

## María Victoria Almansa-Villatoro, Ph.D.

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### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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- (2025–) Assistant Professor of Egyptology, Yale University
- (2022–2025) Junior Research Fellow, Harvard Society of Fellows. Harvard University
- (Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2020, Fall 2021) Teaching fellow, Brown University
- (2018–2020) Visiting scholar, University of Arizona
- (Fall 2015) Visiting scholar, Brown University

### EDUCATION

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- (2016–2022) Ph.D. in Egyptology at **Brown University**  
Dissertation: *Between Social Identity and Royal Ideology: An Analysis of Communication and Persuasion in Old Kingdom Egyptian Letters and Decrees*  
Primary advisor: James P. Allen (Charles Edwin Wilbour Professor of Egyptology, Brown University)
- (2013–2015) Cum Laude Master's Degree in Egyptology and Near Eastern Studies at the **University of Pisa**. Thesis: *The Passive Voice in the Ancient Egyptian Pyramid Texts*
- (2009–2013) Bachelor's Degree in History at the **University of Seville**. Thesis: *The Tomb of Meryra II*
- (2012–2013) One-year exchange student in Bachelor's Degree in Archaeology of the Mediterranean World at the **University of Enna** (Erasmus Fellow)

### PUBLICATIONS

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#### Monographs

- Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria (in preparation, letter of interest from Cambridge University Press and Oxford University Press) *The Ethics of Service: Politeness and Persuasion in Ancient Egyptian Letters (c. 2400–2200 BCE)*.
- Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria (under contract), *Politeness, Etiquette, and Self-Restraint in Ancient Egypt*, Cambridge Elements: Ancient Egypt in Context. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

- Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria (under contract) *How Farmers and Pharaohs Spoke: a Sociolinguistic Grammar of Old Kingdom Letters and Decrees*. Archaeopress Egyptology, Archaeopress.

### **Edited volumes**

- Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria and Aurore Motte (eds.) (in press) *(Im-)Politeness Research in Ancient Egyptian Texts*. Studies in Pragmatics. Brill.
- Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria and Silvia Nigrelli (eds.). (2023) *Ancient Egyptian and Afroasiatic: Rethinking the Origins*. Languages of the Ancient Near East, Eisenbrauns.

### **Reviews by:**

- Aaron Rubin (2023) in *Brill's Journal of Afroasiatic Languages and Linguistics*, 477–485.
- Julian Kreidl (2024) in *Orientalistische Literaturzeitung*, 368–374
- Sandro Capo Chichi (2024) in *Journal of Ancient Egyptian Interconnections*, 63–66
- Helmut Satzinger (2024) in *Lingua Aegyptia – Journal of Egyptian Linguistic Studies*, 301–308
- Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria, Silvia Nigrelli, and Mark Lehner (eds.). (2023) *In the House of Heqanakht: Text and Context in Ancient Egypt. Studies Presented in Honor of James P. Allen*. Harvard Egyptological Studies 16, Brill.

### **Translation of academic monographs**

- Allen, James P. *Gramática de Medio Egipcio: una Introducción a la Lengua y Cultura de los Jeroglíficos*. Traducido por M. Victoria Almansa-Villatoro. Biblioteca Nun. Córdoba: Almuzara. (English-Spanish translation and adaptation of *Middle Egyptian: an Introduction to the Language and Culture of Hieroglyphs* [4<sup>th</sup> rev. ed.], 2024

### **Single-authored peer-reviewed articles**

- Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria (under review) “The Old Kingdom and First Intermediate Period Royal Decrees Revisited: Evidence of Historical and Sociopolitical Change”
- Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria (forthcoming) “Seeing Images, Reading Hieroglyphs: a Re-assessment of Writing and Literacy in Old Kingdom Egypt.” *Written Communication*
- Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria. 2024. “The Passive Voice in the Ancient Egyptian Pyramid Texts I: The passive with .t and .tj suffix.” *Zeitschrift für Ägyptische Sprache und Altertumskunde*.
- Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria. 2023. “Labour and Collective in Old Kingdom Egypt: a Corpus-Driven Analysis of Collocation, Keyness and Ideological Discourse in Royal Decrees.” *Ancient Near Eastern Studies* 60, 199–224.
- Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria. 2020 “Nepotism and Social Solidarity in Old Kingdom Correspondence: A Case Study on Facework and Discernment Politeness in P. Boulaq 8.” *Lingua Aegyptia* 28, 1–25.
- Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria. 2020. “The Gender Ambiguity of Fertilization: the Hemusets as a Case Study.” *Zeitschrift für Ägyptische Sprache und Altertumskunde* 147 (1), 9–18.

- Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria. 2019. “The Cultural Indexicality of the N41 sign for *hꜥ*: the Metal of the Sky and the Sky of Metal.” *Journal of Egyptian Archaeology* 105 (1), 73–81.
- Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria. 2019. “Renaming the Queens: A New Reading for the Crossed Arrows Sign and a Religious Approach to the Early Dynastic Onomastics.” *Studien zur Altägyptischen Kultur* 48, 35–51.
- Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria. 2018. “Reconstructing the Pre-Meroitic Indigenous Pantheon of Kush.” *Journal of Ancient Near Eastern Religions* 18 (2), 167–189.
- Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria. 2016. “A Ba Speaking to His Owner: Warning about an Imminent Danger and Giving an Admonition.” *Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt* 52, 1–9.
- Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria. 2016. “La Tumba de Meryra II en Tell el-Amarna (AT 2): Una Nueva Aproximación Arqueológico-Filológica.” *Espacio, Tiempo y Forma, Serie II – Historia Antigua* 29, 105–127.
- Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria. 2016. “A Mummiform Amulet of the Dwarf Pataikos at the Egyptian Collections of the University of Pisa.” *Göttinger Miszellen* 250, 37–47.

### Co-authored peer-reviewed publications

- Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria, Richard Newman, and Albert Jambon (under review): “An Ancient Egyptian Meteoritic Iron on Khufu’s Magic Knife from Giza (c. 2550 BCE)”
- Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria and Alexandra Witsell (in preparation): “The Seal(er)s of Giza: Sealings of *hꜥtm wdꜥ* from Archaeological Contexts at Heit el-Ghurab.”
- Creasman, Pearce Paul and M. Victoria Almansa-Villatoro (under review): “The Royal Necropolis of Nuri.” *Near Eastern Archaeology*.
- Ridealgh, Kim and M. Victoria Almansa-Villatoro. 2024. “Exploring Diachronic Variation in Discernment Politeness in Ancient Egyptian.” *Journal of Historical Pragmatics*.
- Raffiotta, Serena, Antonio Messina, M. Victoria Almansa-Villatoro. 2020: “Egittomania nella Sicilia pre-unitaria. Gli ushabti nella collezione del Canonico Giuseppe Alessi da Castrogiovanni (Enna).” C. Basile and A. di Natale (eds.): *Atti del XVIII Convegno di Egittologia e Papirologia. Quaderni del Museo del papiro di Siracusa* 17.

### Book chapters (\*indicates invited contributions, <sup>PR</sup> indicates peer-review)

- <sup>PR</sup>\* Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria (forthcoming): “Politeness, Manners, and Etiquette in Pharaonic Egypt up to the New Kingdom (2700–1300 BCE),” in Ludovico Portuese (ed.) *Manners, Etiquette, and Protocols in the Ancient Near East*. Orbis Biblicus et Orientalis. Peeters.
- <sup>PR</sup>\* Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria (forthcoming): “The East in the West: Egyptianizing Culture as a Phoenician Identity Marker in the Province of Huelva, Spain,” in Sarah Scott and Oya Topcuoglu (eds.) *The Handbook of Seals and Seal Studies in the Ancient World*, Routledge International Handbooks, Routledge.
- <sup>PR</sup>\* Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria (forthcoming): “Between Coercion and Consent: the Ambiguous Speech of the Old Kingdom Pharaoh” in Elizabeth Knott and Lauren K. McCormick (eds.) *Ambiguity in the Ancient Near East, Borders, Boundaries, Landscapes, Brepols*.

- <sup>PR</sup> Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria (forthcoming): “Ritual, (Im-)politeness, and Social Order in the Old Kingdom and First Intermediate Period Letters to the Dead in Comparison with Letters to the Living” in Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria and Aurore Motte (eds.)
- <sup>PR</sup> Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria (forthcoming): “The Joint Composition of the Crimes of Sabni: a Proposal for Assessing the Degree of Scribe-Author Linguistic Responsibility in Letters through Pap. Berlin P 8869” in Alejandro Jiménez Serrano (ed.) *Old Kingdom Art and Archaeology* 8, Universidad de Jaén.
- <sup>PR</sup> \*Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria (2025): “Round, Square or Both? The Skyscape in the Pyramid Texts as Expressed by Semograms” in Josep Cervelló Autuori and Marc Orriols-Llonch (eds.) *Signs, Language and Culture: the Semograms of the Pyramid Texts between Iconicity and Referential Reality*, 56–77. Harvard Egyptological Studies, Brill.
- <sup>PR</sup> Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria. 2024. “Variation as a Social Device: ‘Middle Egyptianisms’ in Old Kingdom Letters,” in Carlos Gracia Zamacona (ed.) *Variability in Earlier Egyptian Mortuary Texts*, 340–369. Harvard Egyptological Studies, Brill.
- <sup>PR</sup> Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria and Silvia Stubnová. 2023. “Comparative Afroasiatic Linguistics and the Place of Ancient Egyptian within the Phylum” in Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria and Silvia Stubnová (eds.), 3–21.
- Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria. 2022. “In the Houses of the Menkaure Valley Temple: the *Pekher* Offerings in Text and Archaeology” in Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria, Silvia Stubnová and Mark Lehner (eds.), 3–17.

