

Religion, Classics, and Queerness at BYU

Classics and its reception have long been imbricated with both the fields of religion and gender/sexuality. The papers in this panel explore this relationship from a historical, political, and pedagogical perspective. While using Mormonism, Brigham Young University, and the recent controversy of holding CAMWS on BYU campus as the triggering case study, the panel seeks to understand underlying principles that are broadly applicable to different religious and academic institutions. All panelists are LGBTQ alumni from the Classics program at BYU, providing a unique intersectional viewpoint on a challenging and nuanced topic. The goal is not to argue decisively for one side or the other, but to trace the contours and contradictions of the discussion and encourage further deliberation in the wider CAMWS community. After the presentations of papers, panelists will hold a questions and answers session to model how such discussions can continue beyond the conference.