

Paula
Saffire

CURRICULUM VITAE

PAULA SAFFIRE

Associate Professor of Classics
Butler University

I. Education

B.A. Mount Holyoke College, 1965 Philosophy

Valedictorian (for rank)

summa cum laude (for thesis)

elected to Phi Beta Kappa

M.A. Harvard University, 1969 Classics

Woodrow Wilson Fellow 1965-6

Ph.D. Harvard University, 1976 Classics

Thesis: *Love and Friendship in Plato and Aristotle*

Advisors: Terence Irwin and Zeph Stewart



My son, Jesse, lying under the library books
which were competing for his mother's
attention.

Continued Learning (during and after Ph.D. studies)

Hebrew (learned at Ulpan during year-long stay in Jerusalem 1968-69)

Archaeology (practical: six weeks of digging at Tel Gezer, Israel, 1969)

Sanskrit (learned at the University of Massachusetts, 1976-77)

World Cultures (as part of Change and Tradition training, Butler University, 1989-2006)

Jungian Theories of Psychology (workshops and study in Indianapolis, 1990-2000)

Traditional Thai Massage (training in Indianapolis and Thailand, 1994-1996)

Dances of Universal Peace (certified Dance Leader)

Sufi Literature (NEH Fellowship 1999, studies up to present)

Languages

Able to read, write and speak French. (College minor.)

Lived two months in the south of France.

Able to read, write and speak Hebrew.

Basic working knowledge of German, some knowledge of Italian.

Able to read ancient Greek, Latin, and Sanskrit.

A special interest in vocal approaches to language learning:

Sing Greek poetry and use spontaneous Latin and ancient Greek.

Made educational tapes in Latin for a professional recording company.

Other

Experience in acting, playwriting, and directing students in full-scale dramatic productions. Have taken acting courses.

Edited a book (for a publishing company), wrote a novel (published), several children's plays (performed), a film script, a comedy and a tragedy (runner-up in the 1996 FEAT contest sponsored by the Phoenix Theater).

Have hosted numerous retreats with Sufi teachers have organized Spirit and Place events.

Have led Dances at a synagogue, several churches, and various spiritual retreats.

[Back to top](#)

II. Employment History / Teaching Experience

Harvard University, 1966-8 (as a doctoral candidate):

Ancient Greek for Beginners (summer sessions) 1966 and 1967
 Early and Oral Literature (section for Albert Lord) 1967
 The *Iliad*, 1968

University of Massachusetts at Amherst, 1971-4, Lecturer

Beginning Ancient Greek
 Greek Civilization
 Greek Drama
 Plato's *Symposium*
 The Ancient Mind

Smith College, spring 1977, Lecturer

Plato's *Phaedrus*

American Institute of Buddhist Studies, Amherst, Mass., winter 1980

Beginning Sanskrit

Hamilton College, fall 1987, Lecturer (Mid-term replacement)

Elementary Latin
 Catullus
 The Ancient Historians (Roman Half)

University of Georgia, 1988-9, Temporary Assistant Professor

Ancient Greek Civilization
 Beginning Latin

Butler University, 1989-present, Associate Professor

Classical Mythology
 Greek Civilization
 Art and Myth
 Classical Lyric and Love Poetry
 Greek Drama
 Ancient Epic
 Sophocles' Drama (honors seminar)
 Sappho (honors seminar)
 Hands-On Spirituality (experimental honors seminar; an exploration of spiritual techniques that involve the body)
 Let's Face It (honors seminar on the human face)
 Change and Tradition (ancient Greece, Confucian-age China, early Islam, the Spain of Christopher Columbus, revolutionary France, tsarist Russia, colonial Nigeria)

[Back to top](#)

III. Publications

Heracles, translation of Euripides' *Heracles*, performed at the University of Massachusetts, 1972

Translation of "For Epiphany" by Robert Fitzgerald into Greek Sapphics and

back into English Sapphics (published in Robert Fitzgerald's speech at the memorial service for Cedric Whitman, 1979)

Sanskrit for the Gita, self-published textbook using the *Bhagavad Gita VI* as the focal point for learning Sanskrit, 1981. (Used in my Sanskrit course at the American Institute of Buddhist Studies, Amherst, Mass., and also in my Sanskrit correspondence course and tutorials, 1981-6.)

