

**Harvard University GSAS
Indo-European and Historical Linguistics Workshop**

Speaker: Rex Wallace, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Time: Thursday, October 22nd at 5:15 PM

Location: Boylston Hall 237 (the Classics department, second floor)

Zoom Link: (please email felix_montgomery@g.harvard.edu for a zoom link)

Title: 'The Sabellic Languages of pre-Roman Campania'

Abstract: In the period before Roman expansion, ancient Italy was home to a diverse array of languages and cultures. In southern Italy, in the territory of Campania, the languages spoken before Roman expansion were Etruscan, Euboean Greek, and the Sabellic languages Pre-Samnite and Oscan. This lecture, which is organized into several sections, has as its prime topics the Pre-Samnite inscriptions recovered from the Sorrentine peninsula, which date to the 6th and 5th centuries BCE, and the Oscan inscriptions recovered from Pompeii, which date to the 4th century BCE and later. The examination of the Pre-Samnite and Oscan inscriptions also includes observations on the alphabets and writing systems, and on the phonology, morphology, and syntax of the languages. The lecture includes a review of the Italic branch of the Indo-European language family and presents groups of phonological, morphological, and lexical correspondences illustrating the linguistic relationship of Oscan and Latin.