

**Sandra Blakely**  
Associate Professor  
Department of Classics, Emory University  
221 F Candler Library Atlanta, GA 30322

**Research Interests:**

Greek ritual and religion, fragmentary historical sources, anthropology and ethnography of the ancient world, digital approaches to the ancient world, including Geographic Information Systems and Network modeling

**Education:**

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California  
PhD, Classics and Anthropology, 1998

Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah  
B.A., German and Humanities, 1982

**Publications:**

**Books**

In preparation: *Samothrace: The Anthropology of an Island Cult*

2015 *Alexander Polyhistor* (BNJ 273), Leiden: Brill

2011 *Conon* (BNJ 26), Leiden: Brill

2009 *Herodorus* (BNJ 31), Leiden: Brill

2006 *Myth, Ritual and Metallurgy in Ancient Greece and Recent Africa*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

**Edited volumes**

In preparation:

Guest editor for “Gods, Objects and Ritual processes,” volume 1 in *Journal for Ancient Mediterranean Religions* (Atlanta: Lockwood Press)

2009 “Ancient Mysteries, Modern Secrets,” proceedings of the Conference on the Mysteries, *Electronic Antiquity* 12.1 (2008)

**Online Research presence**

<https://scholarblogs.emory.edu.samothraciannetworks/>

**Articles**

In preparation: “From Dardanos to the Philosophers: Initiation and Imagination in Roman Samothrace,” for *Classical Philology* (publication of Walsh lecture)

2015 “Human geography, GIS technology, and ancient mysteries: a case study from the island of Samothrace,” *Getty Research Journal* 7, February 2015

2013 “Daimones in the Thracian Sea: Mysteries, iron, and metaphor,” *Archiv für Religionsgeschichte* 14(1): 155-182

2012 “Toward an archaeology of secrecy: power, paradox, and the Great Gods of Samothrace” in Y. Rowan, ed., *Beyond Belief: The Archaeology of Religion and Ritual*, Archaeological Papers of the American Anthropology Association, vol. 21(1): 49-71.

2010 “Kadmos, Jason, and the Great Gods of Samothrace: initiation as mediation in a Northern Aegean context,” *Electronic Antiquity* 11.1

2009 “Ancient Mysteries, Modern Secrets: Introduction,” *Electronic Antiquity* 12.1 (2008): 1-22

**Book chapters**

In preparation: “Miltiades on the Janiculum: a re-purposed, transgendered Herm,” in A. Wilson, ed., publication of the Janiculum Mills excavation, American Academy at Rome

“Hermes, Kyllene, Samothrace and the Sea,” in *Tracking Hermes, Tracing Mercury*, J. Miller and J. Strauss-Clay, ed.s, Oxford: Oxford University Press

Forthcoming “From the Mountain to the Sea: Seascapes, Gender, and an Island Cult”, in W. Meyer, ed.

IEMA Volume VI: *Engendering Landscape*, Institute for European and Mediterranean

- Archaeology: State University of New York, Buffalo
- Forthcoming "The Anthropology of an Island Cult: Samothrace and the Science of man in the Nineteenth century", in E. Varto, ed., *The Classics and Early Anthropology*, Brill
- 2016 "Maritime Risk and Ritual Responses: Sailing with the Gods in the Ancient Mediterranean", in C. Buchet and P. de Souza, ed.s, *Oceanides*, Association Oceanides: Paris
- 2016 "Beyond Braudel: Network models and a Samothracian Seascape", in L. Mazurek and C. Concannon, ed.s, *Across the Corrupting Sea*, London: Routledge
- 2007 "Pherekydes' Daktyloi: ritual, technology, and the Presocratic Perspective", *Kernos* 20: 43-67
- 2000 "Madness in the Body Politic: Kouretes, Korybantes, and the Politics of Shamanism," in J. Hubert, ed., *The Archaeology and Anthropology of Madness, Disability and Social Exclusion*, Part 2 of *Mind and Body in Society*, p. 119-127.
- 1999 "Smelting and Sacrifice: Comparative Analysis of Greek and Near Eastern Cult Sites from the Late Bronze through the Classical Periods," in S.M. Young, M. Pollard, P. Budd, and R.A. Ixer, ed.s, *Metals in Antiquity*, Oxford: Archaeopress, 86-90.

### Encyclopedia entries

- 2014 "The Archaeology of Greek Religion", *Encyclopedia of Global Archaeology*
- 2014 "Superstition", "Kabeiroi", and "Samothrace", entries in *The Cambridge Dictionary for Ancient Mediterranean Religion*, E. Orlin, ed.

