

Statement from the Classics Department

In the wake of recent incidents on campus (including one in a Sociology class and another in the Women's Studies Cottage), which are disruptive to our campus mission and violate the University of Colorado's policies on classroom behavior and civil conduct, the faculty and staff of the Classics Department make the following statement:

We condemn all acts of hatred, and hate mongering, including racism, sexism, ableism, Islamophobia, anti-Semitism, and homophobia. The Classics Department, an interdisciplinary academic unit open to students of all races, faiths, and orientations, was created to teach students about ancient Greek and Roman culture, history, languages, literature and society in the context of a broader Mediterranean world, by imparting a deep appreciation for human diversity and interconnectedness. As such, we are especially attuned to the dangers that can be perpetrated by the baseless hatred of some people for others, and we take a strong stand against them here.

With this statement we commit to doing all we can to stop hatred in its tracks and provide a safe learning environment for everyone on campus. We express our solidarity with those who have been targeted by recent incidents nationwide and on campus as well as those who have not yet been targeted but feel they can no longer look securely to the future. We are especially concerned for our nation's immigrants.

Finally, we ask the administration of the University of Colorado to join us in speaking out against these kinds of incidents and to act more decisively and with greater transparency in informing us about acts that concern us as members of the campus community. We will work against bigotry in all forms, and we open our doors to students of all backgrounds, who are looking for a safe harbor.

We cannot remain silent.

Diane Conlin, Associate Professor
Sandy Crowell, Program Assistant
Beth Dusinberre, Professor
Jackie Elliott, Associate Professor
John Gibert, Associate Professor
Peter Hunt, Professor

Isabel Köster, Assistant Professor

Tyler Lansford, Instructor

Dimitri Nakassis, Professor

Carole Newlands, Professor

Lauri Reitzammer, Associate Professor

Azarie Wurtzburg, Administrative and Graduate Program Assistant