### **Excavation and lab reports**

- Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria. 2023. “Two Sealings of Shepseskaf from the 2005 Excavations of the Soccer Field West.” Report on File, Ancient Egyptian Research Associates, Boston. (Also published in AERAGRAM)
- Jones, Dan, Mark Lehner, M. Victoria Almansa-Villatoro, Gregory Viessman. 2019. “Menkaure Valley Temple West (MVT-W): Data Structure Report (April)”. Report on File, Ancient Egyptian Research Associates, Boston. (Data Structure Report of Season 2019)

### **Invited contributions to popular magazines**

- Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria. 2023. “What Ancient Egyptians Knew About Meteorites—Long Before Modern Astronomers” in *Sapiens – Anthropology Magazine* and republished by *Smithsonian Magazine*  
<https://www.sapiens.org/archaeology/ancient-egyptians-meteorites-astronomy/>
- Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria. 2020. “Los egipcios concebían el cielo como un gran recipiente de hierro” in *Historia National Geographic*  
[https://historia.nationalgeographic.com.es/a/egipcios-concebian-cielo-como-gran-recipiente-hierro\\_15471](https://historia.nationalgeographic.com.es/a/egipcios-concebian-cielo-como-gran-recipiente-hierro_15471)
- Almansa-Villatoro, M. Victoria. 2017: “Cuatro Epígrafes de los Museos Egipcios de Turín y Florencia” *Boletín Informativo de Amigos de la Egiptología* 83. 21-25

### **FIELDWORK**

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### **Archaeological excavation in Giza (Egypt) with Ancient Egypt Research Associates (AERA)**

(2023–now) Sealings specialist (registering sealings for the areas: House Unit 1; AA-S; Soccer Field West)

(2019–2020) Field archaeologist (Menkaure Valley Temple)

### **Archaeological mission to the Royal Necropolis and Pyramids of Nuri (Sudan)**

(2021) Assistant director and texts specialist (remote)

### **Archaeological excavations at Villa Romana del Casale (Piazza Armerina, Italy)**

(2010–2011) Field archaeologist

### **Archaeology lab University of Huelva, Mission to the Roman site of Aroche (Huelva, Spain)**

(2008–2009) Pottery illustrator (pre-college volunteer)

## **COLLECTIONS RESEARCH**

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- August 2022–Fall 2022: Study and photographic documentation of Old Kingdom royal decrees and letters at the **Egyptian Museum in Cairo**, the **Grand Egyptian Museum** (Egypt), and the **Museum of Fine Arts in Boston**.
- July 2017 – October 2018: Photographical recording and study of papyri and papyri fragments at the Wilbour Collection of Papyri of the **Brooklyn Museum**. Publication rights for Old Kingdom papyri fragments from Elephantine.
- September 2018: Research period at the **Berliner Papyrussammlung** (Germany). Study and photographic documentation of the Old Kingdom papyri in the collection for facsimiles production.
- August 2017: Research period at the **Museum Antonino Salinas of Palermo** (Italy). Observation and graphical documentation of first millennium scarabs from the sites of Panormo and Solunto.
- August 2017: Research period at the **Museum Whitaker of Motya** (Italy). Observation and graphical documentation of first millennium scarabs from the site of Motya.
- August 2016: Research period at the **Museum of Huelva** (Spain). Study, graphical documentation and drawing of all 11 scarabs at the Museum of Huelva. Edition of all 11 scarabs entries for DOMUS and CERES databases of Spanish museums.
- September–December 2014: Curatorial internship in the **Egyptological Collections of the University of Pisa**.

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

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**04/26/2025** “A new Old Kingdom Papyrus Archive from Elephantine at the Brooklyn Museum”  
76<sup>th</sup> ARCE Annual Meeting, San Francisco CA

**11/21/2024** “Ancient Egyptian Diglossia? Investigating the Court Dialect in Ancient Egyptian Texts” 2024 ASOR Annual Meeting, Boston MA.

**04/20/2024** “Did the Pharaoh Have Two Bodies? Revisiting Divine Kingship in the Old Kingdom” in 75<sup>th</sup> ARCE Annual Meeting, Pittsburg PA.

**11/17/2023** “Hieroglyphs as Memory: Reading Images in Egyptian Royal Decrees” in 2023 ASOR Annual Meeting, Chicago IL.

**08/11/2023** “Hieroglyphs as Memory: who Could Read the Old Kingdom Royal Decrees?” in XIII International Congress of Egyptologists, Leiden, Netherlands.

**04/21/2023** “The Seal(er)s of Giza: Seals of the *hṯm wd3* from Old Kingdom Contexts in Giza” with Alexandra Witsell (non-presenter), 74<sup>th</sup> ARCE Annual Meeting, Minneapolis MI.

