

A BRIEF HISTORY OF CLASSICAL STUDIES AT THE FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF CEARÁ

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Abstract

This article aims to present a short history of Classical Studies at the Federal University of Ceará (UFC). This area arrives in Brazil, mainly, through the study of Latin and Jesuit education. After that, it became consolidated in university studies and it grew stronger in Ceará. At UFC, there were two precursors, who also participated in the founding of the Brazilian Society of Classical Studies (SBEC) and created the Center of Classical Culture (NUCLAS), two academic movements dedicated to the debate and dissemination of the area. In the 90s, UFC obtained new professors to join the Classical Studies and thus expanded their activities in teaching, research and extension. Finally, a brief academic biography of each of the six professors who currently develop Classical Studies at UFC is presented, revealing how much these professionals elevated and gave visibility to these studies.

Keywords

Classical Studies; History; Federal University of Ceará.

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Resumo

O presente artigo pretende apresentar um pouco da história dos Estudos Clássicos na Universidade Federal do Ceará (UFC). Essa área chega ao Brasil, principalmente, através do estudo do Latim e pela educação jesuítica. Depois disso, consolida-se nos estudos universitários e se fortalece no Ceará. Na UFC, houve dois precursores, que participaram também da fundação da Sociedade Brasileira de Estudos Clássicos (SBEC) e criaram o Núcleo de Cultura Clássica (NUCLAS), dois movimentos acadêmicos dedicados ao debate e divulgação da área. Na década de 90, a UFC obtém novos professores para compor a área de Estudos Clássicos e assim eles ampliam a atuação tanto no ensino quanto na pesquisa e na extensão. Por fim, apresenta-se um breve histórico de cada um dos seis professores que hoje compõem os Estudos Clássicos na UFC, revelando o quanto esses profissionais elevaram e deram visibilidade ao campo.

Palavras-chave

Estudos Clássicos; História; Universidade Federal do Ceará.

1. A Brief History of Classical Languages in Brazil²

The study of Classical Languages, especially Latin, arrived in Brazil with Jesuit education, following the model of the *Ratio Studiorum*³ and with a religious character. This educational format prevailed for two hundred years until the reform proposed by Marquês de Pombal, who decreed the end of Jesuit education. This proposal, based on Enlightenment ideals, aimed to secularize education and link the study of languages to culture. Although this project did not consolidate in Brazil, it caused a disruption of the existing educational system, as there were not enough teachers unrelated to religious education to continue this new educational proposal.

In the 19th century, with the arrival of the Portuguese royal family in Brazil, there was a movement to invest in education, including vocational training, but with almost no interest in the humanities, as Leite and Castro (2014: 64) affirm:

As can be seen, the absence of the humanities is almost total, with the honorable exception of French and English languages. Classical languages and literatures, once central elements of education, are absolutely out of the scope of the course aimed at forming men who will act in prominent positions in the kingdom.

With the advent of the Republic, there was a need to rethink education in Brazil. Once again, Classical Studies were considered superfluous disciplines, but the Catholic Church defended the humanities, and the study of Latin remained. In 1942, the Capanema Reform instituted the teaching of Latin in basic education. However, in 1961, the Law of Guidelines and Bases of Basic Education (Law 4.024/61) decreed the end of mandatory Latin teaching in basic education; thus, there was no longer a need to train Latin teachers, leading to the gradual

² All quotations are translated from Portuguese to English, as well as the names of institutions and the titles of books. To access the original names and expressions, one ought to read the Portuguese version of the present paper.

³ Document with guidelines and rules governing Jesuit education, aiming to unify educational activities both in Europe and in the colonies. According to Albuquerque Júnior *et alii* (2024: 7): “The *Ratio Studiorum* was published in 1599, highlighting the objective of educating foresters in the European fashion and aiming to civilize them. In fact, the colonial elite would be instructed based on Christian moral values, within the logic of the Catholic Reform, constituting the same school, but with divergent objectives, as moral and administrative instruction was intended for the elite, while the natives were subjected to catechesis”.

disappearance of Classical Studies disciplines from university curricula. From that point on, this field needed a reformulation to survive the non-mandatory status. In 1985, with the founding of the Brazilian Society of Classical Studies (SBEC), Classical Studies in Brazil found a way to strengthen itself, opening opportunities for national-level dialogues for new teaching and research proposals.

