

International Conference

# Emotions in Antiquity

**2 – 3 October 2026**

UniS, Friday S 201 | Saturday B-102 | University of Bern



## Friday | 02.10.2026

08:30 Welcome Coffee

Chair: Josef Glanz

08:55 – 09:00 **Welcome and Opening Remarks**  
**Ilija Baumann** (Bern)

13:30 – 14:05 **Nancy Rahn** (Bern)  
**Who Will Turn Aside to Ask about Your Welfare? Notes on Empathy and Prophetic Communication in the Hebrew Bible and the Septuagint.**

Chair: Maximilian Nietzsche

09:00 – 09:35 **Isabelle Künzer** (Giessen)  
**Emotional Ambiguities: Suicides in Herodotus and the Spartan Emotional Regime**

14:15 – 14:50

9:45 – 10:20

**Iuliia Burtceva** (Nürnberg)  
**Understanding Emotions in Speech Aristotle on emotion and persuasion: it's epistemic justification, tested on Plato's *Alcibiades I***

14:50 – 15:20

10:20 – 10:50

Coffee Break

15:20 – 15:55

10:50 – 11:25

**Nicole Diersen** (Osnabrück)  
**Actions as Markers for emotions within Imperial Period Inscriptions from Thessaloniki**

16:05 – 16:40

11:35 – 12:10

**Anthony Ellis** (Bern)  
**Does Hera Get Jealous? Gender, (In)Fidelity and Romantic Rage in Greek Literature and the Anachronism of Modern Emotion Categories**

18:30

12:10 – 13:30

Lunch

Coffee Break

**Thomas Kazen** (Stockholm)  
**Emotions beyond Vocabulary: Reading Implicit Affect through Ancient Practices and Rituals of Moral Repair**

**Giada Sorrentino** (Frankfurt am Main)  
**Emotion, Interaction, and Identity in Justin's Dialogue with Trypho: A Pragmatic and Positioning-Theoretical Approach**

Conference Dinner

## Saturday | 03.10.2026

08:30 Welcome Coffee

Chair: Luca Licitra

Chair: Constantin Mader

09:00 – 09:35 **Despina Iosif** (Athens)  
**Divine Fear in Antiquity: Early Christian and Pagan Emotional Worlds in Dialogue**

14:00 – 14:35 **Fabio Spalla** (Vienna)  
**Servos fortuna, moribus ingenuus: Some Reflections on the Affective Cultures of Enslaved People in Poetic Epitaphs from the Roman Imperial Provinces**

9:45 – 10:20 **Annika Krahn** (Bamberg)  
**Shame as a Taboo Emotion? Early Christian Writings in the Early Jewish Context and Their Treatment of Shame**

14:45 – 15:20 **Matilde Oliva** (Florence)  
**Classifying Grief, Experiencing Pain: Aegritudo in Cicero's *Consolatio* and *Tusculanae Disputationes***

10:20 – 10:50 Coffee Break

15:20 – 15:50 Coffee Break

10:50 – 11:25 **Damien Nellis** (Geneva)  
**'How To Be Philosophical about the End of the Aeneid: Vergil, Emotion, and Turnus.'**

15:50 – 16:25 **Marina Pizzi** (Regensburg / Bologna)  
**Emotional Codes of Mourning in Late Antiquity: Ausonius and Augustine on Death and Remembrance**

11:35 – 12:10 **Caroline Richard** (Paris)  
**Emotion Without Categories? Inductive Detection of Affective Expressions in Latin Imperial Epic**

16:35 – 17:10 **Diana Pavel** (Bucharest)  
**Affective Patterns and Power Structures. The Case of Etruscan Religious Spaces**

12:20 – 12:55 **Stefanie Weidmann** (Erlangen)  
**Appropriate Behaviour, Shame, and Emotions in Ovid's *Amores***

17:10 – 17:20 Concluding Discussion and Future Perspectives

12:55 – 14:00 Lunch

18:00 Apéro

With the kind support of:



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