“And now, without delay, tell me your name, so I can offer you a gift…: Naming Strategies in Ancient Greek and Egyptian Narrative Literature”

A talk by Dr. Nikolaos Lazaridis
Assistant Professor in the Department of History and Interim Director of the Hellenic Studies Program
California State University, Sacramento

Wednesday, December 5, 2012
4:10 pm
Olson Hall, Room 53A

Dr. Lazaridis examines and compares the versatile naming strategies in a selected group of ancient Greek and Egyptian works of narrative poetry and prose, including, for instance, Apollonius’ Argonautica, Chariton’s Callirhoe, the Tale of Sinuhe, and the Adventures of Setna Khamwas. The examination constitutes part of his ongoing comparative study of characterization techniques in these two corpora of ancient Mediterranean literature, focusing on such techniques’ contribution to the shaping and effectiveness of narrative style. In this study, the presence and absence of character names are treated as two equally effective media of narrative communication and are interpreted as essential features of storytelling styles that were popular in ancient Greece and Egypt.

For questions, please contact Dr. Emily Albu at emalbu@ucdavis.edu.