2. Classical Studies in Ceará

2.1 The Pioneers from Ceará

Classical Studies in Brazil, after the 1960s, became more restricted to universities, especially public ones. Consequently, these studies moved away from the almost exclusive domain linked to religion and gained a new perspective within universities, establishing a more fruitful dialogue with other sciences and aligning with more modern research on language and culture.

Following this educational perspective, the Language and Literature course at the Federal University of Ceará (UFC), which emerged in the early 1960s, initially integrating the Faculty of Philosophy, Sciences, and Letters, comprised three study areas: Neolatin Letters, Anglo-Germanic Letters, and Classical Letters – and in the modalities of Licentiate and Bachelor's degrees.⁴ In the area of Classical Letters, the course had two dedicated professors, Prof. Eleazar Magalhães Teixeira⁵ and Prof. José Alves Fernandes⁶ (*in memoriam*), who developed Classical Studies with great dedication and trained many students willing to contribute to this field of study.

Prof. José Alves Fernandes, in the early years of his academic career, pursued his education by taking a master's degree at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro

⁴ For more information about the history of Letters Course at the UFC, visit the website: <https://letrasdiurno.ufc.br/pt/historico/>

⁵ He was a professor at the Federal University of Ceará from March 1, 1964 to March 1, 1994 (Pompeu; Araújo, 2021: 74).

⁶ He entered the Federal University of Ceará in 1963. In: <https://academiacearensedeletras.org.br/membros/jose-alves-fernandes/>, accessed July 15, 2024.

(UFRJ) (1978), a doctorate (1980), and other short courses.⁷ Later, he became a full professor at the Federal University of Ceará (1984) and an emeritus professor (1996) at the same institution. Additionally, he was a professor at the State University of Ceará, a visiting professor at the University of Vale do Acaraú, and a professor at the University of Fortaleza (Martins, n./d.). He had a life dedicated to teaching and researching in Classical Letters, Portuguese Language, and Portuguese Philology. Among his numerous publications, the *Dictionary of Optional Forms and Constructions of the Portuguese Language* (2000) and the *Chronological Dictionary of the Portuguese Language*" (2010) stand out (Martins, 2013: 191). He was also a member of the Ceará Academy of Letters (ACL), occupying chair 29 in the Gallery of Academics.

Prof. Eleazar Magalhães Teixeira, like his colleague, had an academic career at the Federal University of Ceará and, after more than a decade, also taught at the State University of Ceará (from 1979 to 1993). Before that, he pursued his master's degree at the University of São Paulo (1976-1978), defending his dissertation in 1983, which included the translation of Plato's *Protagoras*, published in 1986 by the UFC Press. In addition to this translation, he published another one in 2009, the translation of Plato's *Republic* by the UFC Editions (Pompeu; Araújo, 2021). Recently, on July 12, 2024, he was awarded the title of Doctor *Honoris Causa* by the State University of Ceará.⁸

Thus, under the guidance of these two distinguished professors, Classical Studies expanded their spaces in Ceará, especially in Fortaleza. They trained many students who continued the work in the field, including professors who currently work at the Federal University of Ceará and will be presented later. They also participated in two major academic movements in the field: one at the national level, as founding members of the Brazilian Society of Classical Studies (SBEC) in 1985, and the other at the regional level, as creators of the Classical Culture Center of UFC (NUCLAS) in 1992.

⁷ He graduated in Classical Literature from the Catholic Faculty of Philosophy of Ceará and, in Legal and Social Sciences, from the Faculty of Law of the Federal University of Ceará. He also obtained a degree in Classical Literature, Portuguese, Latin and Greek, from the Faculty of Philosophy of Ceará, affiliated with UFC. He specialized in Vulgar Latin at the University of Coimbra and obtained a PhD from the Faculty of Arts of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro. (Texte of Karla Karenina Sales Fernandes, in: <https://blogdomarcelogurgel.blogspot.com/2012/05/jose-alves-fernandes-uma-vida-servico.html>, accessed on July 25, 2024.

⁸ In: <https://blogdomarcelogurgel.blogspot.com/2012/05/jose-alves-fernandes-uma-vida-servico.html>, accessed on July 25, 2024.

