

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 Nietschke		
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? Eleos in the translation of Scripture
9:45 – 10:20	Iuliia Burtceva (Nürnberg) Understanding Emotions in Speech Aristotle on emotion and persuasion: it's epistemic justification, tested on Plato's <i>Alcibiades I</i>	14:50 – 15:20 Coffee Break
10:20 – 10:50	Coffee Break	15:20 – 15:55 Thomas Kazen (Stockholm) Emotions beyond Vocabulary: Reading Implicit Affect through Ancient Practices and Rituals of Moral Repair
10:50 – 11:25	Nicole Diersen (Osnabrück) Actions as Markers for emotions within Imperial Period Inscriptions from Thessaloniki	16:05 – 16:40 Giada Sorrentino (Frankfurt am Main) Emotion, Interaction, and Identity in Justin's Dialogue with Trypho: A Pragmatic and Positioning-Theoretical Approach
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 Conference Dinner
12:10 – 13:30	Lunch	

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	13:30 – 14:05 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	14:15 – 14:50 Matilde Oliva (Florence) Classifying Grief, Experiencing Pain: Aegritudo in Cicero's <i>Consolatio</i> and <i>Tusculanae Disputationes</i>
10:20 – 10:50	Coffee Break	14:50 – 15:20 Coffee Break
10:50 – 11:25	Damien Nelis (Geneva) 'How To Be Philosophical about the End of the Aeneid: Vergil, Emotion, and Turnus.'	15:20 – 15:55 Marina Pizzi (Regensburg / Bologna) Emotional Codes of Mourning in Late Antiquity: Ausonius and Augustine on Death and Remembrance
11:35 – 12:10	Caroline Richard (Paris) Emotion Without Categories? Inductive Detection of Affective Expressions in Latin Imperial Epic	16:05 – 16:40 Diana Pavel (Bucharest) Affective Patterns and Power Structures. The Case of Etruscan Religious Spaces
12:10 – 13:30	Lunch	16:40 – 16:50 Concluding Discussion and Future Perspectives
		17:30 Apéro

With the kind support of:



Institut für Judaistik
Länggassstrasse 51
3012 Bern
www.judaistik.unibe.ch

Interdisziplinäres
Doktoratsprogramm der
Altertumswissenschaften (IDA)
www.altertum.unibe.ch/ida



[mv|ub]

MITTELBAUVEREINIGUNG
UNIVERSITÄT BERN