

SEMINAR SERIES 2017 -18

Philology as a Way of Knowing, or, Why Bother With Philology?



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PARMERI

Philology in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth centuries has often been referred to as Queen of the Sciences. But how was this title earned and why? When was this title gained and, perhaps more importantly, why was it lost? This talk discusses the trajectory of philology as it rose to prominence, or not, and fell from prominence, or not. It argues that conventional accounts of philology's development and subsequent fragmentation into the modern disciplines are misleading because philology was never so much a discipline as it was a common methodology and a shared set of interpretive tools.

This presentation begins with a brief discussion of what philology was and has been understood to be. It then provides an account of the changing function and status of philology in German speaking lands during the Eighteenth and early Nineteenth Centuries. It adopts a three pronged approach that traces the institutional status of philology as well as its function and the specifics of philological practice.



12:30 PM to 2:00 PM, Tuesday Nov. 28th



BC 203 (Norman's)



Light lunch provided