2.2 The Teaching of Classical Studies at UFC

Since the founding of the Language and Literature course at UFC, the teaching of Classical Studies has been closely linked to the teaching of Latin and Philology as mandatory disciplines, while others were offered as optional (Greek, Greek and Roman Mythology, Latin Literature, Greek Literature, Classical Culture etc.). For many decades, besides graduation, this knowledge was accessed through extension courses (this will be mentioned later). In the current curriculum (2024.1), the Language and Literature course at UFC maintains Latin disciplines (Latin I – Language and Culture, and Latin II – Language and Culture) as mandatory for all courses and the Philology discipline (Romance Philology I) as mandatory only for Portuguese Language and Literature.⁹

With the discussion of a new curriculum at the beginning of this century, there was a need to include a Licentiate degree in Classical Letters, thus expanding this field and making several disciplines that had been optional for years mandatory. The course began in the second semester of 2007, and admission was only for graduates. It proposed a degree in Latin and Greek and had several language and literature disciplines in both languages. Some students completed the course, but due to it being a degree in two languages (Latin and Greek), it had to be discontinued. However, the project of having a degree in Classical Letters was not forgotten or abandoned, as a new proposal for a Bachelor's degree in Classical Letters is currently being developed at the university, following the new guidelines of the Ministry of Education (MEC), and providing entry through both the National High School Exam (ENEM) and graduate admission.

2.3 Classical Studies at UFC: Research and Graduate Studies

In the 21st century, Classical Studies began to offer positions in graduate courses (*lato sensu* and *stricto sensu*). The first course was the Specialization in Classical Studies, which offered four classes in the following years: 2002, 2003, 2005, and 2008. Starting in 2010, this field began participating in *stricto sensu* graduate studies, at the master's and doctoral levels, in the Graduate Program in Letters (PPGLetras) and the Graduate Program in Translation Studies (POET), with some faculty members also participating as collaborators in postdoctoral stages.

⁹ For more information about the Language and Literature course at UFC: <https://letrasdiurno.ufc.br/pt/estruturas-curriculares-ppcs-2022/>.

The Specialization in Classical Studies aimed to enhance knowledge in this field and offered disciplines taught not only by faculty from the Language and Literature course but also from other courses, such as Philosophy.¹⁰ Additionally, in one of the classes (2005), two disciplines were offered by two professors from the University of São Paulo (USP): Prof. Dr. Zélia Ladeira Veras de Almeida Cardoso, who taught the discipline “Latin Literature: The Dramatic Genre in Rome,” and Prof. Dr. Filomena Yoshie Hirata, who taught the discipline “Greek Tragedy and Aristotle’s Poetics.”

In PPGLetras,¹¹ a well-established program at UFC, the first positions for Classical Studies were offered in 2010. The inclusion of these studies in this program began with the creation of a specific Research Line in the field, which has since been absorbed into a broader line. Currently, three professors, Ana Maria César Pompeu, Robert de Brose and Orlando Luiz de Araújo, are affiliated with PPGLetras.

In POET, a program on Translation Studies, began with the contribution of Classical Studies, having its inaugural class in 2014 given by Prof. Eleazar Magalhães Teixeira.¹² Additionally, Greek professors, as Prof. Dr. Ana Maria César Pompeu and Prof. Dr. Robert de Brose, participated as faculty members. In 2023, POET received approval for its doctoral course in Translation Studies, with classes beginning in the 2024.1 semester.¹³

2.4 Participation in Projects

On July 13, 1985, the Brazilian Society of Classical Studies (SBEC) was founded by a group of professors interested in discussing and expanding studies in the field. The first Congress was held in Belo Horizonte (the official address to this day) to establish the Society and formalize the first board, which, according to Funari (2020: 244), consisted of:

¹⁰ Prof Dr. Maria Aparecida de Paiva Montenegro, professor of the Philosophy course at UFC, taught some subjects (“Classical Greek Philosophy” and “Philosophy and Poetic Art”) in the Specialization in Classical Studies (2002-2005). Lattes: <http://lattes.cnpq.br/5306598522874088>

¹¹ The Postgraduate Program in Literature, at the Federal University of Ceará – UFC, constituted by Resolution nº 08, of CONSUNI, of 09/29/1988, is a training hub in literature studies, within the scope of Ceará, capital and interior, and neighboring states (<https://ppglettras.ufc.br/pt/estrutura-do-programa/sistemacao-e-historico/>).