**11/19/2022** “How to Say “Please” in Ancient Egyptian: an Analysis of Politeness in Old Kingdom Personal Letters” 2022 ASOR Annual Meeting, Boston MA.

**09/16/2022** “Variation as a Social Device: “Middle Egyptianisms” in Old Kingdom Letters” in Online workshop on Variation in Ancient Egyptian Mortuary Texts (MORTEXVAR) of the University of Alcalá de Henares.

**04/22/2022** “Is Old Egyptian Real? Variation and “Middle Egyptianisms” in Old Kingdom Letters” 73<sup>rd</sup> ARCE Annual Meeting, Irvine CA.

**11/18/2021** “Between Coercion and Consent: How Words Enslaved the Pyramid Builders” 2021 ASOR Annual Meeting, Chicago IL.

**04/22/2021** “Labor and Freedom in the Old Kingdom: Royal Rhetoric and Ideology from Climax to Collapse” 72<sup>nd</sup> ARCE (Virtual) Annual Meeting.

**04/3/2020** “Networks and etiquette in the Old Kingdom: analyzing identity and interaction in private letters” 71<sup>th</sup> ARCE Annual Meeting – (withdrawn due to Covid-19 lockdown).

**11/22/2019** “The Gender Ambiguity of Fertilization in Ancient Egypt: the Hemusets as a Case Study” 2019 ASOR Annual Meeting, San Diego CA.

**04/12/2019** “Renaming the Queens: A new Reading for the Early Dynastic Crossed Arrows sign” 70<sup>th</sup> ARCE Annual Meeting.

**09/08/2018** “What is Old Egyptian? The Grammar of Old Kingdom Documentary Texts” 7<sup>th</sup> British Egyptology Congress, Manchester UK.

**April/2018** “An Enigma Solved: The Hemusets” ARCE 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Tucson AZ.

**03/17/2018** “The Metal of the Sky: Words and Conceptions of Iron in Egypt and the Near East” AOS 2018 Annual Meeting, Pittsburg PA.

**11/19/2017** “When your “soul” Talks to You: Warning about an Imminent Danger and Giving an Admonition” SBL 2017 Annual Meeting, Boston MA.

**11/17/2017** “An Image that Means Another: Syncretism and the Case-study of a Mummiform Dwarf” 2017 ASOR Annual Meeting, Boston MA.

**04/21/2017** “The East in the West: Four Egyptian Scarabs from Ayamonte

(Spain)” ARCE 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Kansas City MO.

**11/18/2016** “Six Recently Uncovered Egyptian Scarabs at Ayamonte (Spain): Eastern Fascination in the Westernmost Phoenician Necropolis” in 2016 ASOR Annual Meeting, San Antonio TX.

**10/15/2016** “The Passive Voice in the Ancient Egyptian Pyramid Texts” 1<sup>st</sup> Egyptology Graduate Conference, Providence RI.

## INVITED LECTURES

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**06/19–20/2025** “Between orality and literacy: standardization and dialect in the Old Kingdom” in Workshop *Language Change in Old Egyptian*, University of Jaén.

**04/02/2025** “Iron from the sky... in a magic knife at the MFA” Curators Circle at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

**02/05/2025** “Beyond hieroglyphs: standardization, dialects, and literacy in Ancient Egypt” in Comparative Approaches to Language Learning in the Premodern World, Harvard University

**06/11/2024** Theodore N. Romanoff Prize lecture “Reading Images in Hieroglyphs: Rethinking Literacy in Ancient Egypt”, for ARCE New York at the Salmagundi Art Club

**03/07/2024** “Seeing Hieroglyphs, Reading Images, Rethinking Literacy: a Semiotic Approach to Egyptian Royal Texts” in Ancient and Medieval Middle East Seminar at the University of Helsinki (online) with theme “pictorial aspects of ancient texts”

**02/14/2024** “Rethinking Literacy: a Semiotic Approach to Ancient Egyptian Royal Inscriptions” at Yale University as part of a campus interview for the Tenure Track Assistant Professorship of Egyptology.

**01/29/2024** “Seeing Images, reading hieroglyphs, rethinking literacy: a semiotic approach to ancient Egyptian royal inscriptions” at Cornell University as part of a campus interview for the Tenure Track Assistant Professorship of Ancient Near East (Mesopotamia and/or Egypt).

**11/27/2024** “Authority, Provincial Life, and the Lost Papyri of Brooklyn: a Bottom-Up Perspective into the ancient Egyptian State” at College of the Holy Cross as part of a campus interview for the Tenure Track Assistant Professorship of Classics (Mediterranean culture beyond Greece or Rome)

**04/15/2023** “Iron in the Sky: Meteorites in Ancient Egypt” in Egyptian Study Society, Denver CO

**03/09/2023** “Iron in the Sky: Meteorites in Ancient Egypt” in Harvard Museums of Science and Culture Series.

**01/26/2023** “The Ethics and Rhetoric of Service: Persuasion in Old Kingdom Egypt (2700-2200 BCE)” in Real Colegio Complutense, Harvard University

**01/10/2023:** “The Ethics and Rhetoric of Service: Persuasion in Old Kingdom Egypt (2700-2200 BCE)” in the Oriental Institute (now ISAC) of the University of Chicago as part of a campus interview for the Tenure Track Assistant Professorship of Egyptology at the NELC/OI with guest teaching.

