

## Social Media and the Public Face of Classics

Twitter, Trolls, Haters, Hashtags, Influencers, Virtue Signaling. In recent years social media has become an inescapable platform to voice opinions and feelings about any given “trending” social or political topic, including those about Classics and the Humanities. Social media platforms, like Twitter, Facebook, Parler, Truth-Social etc., have served both as productive and controversial areas to discuss the state of Classics and its existential crisis. However, as often as topics trend and fade, so too has heated debate given rise to confusion, conflation, misunderstandings, and sometimes various forms of hate speech.

At this roundtable, students, faculty, and administrators will discuss expectations, experiences, best strategies, and constructive outcomes for discourses about Classics—the field, its scholars, civic, and popular role—on social media platforms and within the industry. Some broad issues and questions might include: How do we establish a viable space for open, substantive, and inclusive dialogue? Can/How do we determine “rules” of engagement on discussion threads or social content? How can we anticipate or negotiate off-topic discussion(s) or cyber abuse? Are reputations at stake? Do our contributions on social media aim to advance the field, the academic institution, or our personal ideological beliefs?