¹² <https://ppgpoet.ufc.br/pt/eventos/2014-2/>

¹³ <https://ch.ufc.br/pt/capes-aprova-criacao-de-doutorado-em-estudos-da-traducao/>

[...] a president with a doctorate abroad (France, Haiganuch Sarian) and an old system free lecturer (Donaldo Schüler), a master's degree holder (Sílvia Damasceno), and two graduates (Jacyntho Lins Brandão and Neiva Ferreira Pinto). It is noteworthy the audacity and novelty of breaking hierarchies, with graduates and doctors side by side, not only in the direction of the entity but also in academic participation.

Besides this plurality, SBEC initially organized itself into eight subsections,¹⁴ including NE1, with a regional secretary representing the states: Paraíba, Pernambuco, Rio Grande do Norte, and Ceará.¹⁵ Ceará's presence in the initial phase of this Society was mainly marked by the presence of Prof. Eleazar Teixeira Magalhães and Prof. José Alves Fernandes as founding members (Pompeu, 2020: 295).

A few years later (1992), continuing this movement of expansion and training students in Classical Studies in Fortaleza, Prof. Eleazar and Prof. José Alves founded the Classical Culture Center (NUCLAS)¹⁶ at UFC, an extension activity that initially aimed to disseminate Classical Studies in Ceará. During its twenty-two years of existence, NUCLAS comprised several academic activities, as Pompeu (2020: 295) indicates: "NUCLAS developed and continues to promote a series of activities aimed at disseminating Classical Studies in Ceará and Brazil, such as extension courses, thematic weeks, lectures, publications, and study groups." Among the activities carried out by NUCLAS, the Classical Studies Week is one of the most important, being an academic event that promotes the presentation of research developed in the field and dialogue among participants. It started before the formalization of NUCLAS, in 1985, and occurred annually until 2012 when it began to be held every two years; the last edition was the

¹⁴ The regional secretariats were abolished in 2009.

¹⁵ cf. Zélia Cardoso de Almeida, http://www.classica.org.br/resources/download/1432849058_ARQUIVO_SBEC20anos-umahistoria.pdf

¹⁶ The Classical Culture Center linked to the Department of Foreign Literature of the Humanities Center of the Federal University of Ceará was established through RESOLUTION n° 2/CONSUNI of February 28, 1992 by the then Magnificent Rector Professor Antônio de Albuquerque Sousa Filho. It is also a group from the CNPq directory, a research group from the Brazilian Society of Classical Studies - SBEC and an Extension Program from the Federal University of Ceará.

thirtieth in December 2021. Additionally, it facilitated the publication of books with works presented at some weeks (Pompeu, 2020: 296).¹⁷

Currently, NUCLAS continues to develop activities aimed at both university students and the general community, offering extension courses in Classical and Koine Greek, Latin (both in-person and online modalities), and Greek and Roman Mythology, as well as encompassing study groups coordinated by professors Ana Maria César Pompeu and Orlando Luiz de Araújo,¹⁸ including research by all permanent professors of Classical Letters at UFC.

3. The Faculty of Classical Studies at UFC

The dedicated and attentive teaching of professors Eleazar and José Alves produced disciples who continued the legacy they began. Among them are the professors currently working at UFC, continuing Classical Studies.¹⁹ The faculty will be presented according to their entry date at the university.

3.1 Ana Maria César Pompeu²⁰

Ana Maria pursued a degree in Portuguese Language and its Literatures at the State University of Ceará (1987-1991). Between 1990 and 1992, she took extension courses at UFC in Classical Studies: Classical Greek Course, Greek Language, and Latin Language. In 1992, she began teaching alongside her great master, Prof. Eleazar, becoming a professor of Greek Language at UFC.

¹⁷ The books organized from the Classical Studies Weeks were as follows: *Annals XXIX Classical Studies Week Ancient Worlds, Modern Perspectives: Reception and Authorship*. Fortaleza: Substância, 2020; *Annals XXVIII Week of Classical Studies: The ugly and the vile in Antiquity and its reception*. Fortaleza: Substância, 2017; *Greece and Rome in the universe of Augustus*. Coimbra: University of Coimbra Press, 2015; *Identity and Otherness in the ancient world*. Fortaleza: Expressão Gráfica e Editora; *Orality, Writing and Performance in Antiquity*. Fortaleza: Expressão Gráfica e Editora, 2013; *Laughter in the ancient world*. Fortaleza: Expressão Gráfica e Editora, 2012. (Pompeu, 2020: 296)

¹⁸ Aristophanic Comedy Study Group – GECA and Septuagint Study Group – GES, coordinated by professor Ana Maria César Pompeu; Narrative and Theater Study Group – G-ente, coordinated by professor Orlando Luiz de Araújo.