**11/06/2022** “Iron from the Sky: Words and Conceptions of Iron and Meteorites in Ancient Egypt” in the Northern California Chapter of the American Research Center in Egypt at the University of Berkeley

**11/05/2022** “God is a Woman! Hemusets, Kas, and Fertility in Ancient Egypt” in the Orange County Chapter of the American Research Center in Egypt

**06/03/2022** “Love, Service, and the State: an Analysis of Communication and Persuasion in Old Kingdom Egyptian Letters and Decrees” in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures of the University of California Los Angeles.

**09/06/2021** “Trabajo y Libertad en el reino Antiguo: Clímax y Caída de una Retórica Autoritaria” in I Congreso Iberoamericano de Jóvenes Investigadores en Egiptología, Universidad Alcalá de Henares (Online, solicited lecture)

**06/17/2021** “Colectivismo, Distinción y Servicio: la Transmisión Subliminal de Ideología Estatal en el Reino Antiguo” in IV Encuentro de Egiptología Complutense, Universidad Complutense de Madrid (Online)

**02/12/2021** “Community and Service: Politeness Strategies in 6<sup>th</sup> Dynasty Egyptian Letters (ca. 2300-2100 BCE)” in Virtual Lecture Series of the Network for Historical Politeness.

**01/22/2021** “The language of power or the power of language? The institutionalization of pharaonic ideology in Egyptian Old Kingdom royal letters and decrees” in online workshop *Ancient Propaganda: Claim, Truth and Persuasion* organized by Seth Richardson (University of Chicago).

**12/08/2020** Round table discussion of paper “Labor and Collective in Old Kingdom Egypt: a Corpus-Driven Analysis of Collocation, Keyness and Ideological Discourse in Royal Decrees” in the Brown University seminar Culture and Religion in the Ancient Mediterranean.

Yearly participation in the Egyptology and Assyriology Weekly Seminars, Brown University

**12/29/2015:** “El Oriente en Occidente: de los Escarabeos Egipcios al Comercio Fenicio en la Península Ibérica.” Provincial Museum of Huelva, Spain

## PROJECTS

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- 2018–now: Principal investigator in Reconstructing Egyptian Papyri from the Pyramid Age (2300 BCE): the Old Kingdom Brooklyn Papyri Project. (Reconstruction and publication of a 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium papyrus archive at the Brooklyn Museum)
- 2023–2024: external collaborator at Ich mache mir die (ägyptische) Welt wie sie mir gefällt”. Current Conceptions and Ideas on Egyptology and Popular Culture. Abbreviated: Egyptopcult (FCT - Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia)
- 2021–now : assistant director of the Mission to the Royal Necropolis and Pyramids of Nuri (Sudan), and texts specialist
- 2021–now: researcher at HUM441: Campo y Ciudad. Estructuras Sociales, Económicas e Ideológicas en Andalucía y el Mundo Mediterráneo Durante la Antigüedad (University of Seville)
- 2019–now : collaborator of Ancient Egypt Research Associates (AERA) and Giza Plateau Mapping Project (GPMP) as archaeologist, sealings researcher, texts specialist.



- 2018–2021 : external contributor to the European Research Council Project ELEPHANTINE: Localizing 4000 years of Cultural History: Texts and Scripts from the Elephantine Island in Egypt of the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin.
- Spring 2014: Digital Archive for the Study of pre-Islamic Arabian Inscriptions: I collaborated uploading ancient South Arabian epigraphs to the DASI database of the University of Pisa.

## **FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS (\* indicate external grants)**

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### *Teaching awards*

- 2021: Honorable Mention at the Reginald D. Archambault Award for Teaching Excellence (\$500) for my course CEEG 0912 Introduction to Ancient Egyptian Hieroglyphs and Language. Competing against courses across all disciplines at the Summer@Brown division.

