

Modern approaches to the ancient world

Michaelmas Term 2024 – Hilary Term 2025

This new series of lectures aims to offer students in ancient history a comprehensive perspective on key trends in the modern historiography of the ancient world. Focusing on a selection of scholars and approaches, the lectures will outline the development of modern historical research from Romanticism to Historical Positivism, then Historicism between the late nineteenth century and the early twentieth, then opening up to the social sciences especially after the Second World War.

Guest-lectures will be delivered by Georgy Kantor (MT 3rd week) and Oswyn Murray (HT 1st week).

Plan of the lectures

MT 2024 – Tuesdays, 2-3:30, Ioannou Centre, First floor seminar room

1st week: *Johann-Gustav Droysen and the making of an age*

3rd week: Georgy Kantor, *Theodor Mommsen: legal history, the Roman provinces and the documentary corpora*

5th week: *Historical positivism and the work of Karl-Julius Beloch*

7th week: *Felix Jacoby and the taming of Greek (and Roman) historiography*

HT 2025 – Tuesdays, 2-3:30, venue tbc

1st week: Oswyn Murray, *Reflections on the Muse of History*

2nd week: *Ancient history and modern scholarship: Arnaldo Momigliano and the historicist tradition*

3rd week: *Ancient history meets sociology: Moses Finley and Max Weber*

4th week: *Ancient history meets anthropology: the Paris School*

Nino Luraghi
nino.luraghi@classics.ox.ac.uk