

Reed College
LATIN FORUM XXII
Saturday, November 14, 2009

Registration	9:30 - 10:00 a.m.	Vollum College Center
Morning Lecture	10:00 - 11:00	Vollum Lecture Hall
Discussion Groups	11:00 - 11:45	Vollum Classrooms
Lunch	12:00 - 1:00 p.m.	Gray Lounge
Individual Seminars	1:00 - 2:00	Vollum Classrooms
Individual Seminars	2:00 - 3:00	Vollum Classrooms

Morning Lecture in Vollum Lecture Hall:

At Home with a Roman Senator
Professor Rob Chenault, Willamette University

Individual Seminars for the afternoon session:

- I. *How to Get Elected in Republican Rome*
Professor Ellen Millender Vollum 120

While elections for the public Rome could be highly charged, sometimes violent affairs, none were so contested as the elections for the highest post in the Republic, the consulship. The best source of information on the background to these elections is the little known *Commentariolum Petitionis* (the "little handbook on electioneering") or the *De Petitione Consulatus* ("on running for the consulship"), attributed to Quintus Tullius Cicero, brother of the famous Roman orator. In this seminar we will examine this text to understand the Roman notions about successful candidates, and break into groups and run campaigns according to Cicero's guide.

- II. *The Roman Poetess Sulpicia*
Professor Nigel Nicholson Vollum 110

Although only six short elegies remain from this poet, they constitute the only Latin poetry composed by a woman that survives from the Classical period. They are also of high quality and great interest. In this seminar we will examine their central themes and devices, how they make use of and depart from the dominant forms of love elegy, and what kind of challenge to the social mores (if any) they represent.

- III. *Of Hands and the Man: How to Read a Latin Manuscript*
Professor Jonathan Pratt Vollum 126

We owe the survival of most of our Latin texts to the labor of medieval monks specially trained in the art of handwriting. In this seminar we shall sample the variety of scripts they used and try our skill at transcribing portions of a manuscript.

- IV. *Roman Oratory and the Courts*
Professor Kathryn Steed Vollum 116

Public performance in the courts was a major part of Roman political life in the Republic, but Roman courtroom speeches differ dramatically from those we are accustomed to in modern legal systems. In this seminar, we will examine what the Romans considered relevant and persuasive in a legal setting and will create our own speeches according to Roman standards.