### *Fellowships*

- William F. Milton Fund open to Assistant-Associate Professors and Junior Fellows of Harvard University for project: “the Lords of the Cataract: Reconstructing an Ancient Egyptian Papyrus Archive from Elephantine (c. 2300 BCE)” \$60,629 for AY 2024–2025
- \*2022-2024 Juan de la Cierva Formación – Agencia Estatal de Investigación, Spanish Ministry of Culture and Innovation (30,000 EUR per year of co-funding with the University of Seville): Postdoctoral fellowship in national competition with European Union funds (10% acceptance rate) – Declined
- \*2020-2021 Stiftungsfonds für Postgraduates der Ägyptologie (former Goedicke Foundation) – Austrian Academy of Sciences in Vienna (10,000 EUR) for project “*Between Social Identity and Royal Ideology: A Behavioral Interaction Analysis of Private Letters and Royal Decrees*”
- \*2020-2021: Theodore N. Romanoff Prize – ARCE-CAORC (\$4,000) for project “*Hieroglyph, Audience, and Literacy: Assessing Visual and Textual Ideology in Old Kingdom Royal Decrees*”
- Spring 2019: Middle East Studies Award, Brown University (\$1,000)
- June 2018: Program of Early Cultures Research Grant, Brown University. (\$500)
- \*April 2018. Contributors for the workshop “*Rethinking the Origins*” that I co-organized: Department of Egyptology and Assyriology, ARCE, ARCE New England, Cogut Center for Humanities, Department of Classics, Department of Middle East Studies, Department of Early Cultures at Brown University. (\$18,000)
- \*March 2018. American Oriental Society Conference Travel Award (\$600)
- Summer 2017. Joukowsky Summer Research Award for project: “*The First Millennium Egyptianizing Scarabs of the Mediterranean Collections*” (\$800)
- September 2015-December 2015. Thesis Abroad, University of Pisa (2,000 EUR)
- \*2012-2013 Academic Year. Erasmus, European Union Scholarship (3,600 EUR)

## **TEACHING (\* indicates newly designed course, ° indicates online)**

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### **Primary Instructor at Brown University (Teaching Fellow)**

#### *Spring 2022*

- °\*EGYT 0600: Ancient True Crime: Murder, Conspiracy and Law in the Ancient World (38 undergraduate students)

#### *Fall 2021*

- °EGYT 1330: Selection of Middle Egyptian Texts. (Brown University: 1 undergraduate, 1 graduate; Harvard University: 3 graduates)

#### *Summer 2021*

- °\*CEEG0912: Introduction to Ancient Egyptian Hieroglyphs and Language. (Four-week course at Summer@Brown) (12 continuing education students)

#### *Fall 2020*

- °\*EGYT 0500 The Pyramids in Context: Archaeology of Life and Religion of Death in Old Kingdom Egypt. (16 undergraduate students)

#### *Summer 2020*

- °\*CEEG0911: The Pyramids in Context: Between Ancient Mysteries and Modern Myths. (four-week course at Summer@Brown) (15 continuing education students)

#### *Spring 2020*

- °\*EGYT 0500 The Pyramids in Context: Archaeology of Life and Religion of Death in Old Kingdom Egypt. (course featured by Brown University News and Graduate School website) (6 undergraduate students)

#### *Fall 2019*

- EGYT 1310 Introduction to Classical Hieroglyphic Egyptian Writing and Language (Middle Egyptian I) (12 undergraduate students, 1 graduate student auditor)

### **Co-Instructor**

#### *Fall 2019, University of Arizona*

- °ANTH 160A2: Ancient Egyptian Civilization

Instructors: Pearce-Paul Creasman and M. Victoria Almansa-Villatoro

#### *Summer 2019, University of Arizona*

- °CLAS 150 Pyramids and Mummies: the Role of the Pharaoh in Ancient Egypt

Instructors: Pearce-Paul Creasman and M. Victoria Almansa-Villatoro

### **Teaching Assistant at Brown University**

#### *Fall 2018*

- ASYR 0310 Thunder Gods and Dragon Slayers: Mythology and Cultural Contact in the Mediterranean and Ancient Near East

Instructor: Felipe Rojas Silva

- EGYT 1310 Introduction to Middle Egyptian I

Instructor: James P. Allen

*Spring 2018*

- ARCH 1630 Fighting Pharaohs: Ancient Egyptian Warfare

Instructor: Laurel Bestock

*Fall 2017*

- EGYT 1330 Selections from Middle Egyptian Hieroglyphic Texts

Instructor: James P. Allen

### **Egyptologist museum educator at the Egyptian Museum of Turin**

*May – June 2015. April – June 2016*

Adult groups and all school levels

### **MENTORSHIP**

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- As part of SHARP program for undergraduate-faculty collaborative summer research at Harvard University, working on the Old Kingdom Brooklyn papyri:

- 2024 Kiese Nanor
- 2023 Elijah Visio

### **SERVICE TO THE FIELD**

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#### **Conferences**

##### *Organization*

**04/13 – 04/15/2018** “Rethinking the Origins: the Departure of Ancient Egyptian as a Branch from the Afroasiatic Family?” Workshop with international invited speakers sponsored by Department of Egyptology and Assyriology, Department of Classics, Middle East Studies, Early Cultures, Cogut Center for Humanities at Brown University, ARCE and ARCE New England. Co-organized and co-edited proceedings with Silvia Nigrelli.

