This volume argues that the absorption of the Greek world into the Roman empire created a new emphasis upon local identities, much as globalisation in the modern world has done. Localism became the focal point for complex debates: in some cases, it was complementary to imperial objectives, but in others tension can be discerned. The volume as a whole seeks to add texture and nuance to the existing literature on Greek identity, which has tended in recent years to emphasise the umbrella category of the Greek, to the detriment of specific polis and regional identities. It also contributes to the growing literature on the Romanisation of provinces, by emphasising the dialogue between a region’s self-identification as a distinct space and its self-awareness as a component of the centrally governed empire.

TIm Whitmarsh is Fellow, tutor and E. P. Warren Praelector at Corpus Christi College, Oxford. A specialist in Greek literature and culture of the Roman period, he has written over fifty books and articles in the field, including *Greek Literature and the Roman Empire: the Politics of Imitation* (2001) and *The Second Sophistic* (Cambridge, 2005). He has lectured all over the world, appeared on BBC radio and written for the *Times Literary Supplement* and *London Review of Books*.
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Notes on the contributors

CLIFFORD ANDO is Professor of Classics at the University of Chicago. He is the author of Imperial Ideology and Provincial Loyalty (2000), which received the Goodwin Award of Merit from the American Philological Association, and The Matter of the Gods (2008). He is presently completing a study of cognition and cultural change in the Roman empire, entitled The Ambitions of Government.

MAUD GLEASON is Lecturer and Director of Undergraduate Study in the Department of Classics at Stanford University. Her special interest is the culture of the Greek-speaking Roman empire in the second and third centuries of the Common Era. Her publications include Making Men: Sophists and Self-Presentation in Ancient Rome (1995).

SIMON GOLDFILL is Professor of Greek at Cambridge. He has published very widely on many aspects of Greek literature, including the books Reading Greek Tragedy (1986), The Poet’s Voice (1991), Foucault’s Virginity (1995) and Who Needs Greek? (2002). He has also written Love, Sex and Tragedy (2004) for a broader audience, as well as The Temple of Jerusalem (2005) and Jerusalem: City of Longing (2009), which won the Gold Medal for History from the Independent Publishers’ Association. He is a fellow of King’s College, Cambridge, and Director of the Cambridge Victorian Studies Group. His next book, shortly to appear, is The Victorians and Classical Antiquity: Art, Opera, Literature and the Proclamation of Modernity. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

CHRISTOPHER JONES is George Martin Lane Professor of Classics and History at Harvard University. He has written extensively about Greek literature, society and religion. His latest book, New Heroes in Antiquity: From Achilles to Antinoos, appeared in 2010. He is now working on the various manifestations of paganism in late antiquity.
Stephen Mitchell is Professor in the Department of Classics and Ancient History at the University of Exeter, and a specialist in the history of the Greek world of the Hellenistic, Roman and late-antique periods. His publications include *Anatolia: Land, Men and Gods in Asia Minor*, 2 vols. (1993) and *A History of the Later Roman Empire 284–641* (2007). He has recently completed a project funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council of England and Wales, *Pagan Monotheism in the Roman Empire*. He is a Fellow of the British Academy, a corresponding member of the German Archaeological Institute, and President of the International Association of Greek and Latin Epigraphy.

Ilaria Romeo is Professor of Roman Archaeology at the University of Salento (Lecce). Her research interests include Greek and Roman sculpture, pottery and architecture, the art and culture of Roman Greece and Asia Minor, and the legacy of classical antiquity in the modern age. She has excavated at Gortyn (Crete) and is currently a member of the Italian Archaeological Mission at Hierapolis in Phrygia.

Onno van Nijf holds the chair of Ancient History at the University of Groningen. He specialises in the history of Hellenistic and Roman Greece and Asia Minor, and particularly in the inscriptional record. His publications include *The Civic World of Professional Associations in the Roman East* (1997), *Feeding the Ancient Greek City* (2008, edited with Richard Alston) and *Political Culture in the Greek City after the Classical Age* (in press, edited with Richard Alston).


Greg Woolf has been Professor of Ancient History at the University of St Andrews since 1998. He is the author of *Becoming Roman: the Origins of Provincial Civilization in Gaul* (1998), and he is currently preparing for publication his 2009 Blackwell Bristol lectures on ethnography in the Roman west.
This volume has its origins in a conference held at the University of Exeter in 2004, for which the financial support of the Leventis Foundation is gratefully acknowledged.

The transliteration of Greek names presents particular problems for those working in the Roman period. In this volume, names are given in their Latin forms where these are naturalised in English (e.g. Achilles, Strabo); Greek forms are preferred elsewhere, particularly in discussions of inscriptions.
Abbreviations

Abbreviations follow those of the Oxford Classical Dictionary for references to ancient sources and those of Année philologique (anglicised) for titles of journals, with the following additions and variations:

AE Archaiologike Ephemeris. Athens, 1837–.
FGrH Die Fragmente der griechischen Historiker, ed. Jacoby, F. et al., 1st edn. Berlin, 1923–.
List of abbreviations


I.G Inscriptiones Graecae, Berlin, 1873–.


MAMA Monumenta Asiae minoris antiquae. Manchester and London, 1928–.


PIR Prosopographia imperii Romani, 2nd edn. Berlin, 1933–.

RDGE Roman Documents from the Greek East: senatus consulta and epistulae to the Age of Augustus, Sheker, R. K. Baltimore, 1969.

RE Paulys Real-Encyclopädie der klassischen Altertumswissenschaft, 1st edn. Munich, 1903–78.
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<td><em>Supplementum epigraphicum Graecum</em>. Leiden, 1923–71; Amsterdam, 1979–.</td>
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<td>TAM</td>
<td><em>Tituli Asiae Minoris</em>. Vienna, 1901–.</td>
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