¹⁹ Most of the information about the teachers was taken from their respective CVs on the Lattes Platform.

²⁰ Lattes: <http://lattes.cnpq.br/4726092826722326>

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Initially, Prof. Ana Maria focused on investing in her academic training, enhancing her knowledge. In 1994, her master retired, and his position was filled by Prof. Orlando Luiz de Araújo, who will be introduced later. With the arrival of the new professor the following year, she could take a leave to pursue her master's degree in Classical Letters at the University of São Paulo (USP) under the supervision of Prof. Dr. José Antônio Alves Torrano, obtaining the title of master in 1997 with the dissertation titled "*Lysistrata and Her Plans: Women and the Acropolis, No Men Allowed*". In this text, the professor proposes a translation of Aristophanes' play *Lysistrata*, her first complete translation of a play, which would be published later. Three years later, she returned to São Paulo to pursue her doctorate in the same graduate program and university, again under the supervision of the same professor. Now, Prof. Ana Maria proposed an interdisciplinary thesis titled "*Aristophanes and Plato: Justice in the Polis*", obtaining the title of doctor in Classical Letters in 2004. Additionally, she completed a postdoctoral internship at the University of Coimbra in Portugal in 2010. In 2020, Prof. Dr. Ana Maria César Pompeu became a full professor at UFC, where she continues to work in undergraduate studies, university extension, and two graduate programs, PPGLetras and POET.

At UFC, Prof. Dr. Ana Maria contributed administratively by holding various positions and functions (head, coordinator, council member). Academically, she coordinated NUCLAS and study groups, taught undergraduate and graduate courses, supervised many students (in undergraduate and graduate studies), collaborated in postdoctoral internships, organized academic events, and performed other academic activities (participation in committees, editorial boards etc.), working with the same dedication to this day. Furthermore, she has also published books, including *Aristophanes and Plato: Justice in the Polis* (2011), *Dionysus Matuto: An Anthropological Approach to Laughter in the Translation of Aristophanes' Acarnenses into Ceará's Dialect* (2014; 2021), *Acropolis, Now! Women In! Men Out! An Introduction to Aristophanes' Lysistrata* (2018), *Aristophanes, the Playwright of the Just City* (2019); translations of Aristophanes' *Lysistrata* (1998; 2010), *Thesmophoriazousae* (2015), *Knights* (2017), and, in collaboration, Plutarch's *Epitome of the Comparison of Aristophanes and Menander* (2017); and organized the books *Laughter in the Ancient World* (2012), *Orality, Writing, and Performance in Antiquity* (2013), *Identity and Otherness in the Ancient World* (2013), *Greece and Rome in the Universe of Augustus* (2015), *The Women of Aristophanes: Revolution and Reception* (2022), and *Classical Studies During the Pandemic* (2022). She has also developed many research projects, mainly focused on Aristophanic comedy, her main object of study.

Prof. Dr. Ana Maria has contributed significantly to the continuity and expansion of Classical Studies, working mostly in the three areas of university action – teaching, research, and extension. She also elevated the status of Classical Studies in Ceará by presiding over SBEC (2020-2021). In summary, everything mentioned quickly reveals a part of all the contributions of Prof. Dr. Ana Maria, who managed, over the years, mainly through the teaching of Greek language and Aristophanic comedy, to further propagate Classical Studies.²¹

3.2 Roberto Arruda de Oliveira²²

Roberto studied Portuguese Literature at the Federal University of Ceará (1982-1986) and also Portuguese-French Letters at the same university (1987-1990). Between 1987 and 1989, he took the Classical Greek and Classical Latin courses at the UFC extension. In 1990, he began his university teaching career at the State University of Ceará (UECE); but in 1992, he became a professor of Latin Language at UFC, where he teaches to this day.

