



REED COLLEGE
SPECIAL PROGRAMS

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LATIN FORUM XXXVI

Saturday, February 3, 2024

Registration and Breakfast	9:30–10:00	Student Union
Morning Keynote Lecture	10:00–11:00	Vollum Lecture Hall
Session 1:	11:00–11:45	
Seminars A & B		Vollum Classrooms
Panel Discussion		Vollum Lecture Hall
Lunch	12:00–1:00	Student Union
Session 2:	1:15–2:00	
Seminars A, C, D, E		Vollum Classrooms
Session 3:	2:15–3:00	
Seminars B, C, D, E		Vollum Classrooms
Latin Teachers' Meeting		

Keynote Lecture — Vollum Lecture Hall

Accio Latinam! Or, Latin and the Making of Science Fiction and Fantasy

Brett Rogers (Reed '99)

Professor of Greek, Latin, and Ancient Mediterranean Studies, University of Puget Sound

Panel Discussion — Vollum Lecture Hall (Session 1)

Studying the Ancient World in College

Brett Rogers, Reed faculty and students

Are you interested in pursuing Latin, Greek, archaeology, or ancient history in college? Our keynote speaker and Reed faculty and students will be on hand to answer questions about classes, research, archaeological fieldwork, and other opportunities for students entering college with some Latin.

Students, parents, and teachers are all welcome to attend.

Seminar A — Vollum 110 (Sessions 1 & 2)

Magic and Magical Texts in the Roman Empire

Tom Landvatter

Associate Professor of Greek, Latin, and Ancient Mediterranean Studies and Humanities

Though we often think of Roman religion solely in terms of the gods—Jupiter, Juno, Minerva, etc.—a vital part of Roman religious practice was what we might call magic. Through the performance of specific rituals and the utterance of specific words, individuals believed that they bend the gods and other people to their will. We will look at magical practice in the Roman world, looking at deposits of “magical” objects as well as particular magical texts, such as curse tablets, to see how magic permeated society and was a vital part of daily life.

Seminar B — Volumn 116 (Session 1) & Volumn 110 (Session 3)

The Writing on the Walls of Pompeii

Gregory MacNaughton

Education Outreach and Calligraphy Initiative Coordinator of the Douglas F. Cooley Memorial Art Gallery, Reed College

The study of Latin paleography is often simplified into such broad time periods that it is not uncommon to hear statements like, “the Romans of the first century wrote like this.” However, even a cursory glance at the walls of Pompeii demonstrates that Latin paleography in the first century was widely varied. Citizens of Pompeii were accustomed to seeing brush-written letters, letters stamped into wet bricks, letters inscribed in stone, and letters casually scratched into the wall plaster, not to mention the variety of scripts that populated the scrolls of the so-called Villa of the Papyri. In this workshop we will first have a look at the wide variety of letters found in the ruins of Pompeii and then practice writing them.

Seminar C — Volumn 116 (Sessions 2 & 3)

Education in the Roman Empire

Nikola Golubović

Visiting Assistant Professor of Greek, Latin, and Ancient Mediterranean Studies and Humanities, Reed College

Ancient Roman education is often cited as the model for liberal arts education. But how did Roman education really work? What content did Roman students learn and what skills did they develop? Who went to school, and who taught in schools? This seminar will offer an introduction to—and firsthand experience in—teaching and learning practices in the Roman Empire.

Seminar D — Volumn 126 (Sessions 2 & 3)

What did Romans Make of their Sports?

Nigel Nicholson

Walter Mintz Professor of Greek, Latin, and Ancient Mediterranean Studies and Humanities, Reed College

Gladiatorial contests are probably what springs to mind when we talk about Roman sports, especially with *Gladiator II* on the way later in 2024. But there were three major-league sports in the Roman world: gladiatorial contests, chariot races, and Greek athletics. This seminar will examine various different representations of these sports, some commissioned by the victorious players themselves, some written by poets writing to please the emperor, some written by satirists, as well as a classic Greek poem for an athletic victor, a Pindaric ode. We will ask what mattered to these people about the different sports they represented, what values and aspirations—or absurdities—the different sports embodied, and how sports in general were used to communicate broader social and political values.

Seminar E — Volumn 120 (Sessions 2 & 3)

Roman Bakeries and Bread

Sonia Sabnis

Professor of Greek, Latin, and Ancient Mediterranean Studies and Humanities, Reed College

A recent excavation at Pompeii has confirmed what we know from literature about the hard labor of enslaved people and animals involved in milling grain and baking bread for Roman consumption. In this seminar we will look at literary and material evidence for this Roman staple, paying close attention to the familiar processes and strange horrors of the Roman mill and learning about some real and fictional bread bakers.

Latin Teachers’ Meeting — Volumn 118

A space reserved for teachers of Latin who wish to share their experiences, materials, techniques, and to otherwise support each other in our shared work.