

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION  
The University of Michigan  
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Basil J. Dufallo, associate professor of classical studies, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to professor of classical studies, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	1999	University of California, Los Angeles
M.A.	1999	University of California, Los Angeles
B.A.	1992	Yale University

Professional Record:

2017 – present	Associate Professor, Department of Classical Studies, and Faculty Affiliate, Department of Comparative Literature, University of Michigan
2011 – 2017	Associate Professor, Department of Classical Studies and Department of Comparative Literature, University of Michigan
2005 – 2011	Assistant Professor, Department of Classical Studies and Department of Comparative Literature, University of Michigan
2003 – 2004	Lecturer II, Department of Classical Studies, University of Michigan
2001 – 2005	Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Classical Studies, University of Michigan
2000 – 2001	Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Classical Studies, The College of Wooster
1999 – 2000	Walter D. Foss Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Classical Studies, The College of Wooster

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – Professor Dufallo’s teaching is essential to the core mission of the Department of Classical Studies. He covers a wide range of undergraduate and graduate courses in Latin language and literature and in Roman culture. He helps students build interpretive skills with attention to socio-historical context and modern receptions of the ancients. His undergraduate course entitled “Shakespeare’s Classics” draws new students into the study of the ancients, and his course on “Barbarism” develops critical awareness of binary thought structures that inform social identities. In the graduate program, Professor Dufallo has successfully taught some of the most demanding courses, including “Latin Prose Composition” and “Survey of Latin Literature” (Classics), as well as “Introduction to Theory” (Comparative Literature). His recruitment efforts for Michigan Humanities Emerging Research Scholars (MICHHERS) and the new Bridge M.A. are essential for the diversification of the graduate student body.

Research – Professor Dufallo is a scholar of literature written in Latin, the language of the Romans from the ancient to early modern period. His work since tenure follows the cross-currents of Latin drama, poetry, history, and philosophy during the period of Roman expansion, which began in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century BCE. While pursuing questions of the cultural and material appropriation that came with Roman conquests, it brings Roman sources into dialogue with contemporary theories used to analyze literature in the context of modern colonization. Professor Dufallo’s published second book, The Captor’s Image (2013), has positioned him as a leading expert. His major new project, “Roman Error,” comprising a conference, published edited volume, and newly completed monograph,

Founding Error, studies cross-fertilizations between the Romans and the peoples they conquered, revealing Roman ambivalence about conquest. The work is seen by senior scholars as carving out new critical approaches to Roman studies. Professor Dufallo has risen to the forefront of a leading edge of scholars, where he will continue to produce original work that helps to rethink Roman and subsequent Western imperial projects.

Recent and Significant Publications:

“Introduction,” in Roman Error: Classical Reception and the Problem of Rome’s Flaws, B. Dufallo, ed., Oxford University Press, forthcoming February 2018.

“The comedy of plunder: Art and appropriation in Plautus’s *Menaechmi*,” in Rome, Empire of Plunder: The Dynamics of Cultural Appropriation, M. P. Loar et al., eds., Cambridge University Press, 2017.

“Publicizing political authority in Horace’s *Satires*, Book 1: The sacral and the demystified,” *Classical Philology*, 110, 2015, pp. 313-332.

The Captor’s Image: Greek Culture in Roman Ecphrasis, Oxford University Press, 2013.

Service – As the director of graduate studies in classical languages and literatures (formerly classical philology), Professor Dufallo has initiated a curricular reorganization to respond to current student needs and to build structures to diversify the graduate program. This involves inclusion of the department in the Mellon MICHHERS program and the creation of the Bridge M.A. Previously, he served on the Steering Committee of Contexts for Classics, an inter-departmental faculty consortium dedicated to the reception of Greek and Roman literature, where he forged connections between scholars in Classical Studies and other disciplines by organizing workshops, conferences, and lectures. Professor Dufallo has also served on the departmental Executive, Diversity, Graduate Admissions, and Undergraduate Studies Committees. For several years, he was the concentration advisor for Classical Languages and Literatures and Classical Civilization. He was a referee for the John J. Winkler Memorial Prize, a national competition for the best essay by an undergraduate or a graduate student working in “a risky or marginal area of Classics” (2012–2014). His organization of “Roman Error,” his third major conference, contributed to scholarly dialogue across the field and brought international visibility to the department and university.

External Reviews:

Reviewer (A)

“...it is necessary in Classics as in any other discipline to specialize, if one is to make a mark in research. But Classics, in keeping with its founding principles, still has a very strong generalist ethos, and we expect our leading scholars to exemplify this in the breadth of their teaching and research. Not everyone actually demonstrates this breadth as explicitly as Dufallo, and I think he should be recognized for that. ... Almost everything he has written has a synergistic relationship to something or even everything else. ...”

Reviewer (B)

“I am impressed by the quality, quantity, and focus of [Dufallo’s] works. They are very smart, thorough, and innovative. ... [Dufallo] is only recently having his standing in the field acknowledged at very high levels (witness his lecture at Cambridge in 2015, his upcoming fellowship at Warwick, his being chosen as a referee for the John Winkler Prize).”

Reviewer (C)

“To judge from his CV, [Dufallo] has been an active citizen at UM, teaching widely and taking his share and more of academic service. He is now well known internationally, a token of which is his

recent invitation to write the article on Roman ekphrasis for the Oxford Classical Dictionary... ..this is a mature scholar who has produced important monographs on key topics in Latin literature and culture which those working in the relevant areas need to cite and consult.”

Reviewer (D)

“...[Professor Dufallo] has made signal contributions to classical scholarship on Roman republican literary, philosophical and rhetorical culture; the Latin literary representation and reception of Greek art; and the reception of Roman literature and politics, in articles and books spanning three centuries of Roman history and multiple genres of Latin literature, to say nothing of the reception of Roman society and Latin literature in the Western imperial and cultural traditions. ...he has taken a well-deserved place in the front ranks of internationally recognized scholars...”

Reviewer (E)

“Since his appointment at the University of Michigan in 2001, Professor Dufallo has published two books and two edited volumes, with a third book from his own hand on the way. ...I count in all fifteen journal articles and book-chapters [sic]. ...Dufallo has in addition won numerous grants, fellowships and awards of various kinds and been invited to deliver lectures, both in the US and abroad. He has also organized conferences... He has also acted as a referee for some of the best journals in our field. By any standards, this represents a significant body of work.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Dufallo has achieved eminence as a scholar of Latin literature. He has contributed importantly to the teaching mission and to service in his department and to the broader community. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Associate Professor Basil J. Dufallo be promoted to the rank of professor of classical studies, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.



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Andrew D. Martin, Dean  
Professor of Political Science and Statistics  
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

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