After establishing himself at UFC, Prof. Roberto focused on investing in his academic training, enhancing his knowledge. In 1999, he pursued his master's degree in Classical Letters at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ) under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Alice da Silva Cunha, obtaining the title of master in 2001 with the dissertation titled *Virgil's Bucolic IV and the Mythical Eternal Return*. In the same year, he began his doctorate in the same graduate program and university, under the supervision of the same professor. In his doctorate, Prof. Roberto wrote the thesis titled *Death in Propertius' Elegies*, obtaining the title of doctor in Classical Letters in 2005. Currently, Prof. Dr. Roberto Arruda de Oliveira is an Associate Professor of Classical Letters, teaching courses in Latin, Romance Philology, Classical Culture, and Latin Literature at the undergraduate level, both in-person and semi-in-person modalities.

At UFC, Prof. Dr. Roberto contributed administratively by serving as coordinator of the Language and Literature course (2007-2008). Academically, he is a researcher of NUCLAS, coordinated research groups, taught undergraduate and graduate courses, supervised undergraduate dissertations, and performed other academic activities (participation in committees, scientific committees etc.),

²¹ Prof. Dr. Ana Maria César Pompeu retired in July 2024, but still contributed to Extension and Graduate programa at UFC.

²² Lattes: <http://lattes.cnpq.br/7651466950685198>

working with the same dedication to this day²³. He also collaborated in publishing articles and book chapters, participating in events, and developing teaching materials for UFCVirtual (2007, 2008, 2010).

In sum, everything mentioned reveals a part of all the contributions of Prof. Dr. Roberto, who managed, over the years of work, to propagate Classical Studies by teaching Latin and dedicating himself to topics such as Portuguese philology, Virgilian bucolic poetry, and Propertius' elegies.

3.3 Orlando Luiz de Araújo²⁴

Orlando studied Letters at the Federal University of Ceará (1990-1993). Between 1991 and 1993, he took the Classical Greek Course at the UFC extension. In 1994, his great master Prof. Eleazar retired, and he took his place, becoming a professor of Greek Language at UFC.

Initially, Prof. Orlando taught Greek Language I and Greek Language II courses at the undergraduate level. In 1997, he began a specialization course in Political Philosophy at UFC and developed the monograph titled *The Discourse of Tyrannical Power in Greek Tragedy* under the supervision of Prof. Eduardo Chagas, becoming a specialist in 1998. With the return of Prof. Ana Maria after completing her master's degree in 1998, he could take a leave to pursue his master's degree in Classical Letters at the University of São Paulo (USP) under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Filomena Yoshie Hirata. In 2001, he defended his dissertation titled *Sophocles' Electra: Study and Translation*, obtaining the title of master. Two years later, he returned to São Paulo to pursue his doctorate in the same graduate program and university, under the supervision of the same professor. Now, Prof. Orlando wrote the thesis titled *The Theme of Happiness in Sophocles' Theatre*, obtaining the title of doctor in Classical Letters in 2008. Additionally, he completed a postdoctoral internship at the University of Lisbon in Portugal in 2015-2016. Currently, Prof. Dr. Orlando Luiz de Araújo is an Associate Professor of Classical Letters and Theatre History at UFC, working in the undergraduate courses in

²³ Most recent articles: Virgil and the Augustan 'aetas aurea'', 2015; "Vocalisms and consonantisms in Romania", 2015; "Imaginary of death in Propertius' elegies", 2016; "Legacy of Latin nominal categories", 2016; "Ancient Rome: fetid alleys and alleys", 2017; "18th century: the lexicographic enlightenment", 2017; "Propertius: inspiration and language", 2018; "Perceptions of the Golden Age in Augustan poets", 2019; "Verbal formation of Romance languages", 2020.

²⁴ Lattes: <http://lattes.cnpq.br/2680403686223727>

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Letters, Philosophy, and Theatre, university extension, and the Graduate Program in Letters (PPGLEtras).