"Creative Involvement with the Texts: Bernhard Goetz and the Ancient Historians," *New England Classical Newsletter*, pp.31-34, 1988

Singing Greek Poetry, a professional videotape (28 minutes) made by the Instructional Resource Center, University of Georgia, 1989

"Aristotle on Personality and Some Implications for Friendship," *Ancient Philosophy*, pp. 67-84, 1991.

Review of Joan De Jean's *Fictions of Sappho*, *Classical World*, pp. 493-4, 1991.

Ancient Greek Alive, Aldine Press, Pennsylvania, textbook in beginning ancient Greek, 207 pages, 1992

Review of Philip Arieti's *Interpreting Plato*, *Classical World*, p. 43, 1992.

Review of Joan de Jean's *Fictions of Sappho*, *Women's Classical Caucus Newsletter*, pp. 39-40, 1992.

"Deduce men a Selanna: The Pleiades in Mid-Heaven," by Paula Reiner and David Kovacs, *Mnemosyne*, pp. 145-159, 1993

Review of Mandelbaum's *Odyssey of Homer*, *Classical Outlook*, p. 68, 1993

"Whip, Whipped, and Doctors: Homer's Iliad and Camus' *The Plague*," *Interpretations*, vol. 22, pp. 181-189, 1994

Review of Parasarathy's translation of the *Cilappatikaram* of Ilanko Atikal, *Journal of Asian Studies*, vol 60, 1995

Review of *The World of Classical Myth* by Ruck and Staples, for *Classical World*, p. 74, 1996.

Review of Mossman's *Wild Justice: A Study of Euripides' Hecuba*, *Classical Outlook*, p. 458, 1997.

"Nectar" and "Phainetai Moi," two songs by Sappho, one in English, one in Greek, put on the Internet, through a grant from CAMWS, 1999.

Ancient Greek Alive, by Paula Saffire and Catherine Freis, University of North Carolina Press, 1999.

Sappho's Undying Smile, by Paula Saffire, a one-hour videotape, produced by Derringer Studios, 2000.

"Ancient Greek in Classroom Conversation," chapter in *When Dead Tongues Speak*, Oxford University Press, 2006 pp. 158-189

Sappho, Veiled, a book on Sappho, creativity and translation, completed 2007

Also:

Selections for Classical Mythology (reader for mythology course, 1991-present)

On the Greeks, 2005 (reader for Greek Civilization course)

Tales of the Hodja, 1999 (reader for Rumi-Nasrudin course)

Translation of Homer, Hesiod, Sappho, used in *C & T Reader* in various years.

(C & T is a course required of all sophomores at Butler, 1991-2007.)

Introduction to Homer, Sappho, Herodotus, Thucydides and the *I Ching*, pages on Islamic Ritual, *C & T Reader*, in various years.

Literary Publications

Co-editor of *Builders of the Dawn: Community Lifestyles in a Changing World*, by McLaughlin and Davidson, New Hampshire, 1984

Aladdin and the Wonderful Lamp, script for children, performed at Leverett Elementary School, Massachusetts, in 1986 and at Nora Elementary School, Indianapolis, 1992

Birbal the King and *The Sparrows* and *The Sea*, scripts for children, performed at Northfield Elementary School, Massachusetts in 1987

Tender Miscarriage: an Epiphany, a novel, Harbinger House, Arizona, 1989

Mira, a drama, modern version of the Oedipus theme, 1993 (unperformed, runner-up in FEAT contest at Phoenix Theater, Indianapolis, 1995)

