2 – 3 October 2026

UniS, Friday S 201 | Saturday B-102 | University of Bern



Friday | 02.10.2026

08:30 *Welcome Coffee*

Chair: Josef Glanz

08:55 – 09:00 **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
Ilija Baumann (Bern)

13:30 – 14:05 **Nancy Rahn** (Bern)
Who will turn aside to ask about your welfare? Notes on empathy and prophetic communication in the Hebrew Bible and the Septuagint.

Chair: Maximilian Nietzsche

09:00 – 09:35 **Isabelle Künzer** (Giessen)
Emotional Ambiguities – Suicides in Herodotus and the Spartan Emotional Regime

14:15 – 14:50 **Ilija Baumann** (Bern)
Reframing emotions in-between cultures? Eleosin the translation of Scripture

9:45 – 10:20 **Iuliia Burtceva** (Nürnberg)
Understanding Emotions in Speech Aristotle on emotion and persuasion: its epistemic justification; tested on Plato's Alcibiades I

14:50 – 15:20

10:20 – 10:50 *Coffee Break*

15:20 – 15:55

10:50 – 11:25 **Nicole Diersen** (Osnabrück)
Actions as markers for emotions within Imperial period inscriptions from Thessaloniki

16:05 – 16:40

11:35 – 12:10 **Anthony Ellis** (Bern)
Does Hera Get Jealous? Gender, (In)Fidelity and Romantic Rage in Greek Literature and the Anachronism of Modern Emotion Categories

18:30

12:10 – 13:30 *Lunch*

Conference Dinner

Saturday | 03.10.2026

08:30 *Welcome Coffee*

Chair: Luca Licitra

Chair: Constantin Mader

09:00 – 09:35 **Despina Iosif** (Athens)
Divine Fear in Antiquity: Early Christian and Pagan Emotional Worlds in Dialogue

14:00 – 14:35 **Fabio Spalla** (Vienna)
Servos fortuna, moribus ingenuus: some reflections on the affective cultures of enslaved people in poetic epitaphs from the Roman imperial provinces

9:45 – 10:20 **Annika Krahn** (Bamberg)
Shame as a taboo emotion? Early Christian writings in the early Jewish context and their treatment of shame.

14:45 – 15:20 **Matilde Oliva** (Florence)
Classifying Grief, Experiencing Pain: Aegritudo in Cicero's Consolatio and Tusculanae Disputationes

10:20 – 10:50 *Coffee Break*

15:20 – 15:50 *Coffee Break*

10:50 – 11:25 **Damien Nellis** (Geneva)
'How to be philosophical about the end of the Aeneid: Vergil, emotion, and Turnus.'

15:50 – 16:25 **Marina Pizzi** (Regensburg / Bologna)
Emotional Codes of Mourning in Late Antiquity: Ausonius and Augustine on Death a Remembrance

11:35 – 12:10 **Caroline Richard** (Paris)
Emotion Without Categories? Inductive Detection of Affective Expressions in Latin Imperial Epic

16:35 – 17:10 **Diana Pavel** (Bucharest)
Affective patterns and power structures. The case of Etruscan religious spaces.

12:20 – 12:55 **Stefanie Weidmann** (Erlangen)
Amores 3.7, Ovid's elegy on impotence

17:10 – 17:20 *Concluding Discussion and Future Perspectives*

12:55 – 14:00 *Lunch*

18:00 *Apéro*

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