

Reed College
LATIN FORUM
Saturday, November 17, 2007

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.	Kaul Auditorium
Individual Seminars	1:00 - 2:00	Vollum Classrooms
Individual Seminars	2:00 - 3:00	Vollum Classrooms

Morning Lecture in Vollum Lecture Hall:

Servi Sunt, Immo Homines: Roman Writers and Their Slaves
Professor Sonia Sabnis, Reed College

Individual Seminars for the afternoon session:

I. *The Family Ties That (Un)Bind: Cicero and the Roman Family*
Professor Ellen Millender

We will look at a number of letters written in the middle of the 1st century BCE by the Roman statesman Cicero to his wife, as well as other letters in which he talks about his family. By examining these letters we will assess (1) the nature of Cicero's relationship with his wife, daughter, and son, (2) the reasons behind his divorce from his wife, and (3) the importance he accorded to private rather than public matters.

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.

III. *How to Speak (and Die) like Cicero*
Professor Jonathan Pratt

You are Cicero, and Mark Antony promises to spare your life if you burn your writings. Should you accept his offer? Our seminar will consider this question and the Roman educational exercise in which it was posed: the practice-speech or declamation.

IV. *Animal Fables in the Latin Tradition*
Professor Sonia Sabnis

The stories of the Phrygian slave Aesop are as familiar now as they were in antiquity. But these fables were not merely tales for children: they addressed the relationships between the powerful and the powerless in striking and subtle ways. In this seminar we will look at the genre of animal fable as it evolved during the Roman empire and the middle ages, considering educational, philosophical, political, and religious versions.

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