REED COLLEGE
LATIN FORUM SCHEDULE
Saturday, November 19, 2005

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<td>9:00 - 10:00  a.m.</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Vollum College Center</td>
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<td>10:00 - 11:00</td>
<td>Morning Lecture</td>
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<td>11:00 - 11:45</td>
<td>Discussion Groups</td>
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<td>12:00 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>1:00 - 2:00</td>
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**Morning Lecture in Vollum Lecture Hall:**

*What is a Roman portrait?*

Professor Ann Nicgorski, Willamette University

**Individual Seminars for the afternoon session:**

I.  *Thrills, Spills, and Kills: Chariot Racing in the Roman Empire*

Professor Alex Nice

Contrary to popular belief, Rome's most well liked form of entertainment was not the bloody gladiatorial games but the frenetic excitement of chariot racing. Race days were an exercise in the vast spectacle entertainment for which ancient Rome is famous. Using videos, pictures, and text, this seminar discusses Rome's largest and most famous chariot racing arena, the Circus Maximus; the charioteers and their teams; the technical organization of the races; the behind-the-scenes gambling, prostitution, and magical curses; and the social and cultural importance of chariot racing.

II.  *The Strangeness of Ovid*

Professor Nigel Nicholson

Ovid was one of the greatest writers that Rome produced, yet in his own time he was often criticized for being undisciplined and self-indulgent. In this seminar we will examine some unsettling passages from Ovid’s greatest work, the *Metamorphoses*, to try to understand what annoyed and disturbed his critics. Through this process we will also come to a better understanding of what epic poetry should and should not do.

III.  *Marriage and Divorce, Roman Style*

Professor Ellen Millender

This seminar will begin by looking at the ancient evidence on Roman marriage and consider the reasons why Romans married, how they chose their spouses, and the nature of marriage rituals. We will then consider the reasons Romans divorced and the mechanisms by which they dissolved their marriages so easily in the late Republic.

IV.  *How to Be Happy: Philosophy in the Roman World*

Professor Walter Englert

This seminar will examine the ethical teachings of the Stoics and Epicureans, the two Greek philosophical schools that most influenced the Roman world of the late Republic and early Empire. Why did the Stoics teach that happiness was to be found in a life of virtue, and the Epicureans advocate a life of pleasure? What did the Romans learn from each philosophy, and what can we learn from them today?

http://web.reed.edu/outreach_programs/latin_forum/index.html