Emory University’s Program in Ancient Mediterranean Studies

Fall 2022 Colloquium

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Overrated:
Seneca the Younger on Pompey the Great

In this lecture I will explore Seneca’s at times harsh views (Brev. 13.6-7 and Ep. 94.64) on Pompey “the Great.” After a brief consideration of Pompey’s public image in his lifetime and after, I will argue that by examining the concept of magnitude across Seneca’s works of ethics and physics we can isolate several reasons why he pours such scorn on Pompey, who was not a particularly negative exemplum elsewhere in Roman discourse of the early principate.

Wednesday, November 16th
4:30 p.m.
White Hall 200
Light refreshments will be served