**11/11/2017** “2<sup>nd</sup> Egyptology Graduate Conference” Co-organized with Christian Casey and Emily Drennan.

##### *Scientific committee*

**2023** “II Congreso Iberoamericano de Jóvenes Investigadores en Egiptología”

##### *Session chair*

**November 2024** Proposing and co-chairing “Ancient languages and linguistics I and II” at 2024 ASOR Annual Meeting in Boston, MA with Brendan Hainline.

**April 2024** Chairing the standing session “Religion” at ARCE Annual Meeting

**November – December 2021** Proposing and co-chairing “(Im-)Politeness Research in Ancient Egyptian Texts” at 2021 ASOR Annual Meeting. Online and in Chicago, IL with Aurore Motte.

*Blind reviewer*

American Research Center Annual Meeting (refereeing conference abstracts for the 2022, 2023, and 2024 meetings)

### **Editorial service (books and journals)**

*Board*

- Assistant editor of the *Journal of Ancient Egyptian Interconnections*

*Blind reviewer*

- *Journal of Afroasiatic Languages and Linguistics* (since 2025)
- *Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt* (since 2024)
- *Place-making in the Desertscape: The Socialisation of the Egyptian-Sudanese Eastern Desert Landscape in the Longue Durée (4th Millennium BCE- 4th Century CE) - Proceedings of the international conference held in Cairo (Ifao-PCMA)* edited by Cristina Alù (blind reviewer of one contribution)
- Series of Language and Linguistics, Cambridge University Press (blind reviewer of *the Cambridge Handbook of Speech Acts* in 2023)
- *Near Eastern Archaeology* (since 2023)
- *Eikón/Imago* (since 2023)
- *Boletín de la Asociación Española de Egiptología* (since 2023)
- *Journal of Astronomical History and Heritage* (since 2021)
- *Panta Rei: Revista Digital de Ciencia y Didáctica de la Historia* (since 2020)
- *Journal of Ancient Egyptian Interconnections* (since 2019)
- *Journal Espacio Tiempo y Forma Serie II: Historia Antigua* (since 2018)
- Special 2020 issue “Diosas, reinas y otros egipcios: retratos de la mujer egipcia” of the journal *Asparkia: Investigació Feminista*

### **Department service**

**12/15/2020** Co-organizer and moderator of surprise *Festschrift* presentation to James P. Allen (online)

• **October 2019 and November 2020:** Representation of the Department of Egyptology and Assyriology at Brown University Concentration Fair.

• **10/29/2019:** Meeting with potential undergraduate concentrators in Egyptology at the Department of Egyptology and Assyriology. Commenting on the movie “the Mummy” (1999).

• **2016–2020:** administrator of the Facebook page of the Brown university Department of Egyptology and Assyriology

### **Contributions to Diversity and Inclusivity**

• **2021–now:** ASOR Initiative for the Status of Women (ISW) (member)

• **2021–2022:** ASOR Early Career Scholar – Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity Subcommittee (member)

• **2021:** Brown University Egyptology & Assyriology Departmental Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan Committee

## **PERSONAL SKILLS**

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### **Linguistic skills**

#### *Ancient Languages and writings:*

Ancient Egyptian (Old Egyptian, Middle Egyptian, Late Egyptian, Demotic, Coptic. Hieroglyphic, Hieratic and Demotic writing). Sumerian. Akkadian. Ugaritic. Biblical Hebrew. Epigraphic South Arabian. Sanskrit.

#### *Modern Languages:*

Spanish (native speaker). English (fluent). Italian (fluent). French (advanced reading knowledge). German (intermediate reading knowledge). Portuguese (advanced reading knowledge). Modern Greek (basic conversational skills).

### **Selected computer skills:**

3D Models and photogrammetry through Photoscan Pro; FileMaker Pro (database); Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop; AntConc and Voyant (Text mining, Corpus Linguistics, data visualization); Jshesh (hieroglyphic writing); Gephi (social network generator software); Praat (Phonetics)

## **AFFILIATIONS**

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Expedition to the Royal Pyramids & Necropolis of Nuri (assistant director)

Ancient Egyptian Research Associates (AERA) (team member)

American Society of Overseas Research (ASOR) (member)

American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE) (member)

International Association of Egyptologists (IAE) (professional member)

## OUTREACH AND ONLINE PRESENCE

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**06/05/2022** “The historical linguistics of Afro-Asiatic” interview in Shannon Bradwell’s podcast *Brightnews*.

**12/5/2022** “Metal from the sky” interview in Kara Cooney’s podcast *Afterlives*.

**May 2020–now** podcast host of “Jeroglifiqueando” in Spanish Twitch radio, TV and podcasting program getradiotv.

**June, 2015–2016** Contributor to the Egyptological website and Radio show: “La Mirada de Horus”. Personal section: “La Huella de Khaemuaset”, providing information about Egyptological news, events, conferences and courses.