### Reviews

In preparation:

- N. Arrington, *Ashes, Image, and Memories: The Presence of the War Dead in Fifth-Century Athens* (2014), for *The Art Bulletin*
- I. Nielsen, *Housing the Chosen: The Architectural Context of Mystery Groups and Religious Associations in the Ancient World* (2014), for *The American Journal of Archaeology*
- E. Almagor and J. Skinner, *Ancient Ethnography: New Approaches* (2015) for *Orbis Terrarum International Journal for the Historical Geography of the Ancient World*
- 2016 Review, Cruccas, *Gli dei senza nome*, *Journal of Hellenic Studies*
- 2008 *BMCR* 2008.07.33: Review of E. Kyriakidis, *The Archaeology of Ritual*
- 2008 *Classical Bulletin* 84: 111-113, Review of F. Naiden, *Ancient Supplication*

### Selected Papers:

- 2016 "Samothracian Networks: Economic Prospects and Ritual Promises in the Hellenistic Mediterranean," paper in the conference co-organized with Billie Jean Collins, Religious Convergence in the Ancient Mediterranean, Palermo, Sicily
- "Testing the Gods, Saving your Ship," paper in the panel co-organized with Amelia Brown, University of Queensland, Sailing with the Gods: The Archaeology of Ancient Mediterranean Maritime Religion. Annual Meeting of the Archaeological Institute of America, San Francisco.
- 2014 "Beyond Braudel: GIS Technology and a Samothracian Seascape," AIA Annual Conference, Chicago
- "Hermes, Kyllene, Samothrace and the Sea," Tracking Hermes: Conference at UVA
- "Samothracian networks: GIS, epigraphy and connectivity at the Greek gateway to the Black Sea," European Association of Archaeologists, Istanbul
- 2013 "Embodying Samothrace: the mountain and the sea," Institute for European and Mediterranean Archaeology Visiting Scholar Conference, SUNY Buffalo
- 2012 "Mapping the Mysteries: GIS as a pedagogical aid in the history of Religions," CAMWS, Baton Rouge
- "Broken Data, Abstract Models: a digital response to the Samothracian Mysteries," SAMR conference, Brown University
- 2011 "Modeling the mysteries: GIS technology, network models, and the cult of the Great Gods of Samothrace," Digital Classicist Seminar Series, King's College London
- "More than pilgrimage: Samothrace, GIS, and Safety at Sea," Society for Biblical Literature conference, San Francisco
- "Mystery gods at the Circus Maximus: Samothracian rites at Rome," CAMWS, Grand Rapids, Michigan
- 2010 "From Dardanus to the Philosophers: Initiation and Imagination in Roman Samothrace," Walsh Lecture, University of Chicago

2005 “Iron, invention and cosmology: Greek reflections on the technological past,” Theoretical Archaeology Group Conference, Exeter, England

**Emory Service:**

2014-16 Member, University Senate and co-chair of Undergraduate Education working group, Strategic Plan  
2001-16 Local chapter representative, Archaeological Institute of America  
2010-13 Chair, Humanities Subcommittee, University Research Committee  
2010 “Heroes, Horses, and Hoplite of Unusual Size” lecture in support of the museum’s celebration of the anniversary of Marathon  
2008- Member, Humanities Subcommittee, URC  
2007-13 Director, Program in Ancient Mediterranean Studies  
2011 Leader, Carlos Museum Reading Group: Theogony  
2011 Leader, Great Works Series, Bill and Carol Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry: Odyssey  
2012 Leader, Carlos Museum Reading Group: Prometheus Bound  
2013 Docent training, Carlos Museum: Pyrotechnology and Bronze Age

**Selected Academic Awards:**

2013-14 Villa Scholar, Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles  
2010-11 Fellow, Bill and Carol Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry, Emory University  
2007-10 Winship Distinguished Associate Research Professorship, Emory University  
2006-07 Margot Tytus Fellowship, University of Cincinnati  
University Research Center grant, Emory University  
2003 NEH Summer Seminar, “Roman Religion in its Cultural Context”  
2000-01 Junior Fellow, Center for Hellenic Studies, Washington DC  
1998-99 National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, Albright Institute, Jerusalem  
1998 American Academy in Rome, Summer Program in Archaeology  
1997 George A. Barton Fellowship, Albright Institute, Jerusalem  
1996-9 Jacob Hirsch Fellowship, American School of Classical Studies, Athens