



REED COLLEGE
SPECIAL PROGRAMS

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LATIN FORUM XXXV
Saturday, February 4, 2023

Keynote Lecture

“Treasures” from the Deep? What Shipwrecks can tell us about Roman Identity, Mobility, and Economy

Ulrike Krotscheck

Associate Professor of Classical Studies and Archaeology, The Evergreen State College

Ancient shipwrecks are often romanticized as bearing “treasures.” In contrast, however, it is often the most mundane objects from these wrecks that yield the richest information about the ancient world. In this talk, we will examine selected Roman shipwrecks from the western Mediterranean and discover what can be learned about commerce, travel, and culture in an ancient world connected by the sea.

Panel Discussion

Studying the Ancient World in College

Professor Ulrike Krotscheck, 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

Voting in the Roman Republic

Alice Hu

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

The Roman *res publica* is often cited as the model for American representative democracy. But how did Roman elections and voting really work? Who got to vote, and how much did their vote count? How similar, actually, are the Roman and American electoral systems? This seminar will offer an introduction to—and firsthand experience in—elections and voting practices in the Roman Republic.

Seminar

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 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

The Art and Risks of Political Vitriol

Ellen Millender

Omar & Althea Hoskins Professor of Greek, Latin, and Ancient Mediterranean Studies and Humanities, Reed College

According to Plutarch's biography, the famous first-century BCE orator Cicero met a violent death at the hands of thugs sent to kill him on the order of the triumvir, Marcus Antonius. Antonius then ostensibly ordered Cicero's head and nails to be nailed to the speaker's podium. Why did Cicero, the leader who saved Rome from destruction in 63 BCE meet such a brutal death in 43 BCE? In this seminar we will examine passages from some of Cicero's political speeches, especially his *Pro Caelio*, his *Catilinarians*, and his *Second Philippic*, to try to understand how and why his skills as a speaker and a pundit drove his political opponents to become violent adversaries.

Seminar**Poetry about Poetry**

Nigel Nicholson

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

The Roman poets Horace, Propertius and Ovid were much influenced by Callimachus, a Greek poet from the third century BCE who proclaimed a preference for brief and carefully crafted poems over long and turgid epics. In this seminar, we will explore how Callimachus' descriptions of good poetry not only guide the Roman poets, but actually become the subjects of their poetry, as they are transformed into an array of apparently real situations and stories. The distaste these poets express for flamboyant clothing and voyages over large seas will thus be revealed as aesthetic manifestos: the poets are talking not about clothes, ships, sacrifices or holiday spots, but about poetry.

Seminar**Getting Loopy: A Celebration of the Roman Wolf**

Sonia Sabnis

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

In honor of the mid-February Roman holiday Lupercalia, this session will celebrate all things wolf in Roman literature and art, including stories about the famous nurse of Romulus and Remus, Roman werewolf superstitions, and the strange practices of the holiday itself.