

Garrett Lincoln Ashlock

University of Chicago Divinity School

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Summary

Born in Lexington, Kentucky; raised near Elizabethtown, Kentucky. MA graduate of the University of Chicago Divinity School. Currently a PhD student in the History of Christianity at the same institution. BA graduate of the University of Michigan, majoring in Middle East Studies with minors in Ancient Greek and Medieval and Early Modern Studies. Research interests include Christian Platonism, mystical theology, especially Origenism and Dionysius the Areopagite, and Syriac and Armenian Christianity. Seasoned experience with analytical writing, graduate-level research methods and seminars, and Latin and Greek, with more recent experience in Classical Syriac and Armenian. Personal interest and work and volunteer experience in horticulture and naturalism, specializing in the ecology of the Upper South and Great Lakes region.

Academic Experience

University of Chicago

September 2025 – present, Chicago, IL

Divinity School: PhD in the History of Christianity

- Advisor: Erin Galgay Walsh

September 2023 – June 2025

Divinity School: MA

- I studied Latin, Greek, Classical and Modern Eastern Armenian, and Syriac, with an emphasis on early Christianity and the history of Christian thought.
- I graduated with a 4.0 GPA.

University of Michigan

Completed April 2023, Ann Arbor, MI

College of Literature, Sciences, and the Arts: BA in Middle East Studies (major) and Ancient Greek and Medieval and Early Modern Studies (minors)

- GPA: 4.0; University Honors

Elizabethtown Community and Technical College

Completed May 2019, Elizabethtown, KY (dual enrollment, no degree)

- Dean's List; 4.0 GPA; Department of Anthropology Award

Lumen Christi Institute Summer Seminars

- [June 2024: Early Christian Old Testament Exegesis](#); [June 2025: Dionysius the Areopagite: The Corpus and Its Legacy](#)
- Week-long research seminars for graduate students at the Sheptytsky Institute of Eastern Christian Studies at the University of St. Michael's College, conducted by Fr. Andrew Summerson, Paul Blowers, and Lewis Ayres.
- Texts included excerpts from the Epistle to the Hebrews, Irenaeus's *Adversus haereses*, Origen's *Peri Archon*, Basil's *Hexaemeron*, Augustine's commentaries on Genesis, Gregory of Nyssa *Commentary on the Song of Songs*, Maximus's *Ad Thalassium*, and the entire *Corpus Dionysiacum*.

Research Experience

Academic Papers

- "Deus Ludus: The Christocentric Games of Nicholas of Cusa and Blaise Pascal," *The Heythrop Journal* (May 2023). <https://doi.org/10.1111/heyj.14216>.
- "The Anatolian Connection: Traditional Epithets of Apollo in the *Iliad*," *Discentes* (July 2023). <https://web.sas.upenn.edu/discentes/2023/07/23/the-anatolian-connection-traditional-epithets-of-apollo-in-the-iliad/>.
- "Becoming an Angel to Restore the Angels: The Angelic Christ in Origen's *Homilies on Psalm 15*" (forthcoming; presented at the 2025 meeting of the *North American Patristics Society*).

Senior Honors Thesis: *Seeing the Super-Heavenly Place: A Case for Plato as a Mystical Theologian* (April 2023)

- Thesis Advisors: Drs. Sarah Ahbel-Rappe and Alexander Knysch
- Honors With Highest Distinction
- 2022-2023 Pamela J. MacKintosh Undergraduate Research Award, 2nd Place

Undergraduate Research Assistant (UROP)

Academic Year 2019 - 2020

- Paid research assistant on project "Jewish Culture in the Global South" with Dr. Brian Roby
 - Tasks included digitizing print materials, cartography, and ethnographic research

Work Experience

Koine Greek Tutor – University of Chicago Divinity School

October 2024 - present

- I serve as the current tutor for the Divinity School's Koine Greek course.
- Helped students with basic Greek syntax, vocabulary, morphology, etc.

Student Intern at the Gaffield Children's Garden – Matthaei Botanical Gardens

September - December 2022 and May - August 2023

- Led weekly nature walks in coordination with educators for children and adults
- Maintained the Gaffield Children's Garden and interacted with guests
- Learned about and helped facilitate nature play and just access to the outdoors

Awards & Achievements

University of Chicago Divinity Dean's Scholarship - full-tuition scholarship to the UofC Divinity School with a

\$20,000/year stipend

Ferrante Scholarship - four-year, \$10,000 renewable merit scholarship from the College of LSA, Michigan

Rogel Scholarship - four-year merit- and need-based scholarship from the University of Michigan

Hugh W. Kennedy Memorial Scholarship - one-year, \$10,000 scholarship for the 2022-2023 AY from the University of Michigan for students with “exemplary academic records”

Phillips Classical Prizes, Latin 3 and Greek 1a - translation contest through Michigan Classics

The Seligson Prize - excellence in Greek scholarship

Pamela J. MacKintosh Undergraduate Research Award - second-place for honors thesis

Languages

Classical and Medieval Latin – functional proficiency

Ancient (Attic and Koine) Greek – functional proficiency

Modern Eastern & Classical Armenian – low-intermediate

Classical Syriac – low-intermediate

Persian (Farsi) – beginner

Skills

- Some training in Latin and Greek paleography and papyrology.
- Experience with ethnographic and archaeological methods.
- Competency with ArcGIS and other mapping software.
- Horticultural and naturalist skills, including the ability to identify a wide range of flora and fauna species with a dichotomous key.
- Musical skill as a church cantor and choir member at St. Mary’s Byzantine Church, Whiting, IN.

References

Erin Galgay Walsh

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and Early Christian Literature
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