

2017 CLASSICAL SUMMER SCHOOL

Professor Genevieve Gessert, Director

Rome began as a cluster of Iron Age huts on a hill overlooking the Tiber River. This tiny settlement eventually grew to become the capital of an empire that stretched across the entire Mediterranean basin. The city's development reflects its long and complex relationships with the other peoples of the Italian peninsula, in particular, the Etruscans and Greeks, as well as other foreigners who came to the city as slaves, merchants, or immigrants. The influence of these 'outsiders' can be seen in the development of Rome's art and architecture. Continuously inhabited since its foundation, the city has been frequently rebuilt, with layer rising upon layer. Nearly three thousand years later, Rome is a vibrant and fascinating city, whose visible and hidden treasures we will explore.

THE COURSE

The program of the Classical Summer School focuses on the development of the ancient city of Rome from its earliest settlement to the time of Constantine. An introduction to the material culture of the city forms the core of the course, and a goal of the course is to develop participants' skills in analyzing and interpreting archaeological sites and artifacts. Along with examining the better-known monuments, such as the Pantheon, Colosseum, and Imperial Fora, the program explores the hidden parts of the ancient city, behind locked gates and below its modern streets. Visits to important Latin and Etruscan sites – such as Alba Fucens, Tarquinia, Palestrina, Ostia, and Tivoli – will complement the daily fieldtrips within the city. From this series of visits to sites and museums during the six-week program, participants will develop an intimate knowledge of the city and its ancient monuments. Classroom and on-site lectures will relate the material of the course to its historical and social contexts. The development of architecture, sculpture, painting, the 'minor' arts, and inscriptions of the republican and imperial city will also be presented. Participants are expected to prepare and discuss assigned readings from primary texts and modern scholarship.

In addition to the extensive on-site experiences, students enrolled in the Classical Summer School will be an integral part of the intellectual community of the American Academy in Rome. Seminars on classical pedagogy, material culture, and Latin literature will provide forums for CSS students to interact with leading scholars and experts in all aspects of Roman antiquity. In addition, each year a selection of these experts are invited to speak as guests in the field on various subjects relevant to the course. Program participants will also have access to the Arthur & Janet C. Ross Library of the American Academy, where there are excellent resources on the history, topography, and archaeology of the city of Rome, and to the Archaeological Study Collection.

2017 CLASSICAL SUMMER SCHOOL

The annual Classical Summer School of the American Academy in Rome will be under the direction of Professor Genevieve Gessert. The 6-week session will begin on Monday June 19 and conclude on Thursday July 27, 2017. If you cannot be in Rome, in class, for that entire period, ***do not apply.***

ADMISSION

Enrollment is normally restricted to Latin teachers and graduate students in classical fields, ideally in a 50-50 ratio. Occasional applicants of professorial or undergraduate rank in classical studies will receive serious consideration. If the number of applicants is exceptionally high, preference will be given to those teachers and graduate students who have the MA in hand. **All applications for admission must be received by December 15, 2016.**

IMPORTANT: Applicants should be in good physical condition and prepared for long, fairly strenuous walks and occasional, steep climbs; standing in hot sun at archaeological sites; and standing for prolonged periods of time in museums.

SCHOLARSHIPS for 2017

The Goldman-Sachs and Mary A. Sollman Scholarships will be awarded by the American Academy in Rome upon recommendation of the Classical Summer School Director and scholarship committee, and do not require a separate application.

Numerous local classical organizations support study at the American Academy in Rome. Here is a sampling of some of the local associations offering scholarships (consult their websites for details):

- The Society for Classical Studies
- The American Classical League
- Classical Association of the Atlantic States
- Classical Association of the Empire State
- Classical Association of New England
- Classical Association of the Pacific Northwest
- New York Classical Club
- Ohio Classical Conference
- Texas Classical Association.

Check with your local classical association, school, or department for other opportunities.

There are also awards from:

- Classical Society of the American Academy in Rome
- Eta Sigma Phi national honor society (<http://department.monm.edu/classics/esp/>)
- Classical Association of the Middle West and South (<http://www.camws.org>).

The applicant is solely responsible for finding and applying for financial aid.

Every applicant must submit a full Classical Summer School application to the Director, by December 15, 2016, regardless of any scholarships or other awards being sought.

ACADEMIC CREDIT

Students wishing to receive graduate credit for the Classical Summer School will have the option of enrolling for course credit through Hood College. Please contact Professor Gessert (gessert.aarcss@gmail.com) for details

AMERICAN ACADEMY IN ROME

PASSPORT

If you do not already have a valid passport, get one immediately. The process can be time-consuming, and you do not want to leave this to the last minute.

VERGILIAN SOCIETY

Participants in the Classical Summer School should be aware of the Vergilian Society's study program in Campania, which includes visits to Pompeii and Herculaneum. The two-week course typically follows the Academy's session. Enrolled participants will depart from Rome by private bus on Monday morning, following the end of the Classical Summer School. Those planning to stay on after the session to participate in the Vergilian Society program should be prepared to spend approximately an additional \$2,595.

Information about the Vergilian Society can be found on their website:

<http://www.vergiliansociety.org/>, or by writing to Secretary Keely Lake, Wayland Academy, 101 N. University Ave., Beaver Dam, WI 53916; email: vergsoc@yahoo.com.

ACCOMMODATION AND BOARD IN ROME

Students of the Classical Summer School will stay in shared apartments in the 4 Monteverde Vecchio neighborhood, within walking distance of the American Academy. The estimated cost for 6 entire weeks is \$2,500 per person for a shared double room, which also includes two lunches and two dinners at the Academy and one dinner at a local restaurant per week. The program cannot accommodate guests other than participants into the shared housing.

TUITION

The tuition is \$1,900, which also covers the cost of trips to sites in and around Rome. Both the tuition and room & board costs must be paid in full to the Academy's office in New York by May 1, 2017.

TOTAL EXPENSES

*For the 2017 program year, the organizers have made every effort to further reduce costs to participants and to enhance their interaction with the intellectual community of the Academy. The overall cost of the program represents a **30% decrease** from 2013.*

Tuition, room and board will total approximately \$4,400, not including breakfasts, weekend meals, airfare, personal expenses and additional, unplanned expenditures. This estimate does not include lunches, any travel not directly related to the program of the Summer School, nor expenses such as laundry, tips, amusements, or shopping. There may be fees for a passport application and you may have to forward some documents to Rome if you are accepted. Italian ATM machines are plentiful and work with most American credit and debit cards. Credit cards, as well as debit cards that also function as credit cards, are taken almost everywhere in Italy these days, including supermarkets. The dollar/euro exchange rate makes it wise to substantially overestimate your budget for Italy.

AIRFARES

After receiving notification of acceptance, participants should make flight arrangements at once so as to take advantage of Apex or other reduced advance-purchase fares that may be available.

Plan to arrive by June 18 at the latest. The program ends on July 27, and the room and board coverage ends July 28, but accommodation for a few days after the program period may be possible with advance notice (and at additional cost). There will be a farewell dinner on 27 July, so a departure no earlier than 28 July is recommended.

APPLICATIONS

The Classical Summer School has an online application process. The deadline for all application materials (including the two recommendation letters) is December 15, 2016. You must download the Application Instruction Sheet before you begin the application process. Read it, and ask all questions before you begin, to avoid problems. Please instruct your recommenders to send their letters of recommendation VIA EMAIL to: Professor Genevieve Gessert, at gessert.aarcss@gmail.com. You may also direct specific questions about the program, accommodations, or other matters involving the Classical Summer School to Prof. Gessert. For general questions on the American Academy, email info@aarome.org.

Good luck!