It's Greek to Me!, a comedy about academia, boredom, and bankrobbery, 1994 (not yet performed)

[Back to top](#)

IV. Talks and Performances

"Ajax and Gestalt Therapy," talk given at *Symposium on Applications of Modern Critical Theory to Classical Literature* at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, 1975

"Singing Greek Poetry," talk given at Smith College, Massachusetts, 1976

"Singing Greek Poetry," talk given at the CANE (Classical Association of New England) meeting, Tufts University, Massachusetts, 1977

Panelist on the oral recitation of Pindar, at the meeting of the APA (American Philological Association), 1989

"Whip, Whipped, and Doctors: the *Iliad* and Camus' *Plague*," talk given at the meeting of CAMWS (the Classical Association of the Midwest and South), 1990

"Singing Ancient Greek Poetry," talk given at the meeting of CANE (the Classical Association of the Midwest and South), southern section, 1990

"Sappho 94 and Fr. Adespota 976," talk for Greek students and faculty at Franklin & Marshall College, Pennsylvania, 1991

"Poetic Magic: Sappho 2 and 94," talk for faculty at Franklin & Marshall College, Pennsylvania, 1991

"Sappho's Songs: A Performance with Commentary," performance-talk, given at the meeting of the ICC (Indiana Classical Conference) at Hanover College, 1991

"Oral Ancient Greek in the Classroom," one-hour workshop given at the meeting of the ACL (American Classical League), Tufts University, 1991

"Ancient Greek in Classroom Conversation," talk given at meeting of APA (American Philological Association), 1992

Panelist on a chorus of Aristophanes' *Wasps*, at the meeting of the APA (American Philological Association), 1993

"Songs of Sappho," performance/talk given at Hanover College, Indiana, 1993.

"Cover Lines in the *Ajax*," talk given at meeting of CAMWS (Classical Association of the Midwest and South), 1994

"Songs of Sappho," performance/talk given at the College of Wooster, Ohio, 1994

"Songs of Sappho," performance/talk, Franklin & Marshall College, 1994

"Songs of Sappho," performance/talk given at Earlham College, Indiana, 1994

"Sappho of Lesbos: Love and Song. Performance-lecture at Woman's National Music Festival, Bloomington.

"The Death of Iphigenia: Four But Who's Counting?" talk given at meeting of CAMWS (Classical Association of Midwest and South), 1995

"Learning by Performance: Sappho 31," talk given at meeting of APA (American Philological Association), 1995

"Sappho: Love and Song," an hour workshop at the 21st Annual National Women's Music Festival, Bloomington IN, 1995

"Songs of Sappho," (repeat) performance/lecture at Hanover College, Indiana, 1995

"Songs of Sappho," performance/talk given at University of Arizona, 1996

"Songs of Sappho," performance/talk given at Centre College, Kentucky, 1996

"Songs of Sappho," performance/lecture at Butler University, Indiana, 1997, (Change and Tradition Convocation)

"Themes in Sappho," talk given for Change and Tradition Faculty, Butler University, 1997

"Songs of Sappho," performance/talk given at Grinnell College, Iowa, 1997

"Dressed to Kill: Creative Costuming," talk given at IFLTA (Indiana Foreign Language

Teachers Association), 1997

"Songs of Sappho," performance/talk given at Ball State University, Indiana, 1998

"Songs of Sappho," performance/talk given at Monmouth College, Illinois, 1998

"Songs of Sappho," performance/talk given at Knox College, Illinois, 1999

"Songs of Sappho," (repeat) performance/talk given at Monmouth College, Illinois, 1999

Two Songs of Sappho on the Internet, 1999 (supported by a grant from CAMWS)

"Songs of Sappho," two performance/talks given at the Roeper School for the Gifted, Illinois, 2000

"Songs of Sappho," performance/talk given at meeting of the LCA (Louisiana Classical Association, New Orleans, 2000

