



# WORKSHOP

Cicero, *Pro Balbo*

03 – 04 JULY 2025

**July 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 am**

Discussion

■ **12:30 pm**

Coffee Break

■ **12:45 pm**

Final Discussion

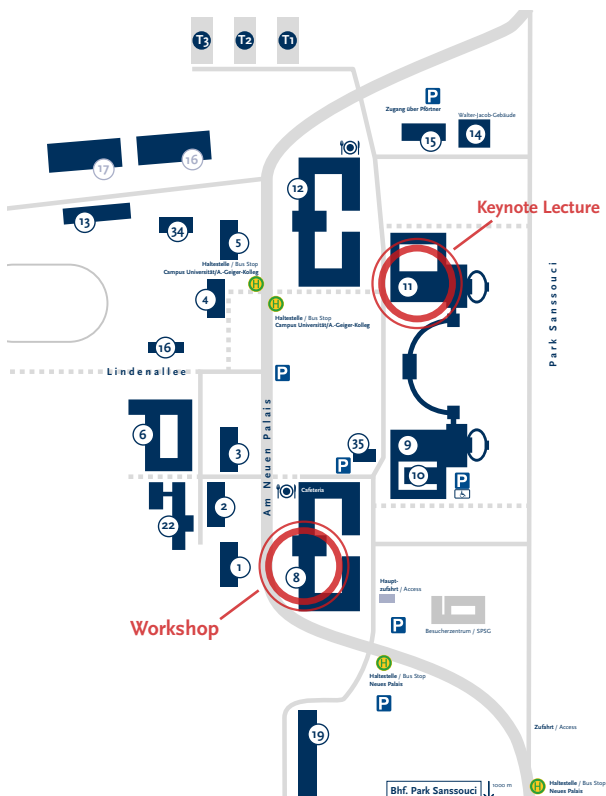
■ **13:15 pm**

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

Contact: sekretariat-altertum@uni-potsdam.de



Further information:

[www.uni-potsdam.de/hi-altertum](http://www.uni-potsdam.de/hi-altertum)