Currently administrator of the Facebook pages: “Jeroglifiqueando” (Egyptological outreach in Spanish) +4,400 followers; “Egyptology Graduate Students of North America” (until 2022); “Egyptology and Assyriology Graduate Conference” and “Rethinking the Origins”.

**Website:** <https://scholar.harvard.edu/valmansa/bio>

**Academia.edu profile:** <https://harvard.academia.edu/VickyAlmansaVillatoro>

## SELECTED MEDIA COVERAGE AND CONSULTANTSHIP

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**March 2023** Featured by *The Harvard Crimson* “Egyptologist discusses ancient Egyptians’ understanding of Meteorites at Harvard Museum Event”

<https://www.thecrimson.com/article/2023/3/10/ancient-egyptian-meteorite-event/>

**January 2022** consulted and featured by *National Geographic Magazine* on the use of iron in the ancient world resulting in a 2023 printed article: “How did ancient cultures first discovered iron? It fell from the sky” by Jay Bennet, and website articles

**August 2021** Consulted by BBC Studios Science for documentary on the iron dagger of Tutankhamun

**2020–2021** My course EGYT 0500 was featured in the *Impact: Research at Brown* magazine

**08/2020** Consulted by *Howstuffworks* on Egyptian gods in “5 Fascinating Egyptian Gods and Goddesses You Should Know”

<https://history.howstuffworks.com/history-vs-myth/egyptian-gods-goddesses.htm>

**05/30/2020** Invited to the Spanish program “Gente Viajera” in Onda Cero (National coverage) to discuss my JEA article “The Cultural Indexicality of the N 41 Sign” and excavations in Giza

**05/2020** Media coverage of my JEA article “The Cultural Indexicality of the N 41 Sign” by multiple magazines around the world among which *NewScientist*, *SyFy Wire*, *Historia National Geographic*, *ABC*, *Courrier International* or *Le Point*. E.g.

<https://www.newscientist.com/article/2242507-ancient-egyptians-saw-the-sky-as-crumbling-iron-tub-filled-with-water/>

<https://www.syfy.com/syfywire/ancient-egyptians-believed-sky-was-an-iron-orb>

**04/23/2020** Brown University News featured the course EGYT 0500 that I designed

<https://www.brown.edu/news/2020-04-23/egyptology>

**12/17/2019** Consulted by Howstuffworks on Anubis in “Anubis Was Ancient Egypt's Jackal-headed Guard Dog of the Dead”

<https://history.howstuffworks.com/history-vs-myth/anubis.htm>

**05/24/2019** Featured in CNN Inside Africa, season 11, episode 20: “Egypt Archaeology”

**06/14/2017** Consulted by Vox about mummies in “The Mummy flopped because it ignores everything that fascinates us about mummies”

<https://www.vox.com/culture/2017/6/14/15753870/the-mummy-failure-mummies-in-history>

**12/30/2015** Interviewed by Huelva Buenas Noticias about the six scarabs from Ayamonte in “Los escarabeos de Ayamonte: un nexo entre Egipto y los fenicios que habitaban nuestras tierras”

<http://huelvabuenasnoticias.com/2015/12/30/los-escarabeos-de-ayamonte-un-nexo-entre-egipto-y-los-fenicios-que-habitaban-nuestras-tierras/>

**12/28-29/2015** Media coverage of my public lecture at the Museum of Huelva by many national newspapers and online journals among which Europa Press, Territorio Huelva, Huelva Información.

**07/22/2015** Interviewed by Huelva Buenas Noticias in “La onubense Viky Almansa elabora un estudio sobre los textos de las Pirámides tras ser guía del Museo Egipcio de Turín”

<http://huelvabuenasnoticias.com/2015/07/22/la-onubense-viky-almansa-elabora-un-estudio-sobre-los-textos-de-las-piramides-tras-ser-guia-del-museo-egipcio-de-turin/>

**09/15/2014** Special guest to the Egyptological Radio show: “La Mirada de Horus” (Hispanidad Radio, 101.8 FM), speaking on the University of Pisa excavations and recent discoveries; the God's Father Kenamun and Amenhotep II; New Kingdom coffins and Burial practices.

## REFERENCES

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James P. Allen

Charles Edwin Wilbour Professor of Egyptology (Emeritus), Brown University

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Director, Ancient Egypt Research Associates

[markelehner@gmail.com](mailto:markelehner@gmail.com)

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Antonio Loprieno

Professor of Egyptology, Department of Ancient Civilizations, University of Basel

President of All European Academies, Berlin

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Peter Der Manuelian

Barbara Bell Professor of Egyptology, Harvard University

Director, Harvard Museum of the Ancient Near East

[peter\\_manuelian@harvard.edu](mailto:peter_manuelian@harvard.edu)

James Gee (Linguistics)

Mary Lou Fulton Presidential Professor of Literacy Studies and Regents Professor, Arizona State University

[jpggee@asu.edu](mailto:jpggee@asu.edu)