"Songs of Sappho," performance/talk given at Ben Franklin School for the Gifted, New Orleans, 2000

Smiles of Sappho, 90 minute video on Sappho (supported by a grant from the Classics Department of Butler University)

"Songs of Sappho," performance/talk given at Bowling Green University, Ohio, 2001

"Songs of Sappho," performance/talk given at the University of Arkansas, 2001

"Songs of Sappho," performance/talk given at Millsaps College, Mississippi, 2002

"Songs of Sappho," as keynote speaker for statewide Latin Student Program, Clowes Hall, Butler University, Indiana,
2002

"Songs of Sappho," performance/talk given at Mt. Greylock Regional High School (Classics Day keynote speaker),
Massachusetts, 2002

"Singing Sappho," talk given at Ohio State Classical Conference, Ohio, 2003

"Graham Greene's Potting Shed and Sophocles' Oedipus," talk given at University of California at Long Beach, Comparative Literature Conference, 2005

"Songs of Sappho," performance/talk given at McDaniel College, Maryland, 2006

"Songs of Sappho," performance/talk given at Marian College, Indiana, 2007

"Songs of Sappho," performance/talk given at Knox College, Illinois, 2008

Other

"Pronunciation of Sanskrit," lectures at Siddha Yoga Dham, Boston, Mass. and South

Fallsburg, N.Y., 1981 and 1998

"Kashmir Shaivism: A Practical Philosophy and Cosmology," talk given at Mount Holyoke College, 1982

"Chanting the Vedas," talk for Odd Topics Society, Butler University, 1991

"Re-creating Sophocles: An Integrated Series of Writing Assignments," talk for WAC (Writing Across the Curriculum) workshop, Butler University, 1992.

"Student Revision: An Experiment that Worked," talk given at Workshop on Grading and Writing, at Butler University, 1993

"Euripides' Bacchae," illustrated talk given those involved in production of The Bacchae, Butler University, 1993

Interview on The Bacchae and Greek Theater: for videotape on Euripides' Bacchae, Butler University, 1993

"Longing of the Soul: the Poetry of Rumi," chapel talk, Hanover College, Indiana, 1994

"Modern Slides on Ancient Topics," talk given at meeting of ICC (Indiana Classical Conference), 1995

"Anonymous Overnight Writes," talk for WAC (Writing Across the Curriculum) workshop, Butler University, 1992.

"Nuat Thai Massage," talk for Odd Topics Society, Butler University, 1996

"Greek Lyric Poetry," talk given on Latin Day (for 100 high school students) at Butler University, 1989

"From Dionysus to Woodstock," talk given on Latin Day (for 150 high school students) at Butler University, 1991 and 1995

"The Eleusinian Mysteries," talk given on Latin Day (for 100 high school students) at Butler University, 1995

Sang Homer and Sappho for high school students at National Meeting of JCL (Junior Classical League) at Bloomington, Indiana 1996

"Teaching Rumi: Intellect and Energy," talk given at the Rumi 2000 Conference at the University of California at San Bernardino, 2000

"Rumi and the Whirling Dervishes," introduction to Whirling Dervishes at Clowes Hall, Butler University, 2004.

"Rumi and Universalism," talk for Bloomington Dialog Group, autumn 2004.

"Dancing in Many Doorways," program on Universality and Spiritual Paths, Church Within, Indianapolis, 2006

Radio interview for Rubicon Salon, Indianapolis, 2007

[*Back to top*](#)

V. Honors and Awards

Elected to Phi Beta Kappa 1965

Woodrow Wilson Fellow 1965-6

Creative Teacher of the Year award (Indiana Classical Conference) 1997

Recipient of Grant from Butler Classics Department to make professional videotapes, 1997

Teaching Excellence Award, Butler University Writing Across the Curriculum, 1997

Recipient of NEH fellowship (on Mystic Literature of Islam), 1999

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[*Back to top*](#)