



Barry S. Strauss

Barry S. Strauss (born November 27, 1953) is an American historian. He is a professor of history and humanistic studies at Cornell University, and a visiting Corliss Page Dean Fellow at the Hoover Institution.

Life and work

Strauss is an expert on ancient military history and has written or edited numerous books, including *The Battle of Salamis* (2004), *The Trojan War* (2006), *The Spartacus War* (2009), *Masters of Command* (2013), *The Death of Caesar* (2015), *Ten Caesars* (2019), and *The War That Made The Roman Empire* (March 2022). His books have been translated into nineteen languages.

Strauss holds a B.A. from Cornell and a Ph.D. from Yale (advised by Donald Kagan) and has been awarded fellowships by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, the American Academy in Rome, the MacDowell Colony for the Arts, the Korea Foundation, and the Killam Foundation of Canada. He is an honorary citizen of Salamis, Greece. He is Director of Cornell's Program on Freedom and Free Societies and past Director of its Peace Studies Program.^[1]

Strauss is editor of *Turning Points in Ancient History*, a series of books from Princeton University Press. He sits on the editorial boards of *MHQ: The Quarterly Journal of Military History*, *Historically Speaking: The Bulletin of the Historical Society*, *The International Journal of the Classical Tradition*, and *Strategika*.

At Cornell, he teaches courses on the history of ancient Greece, war and peace in the ancient world, history of battle, introduction to military history, and specialized topics in ancient history.

Strauss is an avid rower. In 1999, he published *Rowing Against the Current: On Learning to Scull at Forty* (Scribner). He has appeared in more than a dozen television documentaries. He has published op-ed pieces in The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, the Los Angeles Times, USA Today, and Newsday, been interviewed on NPR and the BBC, and has been quoted on the front page of The Wall Street Journal and in other major newspapers.

He lives in Ithaca, New York.

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Books

Author or co-author

- *Athens After the Peloponnesian War: Class, Faction, and Policy, 403–386 B.C.* (1987); Cornell University Press.
- *The Anatomy of Error: Ancient Military Disasters and Their Lessons for Modern Strategists* (1990); Co-author: Josiah Ober.
- *Fathers and Sons in Athens: Ideology and Society in the Era of the Peloponnesian War* (1993); Princeton University Press.
- *Rowing Against the Current: On Learning to Scull at Forty* (1999); Scribner
- *The Battle of Salamis: The Naval Encounter That Saved Greece—and Western Civilization* (2004); Simon & Schuster
- *The Trojan War: A New History* (2006); Simon & Schuster.
- *The Spartacus War* (2009); Simon & Schuster.
- *Western Civilization, Beyond Boundaries, Volume 2: Since 1560* (6th edition, 2009); with Thomas F. X. Noble, Duane Osheim, Kristen Neuschel, Elinor Accampo, David D. Roberts, and William B. Cohen.
- *Masters of Command: Alexander, Hannibal, Caesar, and the Genius of Leadership* (2012); Simon & Schuster.
- *The Death of Caesar: The Story of History's Most Famous Assassination* (2015); Simon & Schuster
- *Ten Caesars : Roman Emperors from Augustus to Constantine* (2019); Simon & Schuster
- *The War that Made the Roman Empire: Antony, Cleopatra, and Octavian at Actium* (2022); Simon & Schuster
- *Jews vs.Rome: Two Centuries of Rebellion Against the World's Mightiest Empire* (2025); Simon & Schuster

Editor or co-editor

- *Hegemonic Rivalry: From Thucydides to the Nuclear Age* (1991; Series: New Approaches to Peace and Security); Co-edited with Richard Ned Lebow.
- *War and Democracy: A Comparative Study of the Korean War and the Peloponnesian War* (2001), East Gate Books. Co-edited with David R. McCann.

References

1. Cody, Paul (July 9, 1998), "Classicist and historian studies that elusive thing called peace" (<https://www.news.cornell.edu/chronicle/98/7.9.98/Strauss.html>), *Cornell Chronicle*.

External links

- Barry S. Strauss website (<http://www.barrystrauss.com/>)

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