At UFC, Prof. Dr. Orlando contributed administratively by holding various positions and functions (head, coordination). Academically, he coordinated NUCLAS and study groups, taught undergraduate and graduate courses, supervised many students (in undergraduate and graduate studies), collaborated in postdoctoral internships, organized academic events, and performed other academic activities (participation in committees, editorial boards, etc.), working with the same dedication to this day. He also collaborated with many publications of articles, book chapters, conference proceedings, his translation of Sophocles' *Electra* (2015), and the organization of books such as *Essays in Classical Studies* (2006), *Laughter in the Ancient World* (2012), *Identity and Otherness in the Ancient World* (2013), *Orality, Writing, and Performance in Antiquity* (2013), *Literature: Gender Subjects and Other Discourses* (2018), *Literature, Society, and Interdisciplinarity: Literary Articulations* (2019), *Reception of Greek Myths in Brazilian Drama*, Vol. 1 and 2 (2020), *The Women of Aristophanes: Revolution and Reception*, Vol. 1 and 2 (2022), *Bodies and Masculinity in Bernardo Santareno's Drama* (2022), and *Studies in Ancient and Modern Theatre* (2024). He also coordinated many research groups, currently developing the research titled "From Alcifron's Courtesan Letters to Aristaenetus' Love Letters: Translation and Study of Sexuality and Gender." Additionally, he is currently a research productivity grantee (level 2) from CNPq.

Nevertheless, Prof. Dr. Orlando, like Prof. Dr. Ana Maria, significantly contributed to the continuity and expansion of Classical Studies, working in the three areas of university action – teaching, research, and extension. In summary, his many contributions managed to propagate Classical Studies in Ceará and in Brazil, by teaching the Greek language and dedicating himself to topics such as classical theatre (tragedy) and ancient narrative.

3.4 Francisco Edi de Oliveira Sousa²⁵

Francisco Edi studied Letters at the Federal University of Ceará (1993-1997). Between 1994 and 1996, he took the Latin Language and Culture Course at the UFC extension. In 1999, Francisco Edi became a professor of Latin Language at UFC.

²⁵ Lattes: <http://lattes.cnpq.br/5232866346013249>

Initially, Prof. Edi had to deal with teaching at the undergraduate level and his master's degree, which he began in 1998. He pursued a master's degree in Letters at the Federal University of Ceará (UFC) under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Martine Suzanne Kunz. In 2001, he defended his dissertation titled *A Reading of Songs Without Meter – From the Dialogue with Baudelaire's Work*, obtaining the title of master. Three years later, he went to São Paulo to pursue a doctorate in Classical Letters at the University of São Paulo (USP) under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Zélia Ladeira Veras de Almeida Cardoso, with a co-tutelle period at the Université Paris-Sorbonne in France, under the supervision of Carlos Lévy. Now, Prof. Edi wrote the thesis titled *The Paintings of the Temple of Juno and the Trojan Cycle: Image and Epic Memory in the Architecture of the Aeneid*, obtaining the title of doctor in Classical Letters in 2008. Additionally, he completed a postdoctoral internship at the Université Paris-Sorbonne in France in 2012-2013. In 2017, he began another doctorate, this time in Philosophy at UFC, under the supervision of Prof. Dr. José Carlos Silva de Almeida. His second thesis, titled *Propertius' Poetry and Moral Philosophy*, was defended in 2023. Currently, Prof. Dr. Francisco Edi de Oliveira Sousa is an Associate Professor of Classical Letters, working in the undergraduate Language and Literature course, mainly in the area of Latin Language and Latin Literature.

At UFC, Prof. Dr. Edi contributed academically by coordinating study groups, teaching undergraduate and graduate courses, supervising many students (in undergraduate and graduate studies), organizing academic events, and performing other academic activities (participation in committees, editorial boards etc.), working with continuous dedication. He also collaborated with many publications of articles, book chapters, conference proceedings, and his dissertation *A Reading of Songs Without Meter – From the Dialogue with Baudelaire's Work* (2012, 2014).

Prof. Dr. Edi contributed significantly to the continuity and expansion of Classical Studies, working in the three areas of academic action – teaching, research, and extension. In sum, everything mentioned here presents a part of all the contributions made by one who managed, over the years of work, to propagate Classical Studies by teaching the Latin language and dedicating himself to topics such as Virgilian and Propertius' poetry.

3.5 Josenir Alcântara de Oliveira²⁶

Josenir studied Letters at the State University of Ceará (1982-1986). In 1989, he began his teaching career at the Federal University of Piauí (UFPI); in 2006, through a redistribution, he joined the faculty of Classical Letters at UFC.

