



WORKSHOP

Cicero, *Pro Balbo*

03 – 04 JULY 2025

July 3rd 2025

Am Neuen Palais, room 1.08.0.56

■ **02:00 pm**

Welcome

■ **02:30 pm**

**The Prosecution's Reasons and the Legal
Intrigue in the *Pro Balbo***

Andrea Raggi (Università di Pisa)

■ **02:50 pm**

**Reading the *Pro Balbo* as a *post reditum*
Speech: Where Legal Court Meets Politics**

Francesca Benvenuti (Università di Bologna)

■ **03:10 pm**

**The Implementation of Exempla and Their
Significance in the *Pro Balbo***

Franz Jaß (Universität Potsdam)

■ **03:30 pm**

Discussion

■ **04:00 pm**

Coffee Break

■ **04:30 pm**

**The *Pro Balbo*, Its Context, and Second
Thoughts**

Tommaso Ricchieri (Università di Bologna)

■ **04:50 pm**

Ambiguous Message and Text in the *Pro Balbo*

Irene Leonardis (Università eCampus)

■ **05:10 pm**

Ingeni minime voluntati paris – Cicero's
“Rhetoric of a Weaker Voice” in the *Pro Balbo*
Nicola Hömke (Universität Rostock)

■ **05:30 pm**

Discussion

Keynote lecture (room 1.11.0.09)

■ **06:15 pm**

Cicero's *Pro Balbo* and the Shape of the Roman
res publica: Insiders and Outsiders
Catherine Steel (University of Glasgow)

July 4th 2025

Am Neuen Palais, room 1.08.0.56

■ **09:00 am**

Anti-Immigration Rhetoric in the *Pro Balbo*
(and Beyond)
Henriette van der Blom (University of Birmingham)

■ **09:20 am**

Identity, Alterity and Universalism in
the *Pro Balbo* – or, of Cicero's Consistency
Filippo Carlà-Uhink (Universität Potsdam)

■ **09:40 am**

Law in the Republican Courtroom:
The Evidence from *Pro Balbo*
Paul du Plessis (University of Edinburgh)

■ **10:00 am**

Discussion

■ **10:30 am**

Coffee Break

■ **11:00 am**

The Sertorian War Through the Lens of
Cicero's *Pro Balbo*: Crafting a Pompeian
Narrative of the Conflict

Juan García González (Universitat de Girona)

■ **11:20 am**

Dealing with Power under the Triumvirate.
Pompey's Portrait between Cicero's
Pro Balbo and the Epistles

Matilde Oliva (Università di Firenze)

■ **11:40 am**

Fuit apud me Cornelius, hunc dico Balbum,
Caesaris familiarem. Balbus in Cicero's
Letters

Barbara Del Giovane (Università di Firenze)

■ **12:00 pm**

Discussion

■ **12:30 pm**

Coffee Break

■ **12:45 pm**

Final Discussion

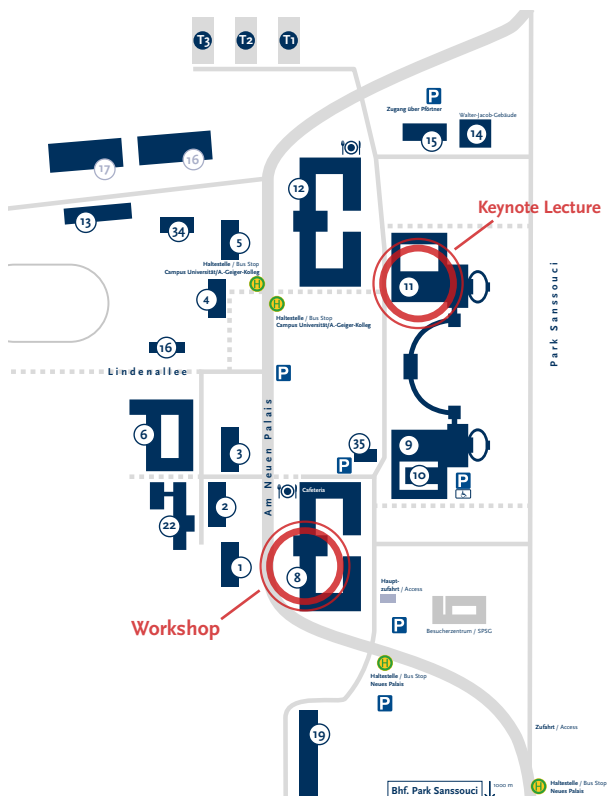
■ **01:15 pm**

Lunch



Cicero's speech *pro Balbo* was composed in 56 BCE to defend Lucius Cornelius Balbus from Gades from the accusation of having usurped the rights of a Roman citizen. Balbus had been conferred the Roman citizenship by Pompey for his services in the Sertorian War. In his speech, one of the most important sources on Roman citizenship laws and on the discussions surrounding the Roman citizenship in the 1st century BCE, Cicero develops important arguments about the right to change citizenship as well as on the Roman politics of conferring citizenship upon persons who had provided good services for Rome. This workshop aims to provide a close reading of this fundamental text from different, interdisciplinary perspectives (classics, ancient history, legal history), situating it in its political and cultural context, as well as within Cicero's life, career and oeuvre.

Location



Organizers/ Contact

Universität Potsdam | Historisches Institut

Prof. Dr. Filippo Carlà-Uhink / Geschichte des Altertums

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Further information:

www.uni-potsdam.de/hi-altertum