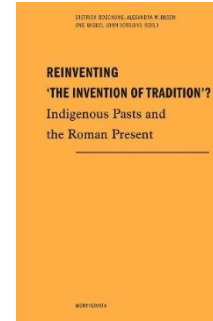
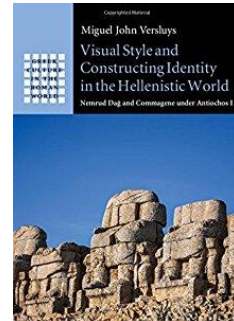
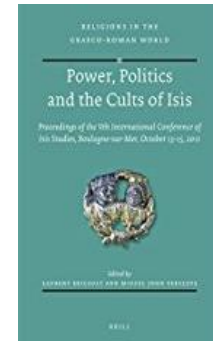
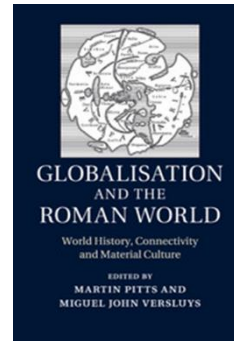


# Mellichamp Global Studies Lecture



**Miguel John Versluys**

**Globalization in  
Antiquity—and why it  
matters for the  
present**

**Thursday, May 31**

**4:00 PM**

**SSMS 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor,  
Conference Rm 2135**

Globalization is nothing new nor a phenomenon exclusively tied up with (European) expansion or modernity: Globalization has its history. Historicizing globalization makes us understand how and when our planet became systematically connected and how connectivity works as a process. Studying historical trajectories of globalization can thus improve our understanding of the complexities of our 21<sup>st</sup> century world. My lecture will sketch a (deep) historical perspective on globalization and focus on the Roman Empire in particular. The Romans had to make sense of the impact of the ever-widening Eurasian networks they became part of - and developed some innovative coping practices as a result. Commodities will play an important role in that story.

Miguel John Versluys' research explores the cultural dynamics of the Hellenistic-Roman world (roughly 200 BC – AD 200) from the point of view of Eurasia and has two distinct focus points: the interconnection of cultures and their various identities ("globalization"), and the interdependence of objects and people ("Material Culture Studies"). He currently heads the NWO-funded project *Innovating objects. The impact of global connections and the formation of the Roman Empire (ca. 200-30 BC)*. He is co-editor of *Globalisation and the Roman world. World history, connectivity and material culture* (Cambridge 2015) and of the *Routledge Handbook of Archaeology and Globalisation* (London 2017).