In 1987, he began his improvement by pursuing a specialization in Brazilian Literature at State University of Ceará (UECE) and developed the monograph titled *The Vertical Onomasticity in Tutameia by João Guimarães Rosa*, becoming a specialist in 1990. In 1992, he began his master's degree in Romance Philology at the University of São Paulo (USP) under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Bruno Fregni Basseto. In 1995, he defended his dissertation titled *The Romance Designations of Brandy: An Etymological-Semantic Reading*, obtaining the title of master. Three years later, he returned to São Paulo to pursue a doctorate in the same graduate program and university, under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Elisa Guimarães Pinto. Now, Prof. Josenir wrote the thesis titled *The Phonetic-Semantic and Cultural Productivity of the Indo-European Root *pel-, to fold*, obtaining the title of doctor in Philology and Portuguese Language in 2002.

At UFC, over the years, Prof. Dr. Josenir mainly contributed by teaching undergraduate courses; academically, he is a researcher of NUCLAS and performed other academic activities (participation in committees, etc.), working to this day. He also collaborated with publications of articles, book chapters, and participation in events, managing, over the years of work, to propagate Classical Studies by teaching the Latin language and other topics related to Romance Philology.

3.6 Robert de Brose²⁷

Robert studied Greek Letters and Literatures at the University of São Paulo (1998-2002). In 2004, he began his master's degree in Classical Letters at the University of São Paulo (USP) under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Christian Werner. In 2007, he defended his dissertation titled *The Athenian Fragments of Simonides: A Study of Epigraphic Sources Before 480 B.C.*, obtaining the title of master. Some years later, he became a professor of Greek Language at UFC, in 2009, starting his career as an Assistant Professor. In the same year, he began his doctorate in the same graduate

²⁶ Lattes: <http://lattes.cnpq.br/7209884265111194>

²⁷ Lattes: <http://lattes.cnpq.br/5686148504443158>

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program and university where he pursued his master's degree, also under the supervision of the same professor. Now, Prof. Robert tried to deal with teaching and pursuing his doctorate. In this graduate program, he wrote the thesis titled *Epikomios Hymnos: Investigations on the Performance of Pindaric Epinicians*, obtaining the title of doctor in Classical Letters in 2014. Additionally, he completed a postdoctoral internship at the University of Oxford in England in 2018-2019. Currently, Prof. Dr. Robert de Brose is an Associate Professor of Classical Letters and Translation at UFC, working in the undergraduate Language and Literature course and the Graduate Program in Translation Studies (POET).

At UFC, Prof. Dr. Robert contributed administratively by holding various positions and functions (coordination). Academically, he is a researcher of NUCLAS, taught undergraduate and graduate courses, supervised graduate students, collaborated in postdoctoral internships, organized academic events, and performed other academic activities (participation in committees, reviewing for journals etc.), working with the same dedication to this day. He also collaborated with many publications of articles, book chapters, besides his translation of Pindar's *Olympic Odes* (2023)²⁸. He organized books as diverse as *Laughter in the Ancient World* (2012), *Identity and Otherness in the Ancient World* (2013), *Orality, Writing, and Performance in Antiquity* (2013), *Poetry and Translation* (2017), *Classical Survival: Interfaces Between Translation and Reception of Classics* (2019), and his award-winning thesis *Epikomios Hymnos: Investigations on the Performance of Pindaric Epinicians* (2016). He also coordinated several research groups, currently developing the research titled "Greek Metrics and Rhythmic." Additionally, he is currently a research productivity grantee (level 2) from CNPq.

Therefore, Prof. Dr. Robert significantly contributed to the expansion of Classical Studies in Ceará and in Brazil, working mainly in teaching, researching, and extension. In sum, everything mentioned here presents a part of all his contributions, with which he managed to propagate Classical Studies by teaching the Greek language and archaic Greek lyric poetry, with an emphasis on Pindar.

4. Final Considerations

Classical Studies at UFC, over the years, have trained many students who now pursue academic careers in the field. The best example of this is that the faculty of the Classical Letters area comprises five professors graduated from universities in

²⁸ Finalist translation for the 2024 Jabuti Prize, the country's biggest literary award.

Ceará. The classical legacy of UFC continues to prosper, gaining more projects and expanding across the country.

The present paper also intends to thank all the teachers who were part of this history of Classical Studies at UFC, especially those who keep it alive, improving this magnificent area of studies every day.

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